AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Virtual National Leadership and Skills Conference

June 21–24, 2021
**WELCOME**

Introduction ................................................................. 4
Video Greetings ............................................................ 5
Conference Program ..................................................... 6
Awards and Recognition Session Schedule ......................... 7

**LEADERSHIP**

Board of Directors .......................................................... 9
State SkillsUSA Directors ............................................... 10
State Directors Association Officers ................................. 11
2020-21 National Officer Team ....................................... 12
Voting Delegates ............................................................ 16
State Officers ................................................................. 20

**RECOGNITION**

Honorary Life Members .................................................. 24
Outstanding Educators .................................................... 26
Advisors of the Year ........................................................ 28
Models of Excellence ..................................................... 30
Impact Award ................................................................. 31
2021 President’s Volunteer Service Awards ......................... 32
Student2Student Mentoring Award ................................... 34
Scholarship Recipients ..................................................... 35
National T-shirt and Pin Design Winners ........................... 37

**SKILLSUSA CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Official Policy for the 2021 SkillsUSA Championships .......... 39
Behind the SkillsUSA Championships ............................... 40
Meet Our 2021 SkillsUSA Championships Competitors .......... 42
SkillsUSA Championships Executive Committee ................ 43
2021 SkillsUSA Championships Official Contests ................ 44
Insider’s Guide to Competition ......................................... 46

**PARTNERS**

NLSC and SkillsUSA Championships Sponsors ................... 51
SkillsUSA National Signing Day Sponsors ......................... 52
Connect to My Future Career Conference Sponsors ............. 53
SkillsUSA TECHSPO Trade Show .................................. 55
SkillsUSA Official Partners ............................................. 56
SkillsUSA Career Cluster Sponsors ................................ 57

**BONUS DIGITAL TOOLKIT**

How to Host a Watch Party .............................................. 63
2021 SkillsUSA Championships Medalist Frames for Social Media 64
NLSC Tweet Wall .......................................................... 64
Champions TikTok Challenge .......................................... 65

**SKILLSUSA STAFF** ...................................................... 66
Welcome

This book serves as a celebratory document of the inspiring achievements of a select group of SkillsUSA members, partners and supporters. Some of these achievements have been earned over the course of long, distinguished careers; others over the last school year; and still others — from SkillsUSA’s new national officer team to our national medalists — won’t be revealed until the close of this year’s tradition-rich conference.

This Awards and Recognition Book, however, celebrates more than the names you’ll see throughout these pages; it celebrates each one of you who’s withstood the challenges of this last year and emerged triumphant, resilient, and more highly skilled than ever.

Take some time to thoroughly review the contents of this book. Inside, you’ll not only find information related to the national conference and this year’s honorees, but also a variety of links to many other resources that are both informative and interactive, like video greetings, special downloads, social media challenges, ways to send good-luck messages to competitors and more.

This NLSC is obviously different in format from what we’ve become accustomed to over the last 57 years, but make no mistake: The spirit of this event — and of our organization as a whole — is as strong as it’s ever been. In fact, as SkillsUSA Executive Director Chelle Travis says in the video message with board president Sam Bottum linked below, this NLSC “adds a proud exclamation point to a year that’s proven — perhaps more than any other — how essential SkillsUSA members have been, are, and always will be to the future of this nation.”

Click to Watch: SkillsUSA Executive Director Chelle Travis and board president Sam Bottum from Snap-on Incorporated welcome attendees to the 57th National Leadership and Skills Conference.
A Message From Mike Holmes And Sherry Holmes

Mike Holmes and Sherry Holmes are well-known contractors from television and social media who always Make It Right. Like SkillsUSA members, they believe people who work with their hands as well as their heads are some of the smartest, most passionate people around. Check out their video message to SkillsUSA below and be sure to like and follow Mike and Sherry on social media and thank them for their support. Both Mike and Sherry will be posting SkillsUSA messages and content on their social channels throughout the week of national conference (June 21-24).

Coming Soon: A Special Video Message from United States Department of Education Secretary Miguel Cardona

As a former automotive technology student, U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona understands the value of career and technical education. He also understands the value of SkillsUSA. Look for a special and inspiring video message from Secretary Cardona to all SkillsUSA members during the Awards and Recognition Session on June 24. His message will be shared on our website and on social media shortly after.
2021 National Leadership and Skills Conference Schedule of Events
(All times listed are Eastern Time.)

June 1
National Officer Candidate Applications Due (by 6 p.m.)

June 4
Official Notification to National Officer Candidates

June 8
National Officer Candidate Orientation and Written Exam (2 p.m.)

June 9
National Officer Candidate Written Exam Results Released

June 14–18
SkillsUSA Championships (Some events will occur prior to this week, but the majority will be held during this period.)

June 14
Advisor of the Year Interviews (9 a.m.—noon)

June 15
Models of Excellence Personal Interviews (10:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.)

June 15
National Officer College/Postsecondary Candidate Interviews

June 16
Models of Excellence Workplace Interviews (10:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.)

June 16
National Officer High School Candidate Interviews

June 17
Models of Excellence Technical Interviews (10:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.)

June 17–24
National Officer Candidate Online Campaigning

June 19–21
Leverage and Engage Training

June 22
Delegate Kickoff and Training Session (1 p.m.—3 p.m.)

June 22
Delegate Social Activity (4 p.m.—6 p.m.)

June 22–24
Advisor Professional Development Training

June 23
Delegate Meet the Candidates (1 p.m.—3 p.m.)

June 23
Delegate Business Session (4 p.m.—6 p.m.)

June 24
Awards and Recognition Session (Three segments: 3:30, 5 and 6:30 p.m.)
  • 2021-2022 National Officer Announcement and Installation.
  • Advisor of the Year.
  • Honorary Life Awards.
  • Models of Excellence Winners.
  • Outstanding Educator Awards.
  • Pin and T-shirt Design Winners.
  • Presidential Volunteer Service Awards.
  • Student2Student Mentoring Award.
  • SkillsUSA Championships Results.

June 28
Leverage Leadership Training

July 5
Leverage Leadership Training

July 12
Leverage Leadership Training
2021 NLSC Awards and Recognition Session
Schedule (All times listed are Eastern Time.)

For full information on how to join the celebration live, visit this page of our website.

