



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE ROAD TO THE TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS
BEGINS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19
WITH THE PREMIERE OF THE
'JEOPARDY!' SEASON 39 SECOND CHANCE COMPETITION**

***36 Contestants Will Return to Play in Four Week-Long Competitions;
Four Winners Will Advance to Champions Wildcard***

CULVER CITY, CALIF. (December 12, 2023) – [JEOPARDY!](#) announced today the 36 contestants returning for the Season 39 [JEOPARDY! Second Chance](#) competition. The field consists of players who didn't become **JEOPARDY!** champions in their initial appearances last season, but whose performances convinced the **JEOPARDY!** producers that they have what it takes to win on the Alex Trebek Stage if given a second chance to compete.

The Second Chance event consists of four competitions airing Tuesday, December 19 to Monday, January 15. The winner of each week will take home \$35,000 and punch their ticket to the Season 39 **JEOPARDY!** Champions Wildcard competition. Champions Wildcard features players who won one or two games last season returning to compete for a spot in the 2024 Tournament of Champions.

The 36 players from last season returning for this Second Chance competition are as follows:

Week 1 (December 19-25)

Jason Carpenter, a stand-up comic from Santa Rosa Valley, Calif.
Sam Claussen, a history professor from Santa Clarita, Calif.
Mike Elliot, a meat cutter originally from Derry, N.H.
Jake Garrett, a football coach and teacher from Trussville, Ala.
Iris Masucci, a pharmacist from Rockville, Md.
Karen Morris, a veterinary student from Christiansburg, Va.
Eva Thomas, an attorney from Brooklyn, N.Y.
Michael Vaz, a tutor from Mississauga, Ontario, Canada
Juveria Zaheer, a psychiatrist from Whitby, Ontario, Canada

Week 2 (December 26 – January 1)

Xanni Brown, a postdoctoral researcher originally from Cincinnati, Ohio
Mitch Cutter, a salmon conservation associate from Boise, Idaho
Greg Czaja, a cardiologist from San Diego, Calif.
Tammy Groner, a legal assistant from Hamilton, N.J.
Ben Hebert, a shipping manager from Chicago, Ill.

Myles Karp, a journalist and consultant from Weston, Fla.
Emily Kawaler, a bioinformatician from New York, N.Y.
Raquel Matta, a copy editor from San Pablo, Calif.
Christopher Pennant, a sports journalist and podcaster from Chicago, Ill.

Week 3 (January 2-8)

Sharon Bishop, a high school Spanish teacher from Pawtucket, R.I.
Michael Cavaliere, a consultant from New York, N.Y.
Rachel Cohen, a consultant originally from Chevy Chase, Md.
Max Davison, a writer from Studio City, Calif.
Matt Harvey, a healthcare administrator from Providence, R.I.
Randall Rayford, a solar project developer from Houston, Texas
Kelly Shannon-Henderson, a classics professor from Cincinnati, Ohio
Sophia Weng, a senior at Harvard University from Chevy Chase, Md.
Andrew Whatley, an academic administrator from Chicago, Ill.

Week 4 (January 9-15)

Roy Camara, a grocery specialist from Crawfordville, Fla.
Denise Carlon, an attorney from Seaside Heights, N.J.
John Guszowski, a planning consultant from Pomfret, Connecticut
Rotimi Kukoyi, a sophomore at UNC-Chapel Hill from Hoover, Ala.
April Marquet, a digital production artist from Oakland, Calif.
Long Nguyen, a retired engineer from Las Vegas, Nev.
Allison Strekal, a nonprofit development director from Missoula, Mont.
Michael Vallely, a program analyst from Cleveland, Ohio
Pam Warren, a high school science teacher from Petersburg, Ill.

For more information about **JEOPARDY!** Second Chance, please visit Jeopardy.com/second-chance/. Check local listings for show times and stations.

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JEOPARDY!, America's Favorite Quiz Show™, is in its 40th season in syndication. With a weekly audience over 20 million viewers, **JEOPARDY!** is the top-rated quiz show on television. The show has won a total of 43 Emmy® Awards, holds the Guinness World Records® title for the most Emmy® Awards won by a TV game show, and received a Peabody Award for "celebrating and rewarding knowledge." **JEOPARDY!** is produced by Sony Pictures Television, a Sony Pictures Entertainment Company; it is distributed domestically by CBS Media Ventures and internationally by Paramount Global Content Distribution, both units of Paramount.

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