Leesburg, Va. — Spencer Wolf of Kettering, Ohio, a student at Sinclair Community College in Dayton, Ohio, will represent the United States in Graphic Design Technology during the biennial WorldSkills Competition in São Paulo. Wolf will compete as a member of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam. The 43rd international event will be held Aug. 11-16, 2015.

Wolf won the right to compete by earning the high-school gold medal in the Graphic Communications competition during the SkillsUSA Championships in June 2013. He has also successfully completed other qualifying prerequisites prior to being chosen for the team.

“I feel an enormous sense of honor and pride to be able to represent the United States. I have persistence and determination, and I want to make my country proud,” Wolf said. “I feel confident in my skills, and I want to be one of the best in the world at my trade, so even after the competition, my training and learning will never stop.”

While in high school at Kettering Fairmont, Wolf took digital design classes under instructor Mary Tyler. When asked about Wolf’s abilities, Tyler said, “For two years, Spencer Wolf brought excitement into my Digital Design Tech Prep classroom. Many days he led the class with his appreciation for the visual arts, fascination about life, passion for photography and capacity for perfection. As a multitalented, extremely creative and intelligent young man, he was always open for a new challenge and intense critique. Spencer’s perceptive way of viewing the world gives him what it takes to be a member of the SkillsUSA WorldTeam.”

Jared Parker sat on an advisory board for Mary Tyler’s class while Wolf was enrolled in the career center. During that time, he met Wolf and saw his work. He then became the new instructor for digital design, taking over for Mary Tyler. When asked about Wolf’s abilities, he said, “Spencer is an exceptional young man. I have seen first-hand his passion for graphics and design. I met Spencer as he and a team of students prepared for a regional competition. My first impression was that he gave 100 percent to that project and that impression has stayed the same now that I have seen him complete more projects. Spencer has spoken to my current students and they have benefitted from hearing about his successes and how much focus and determination he has had to have. Spencer now serves as an alumni member of my advisory board and also works with me as a mentor. His dedication to craft, creativity and innovation is something to be admired in such a young talent. I wish him the best of luck as he represents our high school, state, nation and industry at the WorldSkills Competition this summer.”
In the WorldSkills Graphic Design Technology contest, competitors must understand editorial design and new media, packaging design, corporate and information design and advertising and display design. They will be judged on their development of ideas, understanding the target market, design consistency, creation of the layout, creation of specific elements of design, technical production of the layout and archiving their work.

Every two years, hundreds of young people from more than 73 countries and regions compete in the prestigious WorldSkills Competition. Member countries include: Israel, Japan, England, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Australia, Thailand, Argentina and many others. To see a list of member countries and regions, go to: www.worldskills.org/about/members.

In 2015, more than 1,200 competitors will test their skills in São Paulo. Considered “the best of the best,” contestants compete for four days in 50 occupational skill areas from economic sectors including manufacturing and engineering technology, information and communication technology, construction and building technology, transportation and logistics, creative arts and fashion, and social and personal services. Accompanied by their teachers, trainers and industry technical committee experts, these young people compete before the public in contests that are run and judged by industry using demanding international standards.

Over its 65-year history, WorldSkills International (formerly known as the International Vocational Training Competition) has come to symbolize the pinnacle of excellence in vocational training. It provides a unique means of exchange and comparison of world-class competency standards in the industrial trades and service sectors of the global economy. The continued growth of WorldSkills International attests to the fact that traditional trade and craft skills, along with newer technology’s multi-skilled occupations, make an essential contribution to the economic and social well-being of people everywhere.

There are 19 members on the SkillsUSA WorldTeam. Other occupational areas in which the United States plans to compete include Automobile Technology, Bakery, Beauty Therapy, Bricklaying, Cabinetmaking, Hairdressing, Heavy Vehicle Maintenance, Manufacturing Team Challenge (a three-person team contest), Mechanical Engineering Design – CAD, Mechatronics (a two-person team contest), Plumbing and Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning, Restaurant Service, Web Design and Welding.

Five thousand international experts, delegates and judges will gather from around the world, and 3,000 volunteers will be recruited to assist in the competition. A total of 150,000 student and public spectators will attend the competition at the Anhembi Park Centre. For more information about the competition, go to: www.WorldSkills.org or www.worldskillssaopaulo2015.com/en/.

Alcoa Foundation is the Presenting Sponsor of the 2015 SkillsUSA WorldTeam. Other organizations that have made a financial or in-kind commitments to preparing and presenting the WorldTeam include the American Welding Society; Architectural Woodwork Institute; Association of Woodworking and Furnishings Suppliers; Autodesk Education; Automotive Service Technology contest national technical committee; Carhartt Inc.; Construction and Home Improvement Markets; Deere & Company; Diesel Equipment Technology contest national technical committee; FESTO Corporation; International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials; and the National Institute for
Automotive Service Excellence. Unlike other national teams in the WorldSkills Competition, the SkillsUSA WorldTeam is funded solely through private donations. To donate funding or in-kind support, go to: www.skillsusa.org/competitions/worldskills/.

About SkillsUSA
SkillsUSA helps students follow their passions to their ultimate careers. As a nationwide partnership of students, instructors and industry working together, SkillsUSA works to ensure America has a skilled workforce. It helps every student excel in his or her chosen career. The nationwide career and technical education student organization annually serves more than 320,000 high school, college and postsecondary students — and their instructors — in technical, skilled, and service occupation instructional programs. Career and technical education is learning that works for America. SkillsUSA has the active support of more than 500 corporations, trade associations, businesses and labor unions at the national level. Over 11.9 million people have been annual members of SkillsUSA since its founding as the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America in 1965. SkillsUSA programs teach leadership, citizenship and character development to complement technical skill training. The organization emphasizes respect for the dignity of work, ethics, workmanship, scholarship and safety. For more information, go to: www.SkillsUSA.org.

# # #