Pre-Session — June 24, 2021, 3:00 p.m. ET
Parade of Champions

Segment 1 — June 24, 2021, 3:30 p.m. ET
Welcome
Chelle Travis Remarks
T-shirt and Pin Design Winners
Advisor of the Year Award Overview
Chapters of Excellence Award Overview
SkillsUSA Championships — Contests in Hospitality and Human Services
SkillsUSA Championships — Contests in Leadership
Closing

Segment 2 — June 24, 2021, 5:00 p.m. ET
Welcome
SkillsUSA Championships — Contests in Education and Training
Advisor of the Year Announcement
SkillsUSA Championships — Contests in Manufacturing and STEM
Models of Excellence Announcement — Technical Skills
Student2Student Mentoring Award Announcement
SkillsUSA Championships — Contests in Health Sciences
Outstanding Career and Technical Educators Announcement
Models of Excellence Announcement — Workplace Skills
SkillsUSA Championships — Contests in Transportation, Distribution and Logistics
2020-21 National Officer Tribute
National Officer Election Announcement
Closing

Segment 3 — June 24, 2021, 6:30 p.m. ET
Welcome
SkillsUSA Championships — Contests in Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security
Models of Excellence Announcement — Personal Skills
Snap-on Incorporated, Awards and Recognition Session Sponsor
SkillsUSA Championships — Contests in IT, Finance, Business Management and Administration
IMPACT Award Announcement
President’s Volunteer Service Award Announcement
SkillsUSA Championships — Contests in Arts, A/V Technology, Communications and Marketing
Honorary Life Membership Award Announcement
National Officer Installation
SkillsUSA Championships — Contests in Architecture and Construction
Conference Closing and Celebration
SkillsUSA Board of Directors

SkillsUSA is governed by a board of directors. The board is elected by SkillsUSA corporate members who represent their respective state associations. One corporate member from each of the five regions is elected to the board. A representative of the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE), a representative of Advance CTE, the chair of the SkillsUSA State Directors Association, a student national officer, and representatives from business and industry or organized labor also serve on the board. Check our website for more information.

Sam Bottum, president, (Snap-on Incorporated)
Maureen Tholen, vice president (3M)
Clay Mitchell, secretary, Region 5 representative and SkillsUSA State Directors Association chair (California)
Charles Wallace, Region 1 representative (Maryland)
Bryan Upton, Region 2 representative (Alabama)
Robert Kornack, Region 3 representative (Ohio)
Becky Warren, Region 4 representative (Kansas)
Danny Camden, Association for Career and Technical Education liaison (Indiana)
Sarah Heath, Advance CTE liaison (Colorado Community College System)
Jennifer Worth, college/postsecondary representative, American Association of Community Colleges
Tony Ambroza (Carhartt)
Leigh Creech (Lowe’s Companies Inc.)
Holly Dieterle (Toyota USA)
John Kett (IAA)
Jason Scales, Ph.D. (Lincoln Electric)
Kira Zdunek (Caterpillar)
Cheryl Schaefer (State Farm)
Ricardo Romanillos, Ed.D., equity representative, National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity
Tarik Barnes, High School National Officer representing the Joint Executive Council
Chelle Travis, executive director, SkillsUSA
State SkillsUSA Directors

The state SkillsUSA director is responsible for operating the SkillsUSA state association and overseeing all school chapters within the state. State SkillsUSA directors also oversee state conferences and special events. High school (HS) and college/postsecondary (C/PS) associations are noted where appropriate. View the complete listing on our website. SkillsUSA thanks all of our dedicated state directors for the incredible and inspiring work they accomplished this year under truly challenging circumstances.

Alabama: Yolanda Wilson (C/PS), Bryan Upton (HS)
Alaska: Ray Jensen
Arizona: Michelle Martinez
Arkansas: Keith McKnight
California: Clay Mitchell
Colorado: Miki Gann
Connecticut: Heidi Griffen
Delaware: Carmen Strollo
District of Columbia: Candice Mott
Florida: Jessica Graber
Georgia: Tjazha Mazhani (C/PS), Ashley Brown (HS)
Hawaii: Evangeline Casinas
Idaho: Chet Andes
Illinois: Eric Hill
Indiana: Kelley Baker
Iowa: Chris Dzurick
Kansas: Becky Warren
Kentucky: Kristen Kirkland
Louisiana: Damian Glover (C/PS), Larry Rabalais (HS)
Maine: Harold Casey
Maryland: Charles Wallace
Massachusetts: Karen Ward
Michigan: Carrie Warming
Minnesota: Jessa Dahmes
Mississippi: Shanta Villanueva
Missouri: Christy McElvain
Montana: Mary Heller
Nebraska: Greg Stahr

Nevada: Sindie Read
New Hampshire: Joshua Brunk
New Jersey: Peter Carey
New Mexico: Natalie Donnelly
New York: Craig Clark (C/PS), Midge McCloskey (HS)
North Carolina: Paul Heidemeyer
North Dakota: Tracy Becker
Ohio: Jackie Walker
Oklahoma: Krissy Miller
Oregon: Mike Oechsner
Pennsylvania: Jeri Widdowson
Puerto Rico: Victor Nieves
Rhode Island: Joshua Klemp
South Carolina: Madison Kenney
South Dakota: Katie Paulson
Tennessee: Joy Rich (C/PS), Brittany Debit-Barker (HS)
Texas: Crystal Latham-Alford (C/PS), Janet Conner (HS)
Utah: Richard Wittwer
Vermont: Christopher Gray
Virgin Islands: Anton Doos
Virginia: Joyce Price
Washington: Monty Prather (C/PS), Terri Lufkin (HS)
West Virginia: Melissa Wilkinson
Wisconsin: Tom Wozniak (C/PS), Kevin Miller (HS)
Wyoming: Janie Wilcox

Note: "C/PS" denotes the College/Postsecondary association and "HS" is the High School association.
SkillsUSA State Directors Association Officers

The SkillsUSA State Directors Association communicates the needs and concerns of state associations, presents recommendations for the priorities and activities of SkillsUSA, acts as a clearinghouse for SkillsUSA board action, and advises and cooperates with the SkillsUSA staff on matters relating to SkillsUSA.

Clay Mitchell, chair (Calif.)  
Joshua Klemp, chair-elect (R.I.)  
Terri Lufkin, secretary (Wash. HS)  
Harold Casey, parliamentarian (Maine)  
Karen Ward, Region 1 (Mass.)  
Jessica Graber, Region 2 (Fla.)  
Jackie Walker, Region 3 (Ohio)  
Crystal Latham-Alford, Region 4 (Texas C/PS)  
Sindie Read, Region 5 (Nev.)  
Eric Hill, alumni representative (Ill.)
SkillsUSA 2020–21 National Officer Team

One of the many highlights of SkillsUSA's National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) is the announcement of our new national officer team at the Awards Ceremony. During NLSC, delegates from across the nation convene to formally elect the new team after carefully reviewing the individual campaigns of each candidate.

In an ordinary year, the officers represent SkillsUSA by attending conferences, making visits to industry, delivering speeches at various functions and more. However, as High School President Tarik Barnes reminds us, “This hasn’t been an ordinary year. This been an extraordinary year of ‘new’: new beginnings, new programming, and new ways to accomplish the normal.”

