



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A team representing Big Apple Academy recently earned Highest Honors in the **2015-16 WordMasters Challenge™** – a national vocabulary competition involving nearly 150,000 students annually. The eighth grade team scored an impressive 157 points out of a possible 200 in the last of three meets this year, placing seventh in the nation. The eighth graders also placed eighth nationally in the overall competition with a cumulative score of 517 points out of a possible 600.

Competing in the difficult Blue Division of the **WordMasters Challenge™**, students at Big Apple Academy who achieved outstanding results in the last meet of the year include seventh grader Leeza Pantano.

The **WordMasters Challenge™** is an exercise in critical thinking that first encourages students to become familiar with a set of interesting new words (considerably harder than grade level), and then challenges them to use those words to complete analogies expressing various kinds of logical relationships. Working to solve the analogies helps students learn to think both analytically and metaphorically. Although most vocabulary enrichment and analogy-solving programs are designed for use by high school students, **WordMasters Challenge™** materials have been specifically created for younger students in grades three through eight. They are particularly well suited for children who are motivated by the challenge of learning new words and enjoy the logical puzzles posed by analogies.

The **WordMasters Challenge™** program is administered by a company based in Indianapolis, Indiana, which is dedicated to inspiring high achievement in American schools. Further information is available at the company's website:

<http://www.wordmasterschallenge.com>