Lowe’s SkillsUSA Mid-Year Report 2015
SkillsUSA’s mission is to empower its members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. This year, as SkillsUSA celebrates its 50th anniversary, we are grateful for our long-term partnership with Lowe’s and the achievements we have made together in helping career and technical education students excel!

Our half-yearly report for 2015 provides an update on progress made toward our partnership activities, with a focus on Grant Programs, National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC)/Competitions, and Chapter Development.

With the support of Lowe’s, we are advancing a critical mission together and working to solve the nation’s skills gap!
Grant Program Highlights
State TeamWorks

- This competitive event requires a team of four to build a joint project in six hours or less, demonstrating its preparation for employment in residential construction.

- Team members must demonstrate their ability to work as a team when performing skills in:
  - Residential Carpentry
  - Plumbing
  - Electricity
  - Masonry
35 State TeamWorks grants were awarded; 272 teams were funded

$225,000 was allocated for State TeamWorks grants

$165,000 in State TeamWorks grant funding was spent in Lowe’s stores; $60,000 covered necessary contest expenses like printing, banners, competition diagrams, etc.

SkillsUSA is actively pursuing avenues to track and quantify local and state spending in Lowe’s stores, which we currently estimate to be in excess of two to three times the grant amount

Total Lowe’s spending, direct and indirect, will be required for State TeamWorks reports in 2016
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• Lowe’s is the gold standard of SkillsUSA’s business partnerships, and it makes a huge difference because of the financial and technical support we receive that enables us to operate with quality skill competitions. Lowe’s also lends credibility to everything we do within SkillsUSA, and that becomes a springboard for other business partnerships. All of us in the organization owe a debt of gratitude to Lowe’s for making a serious commitment to youth education and development.
— Peter Carey, New Jersey State Association Director

• Our team was started due to the grant that Lowe’s provided. These grants have gotten the programs and the competitions off the ground. This past year, Vermont won gold at NLSC, so the impact has been felt throughout the state. — Mike Bugbee, St. Johnsbury Academy
State TeamWorks – Highlights & Impact

Lowe’s is proud to be a partner in this great event. This is my third year as the lead for Lowe’s on this state TeamWorks event, and I love being involved. As a former contractor, I can tell you that the skills you are learning from your teachers are so valuable. Participating in this event is so valuable. Never stop learning and seeking to improve yourself and your skills.— Jeff St. George, Lowe’s store #2742, Massachusetts

Lowe’s continues to be one of the most visible supporters of SkillsUSA on the state and national level. Corporate involvement is what motivates our members to make their experience in our organization more than just a club. Your commitment of resources to our organization and community is a stellar example of our members’ pledge, which is to “base our expectation of reward on the solid foundation of service.”
— Carrie Wolf, Arizona State Association Director
$562,823 in grant funds were awarded to 26 schools

Due to a delay in funding, most schools were unable to begin projects within the standard April/May timeframe

One project, Capital Regional BOCES, was completed in spring 2015; the remaining 25 projects will be completed late fall 2015

Grant outcomes will be shared in the 2015 Annual Partnership Report
Schools in Need Grants

Vail, Ariz.
Alhambra, Calif.
Port Charlotte, Fla.
Milton, Ga.
Shreveport, La.
Medford, Mass.
Fall River, Mass.
Upton, Mass.
Ironton, Mo.
Columbia, Mo.
Independence, Mo.
Fayetteville, N.C.

Santa Fe, N.M.
Albany, N.Y.
Jamaica, N.Y.
Lancaster, Ohio
Piketon, Ohio
Portland, Ore.
Marlin, Pa.
Sumter, S.C.
Crossville, Tenn.
Sherman, Texas
Denison, Texas
Lexington, Va.
Schools in Need Grant Highlights

Capital Region BOCES

- Students from Capital Region BOCES were instrumental in constructing a new home, Jack’s Place, in Schenectady, N.Y., which will house families of young patients at Ellis Hospital.

- $25,000 in Lowe’s funding supported necessary supplies such as lighting fixtures, bathroom fixtures and sheet rock to get the project over one of its final hurdles.
Schools in Need Grant Media Highlights

- A press release on the Capital Region BOCES/Lowe’s/SkillsUSA grant generating additional donations to Jack’s Place ran in the *Daily Gazette* and the Niskayuna weekly
  - [http://yourniskayuna.com/blog/2015/07/06/funds-jacks-place/](http://yourniskayuna.com/blog/2015/07/06/funds-jacks-place/)
- Funding from Lowe’s was also covered by Time Warner Cable News
Schools in Need Grant Media Highlights