Despite the challenges, this resilient national officer team forged opportunities to engage more students across the country than ever before. Their stellar accomplishments include intensive state fall leadership conference support, developing “Empowering Experiences” to keep students motivated and engaged in virtual environments, administering groundbreaking events like the “Connect to My Future” career conference and “Pour the IndusTEA” (providing students with unprecedented opportunities to engage with industry representatives) and leading the organization’s first fully virtual NLSC. This year has, according to Barnes, “encapsulated what it truly means to be a member of SkillsUSA.”

SkillsUSA celebrates this one-of-a-kind national officer team for their unyielding dedication, unwavering strength, and the undeniable inspiration they’ve provided to all of us throughout their term. In the words of one of their trainers, “They rocked it.” Below, in their own words, each officer shares some personal highlights of a truly exceptional — and unforgettable — year.

Tarik Barnes (Texas) President

“An experience of a lifetime.” That’s the phrase that would encapsulate my experience serving as a national officer. Through the program, I am now able to articulate my career goals and formulate a plan to successfully accomplish them. I am now able to efficiently plan and execute events of a large scale. Most importantly, through my experience, I realize the power and impact SkillsUSA can have on your life. As the next team transitions into their roles as leaders of the organization, always remember your mission: to serve the thousands of SkillsUSA members across the nation.

Kayla Ketterling (Wyo.) Vice President

This year has not been anything like we expected, but I'm still walking away with many gold nuggets of information I've learned throughout my year of service. Not only did I learn how to communicate and be a leader in this crazy virtual world, but I was able to meet members and grow with them. I also had the opportunity to work with a great team that's given me the chance to lead by following, and that is something I am very grateful for.
Ryan Tinder  
(Okla.)  
Secretary  

Wow, what a wild year it has been. I don’t think anyone could have expected things to go how they’ve gone, but I’m so proud of my team for adapting to our circumstances and continuing to uphold our mission and standards. I know that I’ve learned so many lessons from my year in service, many of which are too intangible to put into words, but all of which I value immensely. Serving as a national officer has been an honor that I’m more thankful for each and every day.

Abigail Jensen  
(Alaska)  
Treasurer  

Through using the POWERR formula, participating in conferences, conducting training sessions and more, I’ve significantly grown my skills in communication and facilitation, which will be very helpful to me in the future. One of my favorite parts of being a national officer has been serving on the DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) workgroup. That's been very important to me, because we get to help find ways to make sure that everyone in SkillsUSA has equal opportunities to succeed. I think that this is a very important part of any kind of service.

Cecelia Lausten  
(Minn.)  
Parliamentarian  

This year, I have grown tremendously in many different aspects of life. I’ve grown in my leadership skills, I’ve made ambitious goals, I’ve created lasting friendships, and I’ve learned the beauty of being a part of something bigger than myself. I won’t lie; it’s been a wild journey with some sleepless nights. Still, every step of being a national officer in this wonderful organization has made me believe that, even though it’s cliché, the universe has a funny way of bringing some things together.

Aliyana Martin  
(Mass.)  
Region 1 Vice President  

Representing all students in career and technical education, and specifically members in Region 1, has been both an honor and a pleasure. With this position, I have found confidence and strength while being provided with the needed tools to succeed. The opportunity to serve this amazing organization has encouraged me to risk boldly while guiding others to do the same.
SkillsUSA 2020–21 National Officers

ALEXIS GAMEZ
Region 2 Vice President
Though it was not the term that I expected to have, my experience as a national officer was still very beneficial to my education as a leader and a career and technical education student. I’ve learned more about responsibility, and I’ve been able to look behind the scenes of what SkillsUSA really entails. From this experience, I will be able to walk away with better communication skills, a new family, and virtual opportunities and experiences I know will assist me in the future.

ABBERAH NASIR
Region 3 Vice President
This was an opportunity of a lifetime. I grew out of my comfort zone and gained so many opportunities for knowledge, experience and networking with professionals while fulfilling this position. My favorite experience would be serving on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee, where we talked about how we can make SkillsUSA more inclusive and help foster an environment with equal opportunities. SkillsUSA is an organization that recognizes when something needs to be changed to serve our members more efficiently, which is what makes this organization so great.

DIANNA SERRANO
Region 4 Vice President
My experience as a national officer has been both insightful and encouraging. My teammates and trainers never failed to remind me that, despite the situation we were all experiencing, we still had an obligation to our members and the future of this organization. I wanted to be a national officer to serve and make a difference. Regardless of whether it was behind a screen or in person, I know that I did. I am beyond honored and proud to have served as a national officer this year, and I wouldn’t change my team or term for the world.

ANDI SOLIZ
Region 5 Vice President
When I joined SkillsUSA, I could never have envisioned how much I would grow in such a little time. I’ve enjoyed every moment. I’ve grown to love and cherish the teammates and advisors that have turned into family, and I have grown so much in my leadership skills. My term as a national officer left me with an entire toolbox filled with unlimited tools of knowledge.
**LEADERSHIP**

**SkillsUSA 2020–21 National Officers** (Continued)

**College/Postsecondary**

Sarah Romanko  
(Texas)  
President

Before becoming a national officer, I wasn’t very active on social media and didn’t understand its intricacies. Now that I have gone through the campaigning process and later worked on ideas such as our Instagram takeovers, I understand how to better reach our members and connect with them. I’m looking forward to using these social media and communication skills that I learned — along with the ability to be adaptable and flexible in a virtual environment — in my future career.

Xiomara Schultz  
(Okla.)  
Vice President

When running for this position, I was thrilled to interact with members on a more personal level, to hear their stories and witness their achievements. Through our virtual hangouts, the Instagram takeovers, and SkillsUSA virtual conferences, I’ve been able to take that interaction to even greater heights! The people placed in my path this past year are incredible, and I’m incredibly grateful to have served alongside them.
As a student-run organization, SkillsUSA members are charged with the responsibility of governing the affairs associated with the student constitution. State associations each name voting delegates to represent their views to the SkillsUSA National House of Delegates. In the sessions, up to 600 members who are geographically diverse and hold various leadership roles in their local chapters or state associations (many are state officers) come together to conduct the business of SkillsUSA using parliamentary procedure. The number of voting delegates is in proportion to the state’s membership. There is a separate house of delegates for the high school division and for the college/postsecondary division. Duties of the House of Delegates include enacting bylaws or rules necessary for the organization, electing national officers, and acting upon items of business as requested by the board or others. SkillsUSA thanks all of our 2021 voting delegates for the responsibility they’ve graciously accepted to help shape the future of our organization:

**Alabama – College/Postsecondary:**
- Samuel Murph
- Brady Peavy
- Chandler Smith
- Samuel Murph
- Brady Peavy
- Chandler Smith
- Jason Latz
- Rozetta Locksa
- Jose Nunez-Rodriguez
- Liliana Valencia

**Arkansas:**
- Blake Clark
- Kelly Harrell
- Bryar Lewis
- Taylor Phillips

**California:**
- Gelisa Armas
- Elizabeth Carrillo
- Jacquelin De La Cruz
- Aubrianna Dowler-Cazares
- Alexander Gaspar
- Matthew Gomez
- Jocelyn Gonzales
- Clarissa Hong
- Heaven Jimenez
- Timothy Johnson
- Moncerrad Juarez Jaimes
- Aerin Kim
- Amy Lau
- Hilario Lopez
- Mya Martinez
- Krish Patel
- Elijah Qin
- Haylee Quintana
- Amanda Shiu
- Catherine Soto
- Ethan Xie

**Colorado:**
- Nick Huber
- Cecilia Prime-Morales

**Florida:**
- Cody Combs
- Caroline Daley
- Earl Farao

**Georgia – College/Postsecondary:**
- Gwendolyn J. Campbell
- Christopher McIntosh
- Ryan Starnes
SkillsUSA National Voting Delegates (Continued)

**Georgia – High School:**
Joseph Jacobson
Sareena Lidhar
Darlyn Morales
Joseph Price
Raven Ridley
Ambuja Sharma
Claudia Whitlow

**Maryland:**
Tothy Gaines
Joey Guard
Kenneth Songy

**Massachusetts:**
Christopher Alcimbert
Anjelis Amaro
Kayla Anastasio
Alya Bach
Michaela Barreira
Carter Beard
Ariana Besse
Jessica Brown
Kayla Burrell
Molly Cadigan
Adriana Cintron Rodriguez
Hunter Claflin
Lord Custodio
Cassy DePina
Kirsten Dinsmore
Brooks Doane
Sophia Dolan
Claudia Dorval
Cody Douglas
Shannen Hardy
Lorelei Hetzler
Ryan Hollis
Aubrey Houle
Abby Kelly
Kara Koska
Etzer Lindor
Aysia Parent
Skyla Petersen
Madeleine Poitras
Mary Quin
Hannah Shults
Abigail Simmon
Samantha Stephens
Kelsey Urel

**Michigan:**
Benjamin Adamiak
Samuel Dittmar
Jack Munn
Taylor Murray
Carson Roberts
Nicholas Shepich

**Minnesota:**
Jacqueline Pennington

**Missouri:**
Hayden Andrews
Delaney Bragg
Levi Davies
Emma Everts
Mackenzie Morrell
Eric Nelson
Jed Staton

**Nebraska:**
Heidi van der Heijden

**Nevada:**
Molly Coen
Audra Mccarroll
Kendall Richter
Aniya Strain

**New Jersey:**
Michael Deem
Jasmin Maldonado
Natasha Mody
Marissa Munoz
Amelia Okulewicz
Skyler Pratt
Varun Punnam
Rachel Weast

**Hawaii:**
Noelle Lo

**Idaho:**
Kayla Hutchings
Audrey Norris

**Illinois:**
Mark Franklin
Adrian Hernandez
Isabel Schable
Ohm Vyas

**Indiana:**
Cykara Lewis
Cathrine Nevlida

**Iowa:**
Gunnnar Grage
Makenzie Meyer

**Kansas:**
Logan Klein
Gavin McGee

**Maine:**
Gabby Brackett
Kylie Ingalls
Katahdin Jayner
Lucy Utgard
SkillsUSA National Voting Delegates (Continued)

New Mexico:
Karla Alvarez
Bitia Maciel
Arlette Rubio
TaJuana Williams
Lilly Rowland
Hannah Schlauch
Hannah Stowers
Kimberly Taylor
Kayden Underwood
Quinci Voisard

New York – High School:
Benjamin Alejandro
Andrew Blodgett
Kaitlynn Chapman
Elizabeth Mae Maxwell
Trinity Muscarella
Madeline Stell

North Carolina:
Bailey Brown
Carter Godwin
Ian Hudson
Emma Mosley
Vitoria Poe
Dalton Powell

North Dakota:
Jalynn Anderson
Kate Enney

Ohio:
Aurora Albert
Anna Betts
Emily Beasley
Brian Del Real
Molly Hastings
Brinkli Hayes
Hunter Hines
Madison Holbrook
Nevaeh Huff
Alexander Kennedy
Lane KIngery
Liam Lawson
Brandalyn Long
Stephen McConahy

Oklahoma:
Holly Arizola
Luke Cheatwood
Allison Chilcoat
Caleb Cole
Sidney Coronel
Stone Downing
Brianna Dysinger
Thomas Edwards
Matelyn Jones
Lilian Kaiser
Jarrett Linden
Erick Matamoros
Samuel McClure
Lucien Morris
Pacey Ott
Lyndzie Pechacek
Julisa Quezada
Jason Riedesel
Kolten Spencer
Brittany Thomas
Juleeanna Willems

Pennsylvania:
Devyn Amigh
Thane Goetz
Allison Mi
Lydia Pringle
Emma Raffaele

Rhode Island:
Eugenie Belony
Aaliyah Couto
Meilin Quiroa
Abigail Squizzer
Ricardo Vicente

South Carolina:
Elizabeth Brooker
Asia Caldwell
Hailey Figueroa

Tennessee – College/Postsecondary:
Alyssa Anderssen
Rebekah Bailey
Kansas Bradley
Annie Laura Cauley
Elisabeth Dupee
Zoron Frye
Zachary Garron
Kyla Giles
Kristina Key
Lydia Lehman
Alejandro Olson
Karen Palmer
Silvia Reynoso
Nicholas Saul
Bryson Shannon
Timothy Williams
Zuri Willis
Aaron Wooten

Tennessee – High School:
Kevin Hu
Chase Schwartz
Kaydence Transue
Emma Waller
SkillsUSA National Voting Delegates (Continued)

**Texas – College/Postsecondary:**
Jennifer Ognibene

**Texas – High School:**
Moamen Abdulnabi
Devin Chaky
Abe Flores
Aleimi Flores
Dawn Godfrey
Ariel Gonzalez
Reiki Hingorani
Aguilar Melanie
Madison Palmer
Diana Phung
Emily Zapata

**Utah:**
Karli Barclay
James Davies
Oliver Davis
Dannon Sumsion

**Virginia:**
Keely James
Elizabeth Jeans
Krystal Mattson
Audrey Sprenger
Nalin Theodore

**West Virginia:**
Emily Reed

**Wisconsin – College/Postsecondary:**
Wyatt Lutz
Collin Prill

**Wisconsin – High School:**
Katherine Mentel
Emily Milchuck
Renee Ruman

**Wyoming:**
Josiah Bartlett
Isabelle Maciel
Conner Maddox
SkillsUSA 2020–21 State Officer Teams

SkillsUSA salutes the following state officer teams. Member names were submitted by their state SkillsUSA directors for inclusion in this Awards and Recognition Book. These student leaders serve in a variety of roles throughout their year of service, from communicators to advocates to facilitators. They lead both the State Fall Leadership Conference and the State Leadership and Skills Conference. The state officer team also serves local chapters by helping them become career ready through SkillsUSA Framework instruction. To learn the process for becoming a state officer, contact your advisor or state director.