- Gazette reports on the effort of CTE students and the Lowe's grant for Jack's Place [Read more]
- WRGB reports on CTE and Jack’s Place [Read more]
- WTEN reports on CTE and Jack’s Place [Read more]
- WNYT reports on CTE and Jack’s Place [Read more]
- The Times Union reports on the Lowe’s grant to BOCES [Read more]
NLSC Awards Ceremony

Troy Dally
General Merchandising
Manager/Senior Vice President—
Seasonal

SkillsUSA
Champions at Work

LOWE'S
This year, SkillsUSA’s 51st annual National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) was held in Louisville, Ky. Check out conference highlights here: Week in Review

Troy Dally, VP of Seasonal for Lowe’s and SkillsUSA board member, wowed the audience with a motivating speech during the Awards Ceremony! View his speech here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syYIV8sNuT8

$70,000 in Lowe’s gift cards were used as prizes to students who medaled during the Championships

NLSC hosted more than 15,000 attendees from around the country

Nearly 1,700 schools from all 50 states and two US territories attended this year’s conference

986 gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded

There were 7,324 unique views of the Awards Ceremony broadcast; since the ceremony another 1,214 have watched the ceremony archive
Chapter Excellence Program
The Chapter Excellence Program (CEP) honors chapter achievement relative to SkillsUSA’s framework of developing personal, workplace and technical skills. See our framework video, which includes Lowe’s recognition, here: https://youtu.be/hJWXSKl_Av8

CEP is a new foundational program for SkillsUSA, and it has the potential to reach every SkillsUSA classroom across the country.

Chapters are measured against a standard to achieve framework skill development for every student through engaged participation in SkillsUSA activities.
SkillsUSA’s Organizational Framework

SkillsUSA has an impact on the lives of America’s future workforce through the development of personal, workplace and technical skills that are grounded in academics.

Organizational Framework

Personal Skills
1. Integrity
2. Work Ethic
3. Professionalism
4. Responsibility
5. Adaptability/Flexibility
6. Self-Motivation

Technical Skills Grounded in Academics
1. Communication
2. Decision Making
3. Teamwork
4. Multicultural Sensitivity and Awareness
5. Planning, Organizing and Management
6. Leadership

Workplace Skills
Chapter Excellence Program

Impact

• 412 local chapters participated in the program, representing more than 58,000 high-school and college/postsecondary members and teachers
• Gold Chapters of Distinction received co-branded Lowe's banners to hang in classrooms and at each state conference; Bronze and Silver Chapters received co-branded certificates for their classrooms
• Models of Excellence banquet honors top 24 U.S. chapters
  • Winners and Lowe’s sponsorship can be viewed here: http://www.skillsusa.org/2015-skillsusa-models-of-excellence-award-winners
  • Photo shoot, PR workshop, judges orientation, luncheon, signage and materials co-branded Lowe's and SkillsUSA

Engagement

• Local relationship building with 24 Models of Excellence schools for joint event at Lowe’s stores to be held 9/30/2015
• Lowe’s store personnel will be on site at SkillsUSA state conferences to present co-branded certificates and banners
• PR workshop with all advisors of Models of Excellence Schools to create local event in conjunction with Lowe’s store personnel and also discuss ways to build partnership, e.g., work with Pro Services to create account for local school
• Troy Dally awarded Model of Excellence winners on main stage during National Leadership and Skills Conference
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<th>Media Outlet</th>
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<td>If you build an airplane, students will come to class</td>
<td>9/1/2014</td>
<td>Record Online</td>
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<td>Larissa Brown, Kaitlyn Duarte and Rachel Kagan</td>
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<td>SkillsUSA Website</td>
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<td>Somerset County Vocational &amp; Technical High School’s SkillsUSA Chapter Receives National Recognition</td>
<td>4/21/2015</td>
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<td>Union Grove High School SkillsUSA Chapter Achieves “Models of Excellence status”</td>
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<td>Area students show off masonry, carpentry skills</td>
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<td>Grayson College group plans pond beautification project</td>
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<td>Valley Tech secures $150K in grants</td>
<td>5/21/2015</td>
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<td>Pike County CTC &amp; YMCA will use $25,000 grant</td>
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<td>Kofa SkillsUSA chapter to compete at national conference</td>
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<td>Yuma Sun Online</td>
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In conclusion, we are pleased to report that we have successfully met our 2015 half-yearly partnership objectives! The next report (annual) will include:

• 2015 Partnership year in review
• Schools in Need grants report
• Many more articles and stories that have been published
• Social media
• More details on the National Leadership and Skills Conference
• Updates on the Chapter Excellence Program and more

Thank you, Lowe’s!

We appreciate your partnership and continued support