**Alabama**
Elizabeth Cornelius
Matthew Dunagan
Sophie Hill

**Arkansas**
Zane Austin
Reagan Burden
Jac Campos
Kayleigh Chaney
Domenique Harper
Joseph Jester
Sabrina Parks
Melody Pennington
Chloe Silva

**Arizona**
Laurel Beauchamp
David Dillie
Mariana Flores
Vanessa Frias
Matthew Galindo
Noe Garcia
Cole Lowrey
Valeria Gamez Marquez
Stephen Starkey

**California**
Janessa Baza-Lazalde
Natalya Enriquez
Jocelyn Gonzales
Layali Homod
Jolene Lee
Micah Mekhtitarian
Priyanka Prasad
Esham Subramanium
Derek Thach
Vani Tyagi

**Colorado**
Ben Abram
Nick Huber
Dawn Langager

**Delaware**
Ruth Bermudez-Roman
Sarah Janney
Madison Kibler
Faith King

**Florida**
Caroline Daley
Earl Faraon
Kristian Lambaise
Kiarla Rosado

**Georgia – College/Postsecondary**
Ryan Ham
Jessica Heard
Christopher McIntosh

**Georgia – High School**
Joshua Abraham
Jackson Everingham
Emma Kubitschek
Ambuja Sharma
Sebastian Zambrano

**Hawaii**
Noelle Lo
Naleia Tacadena
Kelsey Yoshida

**Idaho**
Cassidy Boyce
Kayla Hutchings

**Illinois**
Mark Franklin
Adrian Hernandez
Isabel Schable
Ohm Vyas

**Indiana**
Martin Cabrer
Frankie Hood
Cykara Lewis

**Iowa**
Lanie Fish
Rylynn Gilmore
Mathew Jass
Dalton Scott
Elijah Yates

**Kansas**
Allie Brodbeck
Juan Colegio
Cameron Ferraro
Logan Klein
Gavin McGee
Hope Rogers
Lathe Smith

**Kentucky**
Alex Buckman
Jaelynn Dennis
Abigail Meadors
Nick Mercer
Autumn Piercefield
Brittany Potter

**Alabama**
Elizabeth Cornelius
Matthew Dunagan
Sophie Hill

**Arkansas**
Zane Austin
Reagan Burden
Jac Campos
Kayleigh Chaney
Domenique Harper
Joseph Jester
Sabrina Parks
Melody Pennington
Chloe Silva

**Arizona**
Laurel Beauchamp
David Dillie
Mariana Flores
Vanessa Frias
Matthew Galindo
Noe Garcia
Cole Lowrey
Valeria Gamez Marquez
Stephen Starkey

**California**
Janessa Baza-Lazalde
Natalya Enriquez
Jocelyn Gonzales
Layali Homod
Jolene Lee
Micah Mekhtitarian
Priyanka Prasad
Esham Subramanium
Derek Thach
Vani Tyagi

**Colorado**
Ben Abram
Nick Huber
Dawn Langager

**Delaware**
Ruth Bermudez-Roman
Sarah Janney
Madison Kibler
Faith King

**Florida**
Caroline Daley
Earl Faraon
Kristian Lambaise
Kiarla Rosado

**Georgia – College/Postsecondary**
Ryan Ham
Jessica Heard
Christopher McIntosh

**Georgia – High School**
Joshua Abraham
Jackson Everingham
Emma Kubitschek
Ambuja Sharma
Sebastian Zambrano

**Hawaii**
Noelle Lo
Naleia Tacadena
Kelsey Yoshida

**Idaho**
Cassidy Boyce
Kayla Hutchings

**Illinois**
Mark Franklin
Adrian Hernandez
Isabel Schable
Ohm Vyas

**Indiana**
Martin Cabrer
Frankie Hood
Cykara Lewis

**Iowa**
Lanie Fish
Rylynn Gilmore
Mathew Jass
Dalton Scott
Elijah Yates

**Kansas**
Allie Brodbeck
Juan Colegio
Cameron Ferraro
Logan Klein
Gavin McGee
Hope Rogers
Lathe Smith

**Kentucky**
Alex Buckman
Jaelynn Dennis
Abigail Meadors
Nick Mercer
Autumn Piercefield
Brittany Potter
LEADERSHIP

SkillsUSA 2020–21 State Officer Teams (Continued)

Maine
Bryce Carter
Kyla Cunningham
Katrah Javner
Thomasina Lester
Adria Mclaughlin
Madison Miller
Breanna Mushero
Lillian Philbrook
Benjamin Snow
Lucille Utgard

Maryland
Reagan Cheung
Tehya Gaines
Whitney Mattera
Kathryn Moats
Sahil Patel

Massachusetts
Christopher Alcimbert
Lord Custodio
Cody Douglas
Ella Estee
Lorelei Hetzler
Abby Kelly
Kara Koska
Samantha Miller
Madeleine Poitras

Michigan
Alaina Andersen
Emmalee Bates
Nicholas Carlson
Andreze Ewing-Suggs
George Rodriguez
Elisabeth (Liz) Swarthout
Jouchee (Danny) Yang

Minnesota
Allison Brodin
Sydney Dvorak
Lydia Lillquist
Jacqueline Pennington
Omar Rahman

Mississippi
Debianna Cooley
Aaron Dickens
Flor Espino
Kaden Lewis
Makayla Miller
Arlena Rice

Missouri
Allie Caldon
Jacob Hawkins
Chloe Morales

Montana
Caiden Back
Wes Bruski
Emmalyn Edwards
Madison Elliott
Jim Kinsey
Macie Vinaras

Nebraska
Grace Ballou
Ariel Bryant
Ian Fiala
Taelynn Grady
Rhiannon Painter
Reiley Reed
Audrey Wang

Nevada
Molly Coen
Grace Cotton
Audra McCarol
Kendall Richter
Aniya Strain

New Mexico
Dashanti Gipson
Kasandra Lopez
Arlette Rubio

New Jersey
Michael Deem
Jasmin Maldonado
Marissa Muñoz
Natasha Mody
Amelia Okulewicz
Skyler Pratt
Varun Punnam
Rachel Weast

New York – High School
Isaac Akyigit
Riley Arns
Kaitlynn Chapman
Paula Hernandez
Benjamin Majao
Jensyn Milliron
Leslie Patino
Anna Pokoj
Lauren Reynolds
Matthew Rosado
Lauren Sulaiman
Alayna Trautman

North Carolina
Jalynn Anderson
Corey Beam
Carter Godwin
Jocelyn Hernandez
Ian Hudson
Emma Mosley
Marley Ray

North Dakota
Kate Enney
Harlie Storhoff

Ohio
Lauren Adams
Haley Berkley
Nyla Hill
Robert Lipps
Paige Phillips
Jay Turney
Shristi Upreti
LEADERSHIP

SkillsUSA 2020–21 State Officer Teams (Continued)

Oklahoma
Jacob Bailey
David Colindres
Katie Jo Hamlin
Gabriel Lane
Alexis Officer
Lyndzie Pechacek
Madelynn Schow
McKinlee Stange
Spencar Wright

Oregon
Myles Barton
Briana Lynch
Gage Munoz

Pennsylvania
Siksha Acharya
Devyn Amigh
Autumn Cox
Fylan Fagan
Taylor Finocchiaro
Dominic Gralia

Rhode Island
Eugenie Belony
Arabella Fraielli
Jodalene Kimball
Kyle Leupold
Travis Williamson

South Carolina
Daniela Alvarez
Elizabeth Brooker
Raymond Jedlicka
Charles Jones
Tamia Smith
Kate Stodden
Megan vanVollenhoven

South Dakota
Derek Miller
Matt Koopmans
Maria Pazour

Tennessee – College/Postsecondary
ZoRon “Rudie” Fry
Kyla Gilles
Karen Palmer

Tennessee – High School
Johnna Durham
Matthew McCollough
Ellie Rose McClain
Kaleb Ruddle
Jacob Smallwood
Kiele Smith

Texas – High School
Moamen Abdulnabi
Melanie Aguilar
Jesus Medina
Madison Palmer
Emma Pope
Leslie Vasquez
Zephaniah Zuniga

Utah
Karli Barclay
Kaitlyn Evans
Tea Flores
Tia Ivers
Keara Milligan

Virginia
Makaylyn Alley
Abigail Anderson
Eli Haywood
Kaeleigh Waldron

Washington – High School
Xochil Galinda Hernandez
Caleb Mouat
Lucy Nowicky
Mazzi Nowicky

West Virginia
Abby Brock
Devon Edwards
Levi Ellis
Kody Keffer
Francesca Malinky
Leanna Nicholson
Jason Polgar

Wisconsin – High School
Alexis Kamenski
Jessica Kott
Harrison Lehmann
Benjamin Leipzig
Maleah Redmann
Renee Ruman
Devin Schneider

Wisconsin – College/Postsecondary
Timothy Bradt
Wyatt Lutz
Collin Prill
Ralph Taylor

Wyoming
Josiah Bartlett
Devin Crook
Emma Edwards
Caden Jackson
Julia Maertens
Riley Milburn
Isaac Moss
Honorary Life Members

SkillsUSA’s highest recognition is the Honorary Life Membership. It is awarded for outstanding service that advances the purposes and goals of the national organization.

**David Allday**

“All students can learn to become leaders in their own way,” says SkillsUSA mentor and supporter David Allday. In 1967, this founding student member of SkillsUSA California (then VICA) was a young entrepreneur who ran a successful business. He’d later sell the company, become a pilot and launch a career that took him to NASA as an international safety consultant. Since his retirement, Allday has supported SkillsUSA California as a valued partner by visiting schools and promoting the program while generously donating funds and materials so students in need could excel in their programs and attend regional, state or national SkillsUSA events. Allday personally attends many of the events he supports to serve as a mentor or contest judge. It was Allday’s vision to adopt the national leadership model for use with California middle school students so they can start becoming lifelong learners and successful leaders even sooner. Allday appeared in *SkillsUSA Champions Magazine*, sharing his story of how the organization he joined in high school helped him develop career passions, leadership and the ability to mentor others — skills that have served him throughout life.

**Bruce Gray**

The philosophy of a solid work ethic and a positive attitude is embodied in the work of retired SkillsUSA Texas instructor and state trainer Bruce Gray. Gray became a key supporter of SkillsUSA Texas and made a tremendous, positive influence on the lives of the students he taught for over 20 years as a cabinetmaking instructor. Gray also helped shape the face of SkillsUSA Texas leadership as the state officer trainer, national officer candidate trainer and national conference delegation coordinator. Gray’s cabinetmaking students at Cleveland (Texas) High School won first place in the state contest four times and placed in the national top 10 twice. At the state level, Gray trained 34 national officer candidates, with 33 of them earning a national officer role. Nine state officers, eight of them state presidents, also came from his program. Gray says he truly enjoyed being an educator and watching students persevere as they wrote their own success stories. Perhaps that’s why, even in retirement, Gray still volunteers with SkillsUSA as his schedule permits.
Honorary Life Members (Continued)

Wanda Henry

“Dream big and plan accordingly” is a phrase that defines Wanda Henry as a teacher. As a high school senior in 1982, Henry was president of her SkillsUSA chapter at the Hale County College and Career Academy in Greensboro, Ala., where she'd been developing her love of cosmetology. The 40 years since have seen her open and operate her own successful salon, earn two master's degrees in educational administration and begin what's now been an inspiring 25-year career as an instructor and SkillsUSA advisor at Minor High School in Adamsville, Ala. Henry was one of the first national board-certified teachers in Alabama. She’s been a member of the SkillsUSA Alabama board of directors, served as a state officer advisor, and assisted with SkillsUSA district and state contests. Henry’s SkillsUSA chapter was named Alabama Outstanding Chapter eight times. Nationally, the chapter has received the Chapter of Excellence and Model of Excellence awards and won a first-place public relations award for promoting SkillsUSA at the national level. Currently a career coach, Henry continues to make a lasting, transformative impact on the lives of many students, demonstrating how “big dreams” can become successful realities.
Outstanding Career and Technical Educators

Each year, SkillsUSA is proud to honor individual educators for their service and dedication to career and technical education and to SkillsUSA by naming them as our Outstanding Career and Technical Educators.

Rita Borselli

Rita Borselli (affectionately known to her students as “Ms. B.”) has been a transformative leader in career and technical education throughout her more than 20 years as an instructor at Douglas High School in Minden, Nev. Now retired, Borselli taught graphic design and screen printing to thousands of students, many of whom have gone on to successful careers in graphic design, screen printing or related fields. She has also coached many students to gold medals at both the state and national SkillsUSA competitions. Her students have been very involved in a variety of community service projects, and Borselli ran a successful holiday craft fair as a longtime school fundraiser. “Amazing,” “inspiring,” and “one of my favorite teachers” are just a few of the many accolades her students have bestowed on her, underscoring her ability to make a true difference in education, one student at a time.

Trey Michael

Trey Michael is the state director of career and technical education at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, N.C. Michael was a former marketing teacher and a corporate member for SkillsUSA North Carolina for several years. He believes that every career and technical education (CTE) teacher should also be a career and technical student organization (CTSO) advisor. He backs up that belief by requiring every new CTE teacher to go through a 40-hour new teacher induction program within three years, with a minimum one-third of that program being devoted to CTSOs at the core mission level. Michael is well-versed in the SkillsUSA Framework and believes in its inclusion within classrooms across the state. He has also been instrumental in developing a strong relationship with CTE and SkillsUSA in the office of the state superintendent. Michael is a true CTE champion.

Brian Peffley

Brian Peffley has been a pastry arts instructor at Lebanon (Pa.) County Career and Technology Center for 25 years and a SkillsUSA advisor for 24 of those years. Peffley has taught, mentored and coached many students to compete in the SkillsUSA Championships in Commercial Baking, Restaurant Service, Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Job Skill Demo A and Action Skills. He and another instructor operate a successful lunch program where his students learn all aspects of running a restaurant, from safety and sanitation to planning and preparation. Peffley worked for almost 10 years to help bring an accredited postsecondary apprenticeship program to Lebanon County, and this program has now been operating for several years in conjunction with a local hotel. Over the years, his students have also been very active in the community, a testament to Peffley’s commitment to leadership as well as technical skills development.
Outstanding Career and Technical Educators (Continued)

**Kimberly Petronella**
To Kimberly Petronella, a great teacher is one who is “compassionate, focused and organized,” and Petronella has definitely shown herself to be all those things and more throughout her nearly 25 years as an instructor at the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison Board of Cooperative Educational Services in New Hartford, N.Y. Petronella began as a health occupations teacher and now serves as a New Visions: Health Professions coordinator/teacher and work-based learning coordinator. Petronella has served SkillsUSA in many roles, including as a chapter advisor, health cluster manager, manager of the state officer team and more. Always active in the community, her chapter has received the gold-level Chapter of Distinction award in SkillsUSA's Chapter Excellence Program for the past three years, and Petronella has received a host of individual honors as well. She believes an educator's top priority should be to bring out the best in students, and she’s accomplished that mission anew each year.

**Sherrie Rowe**
Sherrie Rowe is the department chair for Design and Media Production Technology at Augusta (Ga.) Technical College, where she has been an instructor for 24 years. During that time, she’s mentored many students and made a genuine difference in their lives. The only teacher at Augusta Tech to ever receive a “Teacher of the Year” award twice, Rowe was also a finalist in 2019 for the Rick Perkins Georgia State Teacher of the Year award. She previously served as the testing coordinator for SkillsUSA Georgia College/Postsecondary and currently serves as the association’s webmaster. Rah’mere Williams, one of Rowe’s students, describes her as “an outstanding teacher who ensures her students succeed in class and in life.” To read more about this giving teacher and the effect she has on her students, read Williams’ story in SkillsUSA Champions Magazine.

**Brian Stevenson**
For the past 35 years, Brian Stevenson has been an outstanding educator committed to the growth and success of his students at Cheyenne (Wyo.) Central High School. Stevenson won the SkillsUSA Wyoming Advisor of the Year Award in 2004 and the University of California at San Diego Superior Teacher Award in 2006. He started the first Wyoming chapter of SkillsUSA in 1995 and helped start the SkillsUSA Wyoming state association. Stevenson's SkillsUSA program has produced four national officers, 14 state presidents and more than 30 state officers. His students have also won many SkillsUSA state and national SkillsUSA Championships competitions, and his chapters have won many national Chapter of Excellence and Models of Excellence awards. The skills Stevenson helps his students develop don’t just lead them to successful careers, but successful lives.
SkillsUSA Advisors of the Year

The SkillsUSA Advisor of the Year Award honors SkillsUSA’s most dedicated career and technical education instructors. These talented instructors serve SkillsUSA advisors and embrace the SkillsUSA Framework and national programming to create career-ready graduates and opportunities for every member. States hold an Advisor of the Year competition, and the state winners advance to the regional competition. The top five regional winners are interviewed during the national conference, and a national Advisor of the Year is selected.

**John Stratton**
Region 1 (New York)

A dedicated automotive instructor at the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES in New Hartford, N.Y., John Stratton embraces all aspects of the SkillsUSA program and feels the SkillsUSA Framework can help every student. “By showing the interconnection and relationship of the Framework, students can see how the technical skills, personal skills and workplace skills all combine together to help reach success,” he says. Stratton has been the lead SkillsUSA advisor for 16 years and is the mechanics cluster chair for SkillsUSA New York’s state championships. He also serves as a national judge. Stratton has been recognized for excellence with several industry awards, coaches sports and is involved in the Boy Scouts. One of his SkillsUSA members describes Stratton as having “a friendly disposition and outstanding knowledge of SkillsUSA. He is always willing to guide students, but he encourages us to take the leadership role and develop our own projects.”

**Rushe Hudzinski-Sero**
Region 2 (Georgia)

Rushe Hudzinski-Sero is an instructor in business management at Savannah Technical College (Ga.), a position she embraced after an award-winning career in human resources, training and recruiting. The SkillsUSA lead advisor on campus, Hudzinski-Sero was named by the college as its 2020 Instructor of the Year. She has been recognized regionally and nationally for the development of training programs in customer service and human resources. The New York native holds an MBA, is active in professional associations and holds several industry certifications. One of her students describes this professor as helping her to develop soft skills such as confidence and communication. “She has mentored me and taught me how best to represent myself, my team, and my college,” the student says. “Her lectures are creative and intriguing. She tirelessly answers questions until we have a satisfactory understanding of all material. She persistently conveys a positive attitude and ensures a safe learning environment for all students.” What more could any student ask for?
RECOGNITION

SkillsUSA Advisors of the Year (Continued)

Fred Ganter
Region 3 (Wisconsin)
Fred Ganter is a physics instructor at Elkhorn Area High School (Wis.) and enjoys helping students find a passion and a career path. He has been a SkillsUSA chapter advisor since 2015 and built the SkillsUSA program at the school from the ground up. His chapter has received SkillsUSA Models of Excellence awards, including Quality Chapter, Silver Chapter of Excellence and Gold Chapter of Excellence. He was also recognized with the 2019 Rising Star Advisor award for SkillsUSA Wisconsin. Ganter enjoys getting to know his students and helps them grow and develop skills that are necessary for them to be college and career ready. He believes strongly in developing the Essential Elements of the SkillsUSA Framework in students. “As an advisor, I can provide opportunities for competitions, classes and industry networking to help students gain experiences and be ready to succeed on their career pathways,” he says. One of his students describes him as “a great teacher who has a passion for helping his students find their next step into a career where they find meaning and success.”

Gloria Houston
Region 4 (Missouri)
Gloria Houston teaches health science at New Madrid Technical Skills Center (Mo.). She loves teaching in the healthcare field where, as she puts it, “you can make a difference.” Houston has a master’s degree in career and technical education leadership and administration and has been a registered nurse for over 20 years. She has been teaching for 11 years and is a huge advocate for both career and technical education and SkillsUSA. Houston has won numerous awards in her community, including Educator of the Year, Home Health Nurse of the Year, Volunteer of the Year and Woman of the Year. “When you help a student find what they are passionate about and then watch them excel,” she explains, “nothing compares to it.” One of her students describes her as “an amazing person who is always there for her community, students, administrators and peers.”

Nikki Gerner
Region 5 (California)
Nikki Gerner teaches courses related to life skills management at Dinuba (Calif.) High School, and she’s been the school’s main SkillsUSA advisor since 2015. Gerner strongly believes in the SkillsUSA Framework and how it empowers students as they develop their skill sets through real-world application. During the pandemic, she integrated the Framework into virtual chapter activities. Last year, SkillsUSA membership at Dinuba increased from 150 to more than 450 active members, allowing the chapter to better serve the community. “The Essential Elements are the key pieces to our world of work puzzle and are needed for today’s students to understand the complexity of obtaining and keeping a job and progressing into a career,” Gerner says. One of her students describes her as “always going above and beyond for every one of us, a source of motivation and someone who wants to see us succeed.”
SkillsUSA 2021 Models of Excellence

SkillsUSA’s Models of Excellence program recognizes the best chapters in the nation for the exceptional integration of personal, workplace and technical skills into SkillsUSA chapter activities. The focus of Models of Excellence is student-led activation. These students learn and practice the skills that every employer seeks — including leadership, initiative, communication, teamwork and problem-solving — by taking the lead on all SkillsUSA activities. Their SkillsUSA instructors guide them, elevating learning from instruction to the successful application of skills. The top 24 SkillsUSA chapters will be evaluated by a panel of judges based on their goals, plan of action, results, evaluation and SkillsUSA Framework integration. The top three schools will then be recognized on June 24 during the SkillsUSA Virtual Awards and Recognition Session. Congratulations to the 2021 Models of Excellence schools:

Apalachee High School (Ga.)
Brooke High School (W.Va.)
Cape Cod Regional Technical High School (Mass.)
Catawba Valley Community College (N.C.)
Center for Advanced Technical Studies (S.C.)
Cheyenne Central High School (Wyo.)
Deming High School (N.M.)
Dorchester Career and Technology Center (Md.)
Elkhorn Area High School (Wis.)
Forsyth Central High School (Ga.)
Gordon Cooper Technology Center (Okl.)
Greater Lowell Technical High (Mass.)
Indian Valley Vocational Center (Ill.)
Lanier Technical College (Ga.)
Louisville Public School (Neb.)
Lynn Vocational Technical Institute (Mass.)
New Madrid Technical Skills Center (Mo.)
Oak Harbor High School (Wash.)
Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES (N.Y.)
Savannah Technical College (Ga.)
Sussex County Technical School (N.J.)
Thomas Jefferson High School (Colo.)
Upper Valley Career Center (Ohio)
Valley Academy for Career and Technology Education (Ariz.)
SkillsUSA State Officers IMPACT Award

SkillsUSA’s new IMPACT program for state officers guides these leaders to facilitate intentional conversations with local officers, that lead to high-functioning school chapters. Each chapter conversation is centered around a specific topic that elevates the member experience. This year, state officers attended training conducted by national staff and then facilitated local chapter conversations during their year of service. During our inaugural year, two states produced officer teams who all completed chapter conversations: Arizona and Wyoming.

State officers being recognized with IMPACT awards for 2020-21 include:

**Arizona**
- Mariana Flores
- Vanessa Frias
- Valeria Gamez
- Noe Garcia

**Colorado**
- Nick Huber

**Michigan**
- Andreze Suggs-Ewing

**Minnesota**
- Sydney Dvorak
- Lydia Lillquist
- Omar Rahman

**Wyoming**
- Josiah Bartlett
- Devin Crook
- Caden Jackson
- Julia Maertens
- Riley Milburn
- Isaac Moss
2021 President’s Volunteer Service Awards

The President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation created the President’s Volunteer Service Awards (PVSA) program to honor citizens who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to serve. The award recognizes individuals, families and teams based on hours served over a 12-month period or cumulative hours earned over a lifetime. For individuals 15-25 years old, bronze is granted for 100-174 hours over a year, silver for 175-249 hours over a year, and gold for 250 or more hours over a year, or 4,000 or more hours of volunteer service over a lifetime. For families or teams, bronze is awarded for 200-499 hours over a year, silver for 500-999 hours over a year, and gold for 1,000 hours or more over a year. The list below represents more than 40,000 hours of logged community service.

Individual Awards

Arizona:

River Valley High School
Ethan Fromm (Gold)
Kevin Guenther (Gold)
Brayden Lott (Gold)
Nicholas Palfi (Gold)

John Burroughs High School
Gabrielle Mathis (Bronze)

California:

Downey High School
Anna Arambula-Pena (Gold)
Evelyn Picazzo (Gold)
Kimberly Ortiz (Silver)
Leticia Velarde (Silver)
Amier Auberry (Bronze)
Karen Barajas (Bronze)
Ingrid Belmonte (Bronze)
Isabella Delira (Bronze)
Camila Garcia (Bronze)
Natalie Garcia (Bronze)
Andrew Henriquez (Bronze)
Alondra Jauregui (Bronze)
Samantha Lorenzo (Bronze)
Araceli Magdaleno (Bronze)
Melisa Martinez (Bronze)
Charity Olavydez (Bronze)
Maria Palacios (Bronze)
Christian Pepaj (Bronze)

Nisa Rueda (Bronze)
Irane Santiago (Bronze)
Bridgette Yaquian (Bronze)

Massachusetts:

Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School
Aliyana Martin (Gold)

New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School
Kara Koska (Gold)

Blue Hills Regional Technical High School
Christopher Alcimbert (Gold)

Blackstone Regional Vocational Technical High School
Abby Kelly (Silver)
Madeline Poitras (Silver)
2021 President’s Volunteer Service Awards

**Individual Awards (Continued)**

**Massachusetts (Continued):**
- Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School
  - Lorelei Hetzler (Silver)

  **Essex North Shore Technical High School**
  - Lord Custodio (Silver)

  **Bay Path Regional Technical Vocational High School**
  - Cody Douglas (Silver)

**New Jersey:**
- Somerset County Academy for Health and Medical Sciences
  - Aarsha Sha (Gold)
  - Charlene Cai (Silver)
  - Evelyn Chuo (Silver)

  **Somerset County Vocational and Technical Schools**
  - Christopher Masiello (Silver)

**New York:**
- Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES
  - Joshua Calvani (Gold)
  - Sean Townsend (Gold)
  - Emily Barron (Bronze)

**Texas:**
- John A. Dubiski Career High School
  - Troy Dwayne Broussard

**Team Awards**

**New York:**
- Thomas A. Edison CTE High School (Gold)

**Massachusetts:**
- Lynn Vocational Technical Institute (Gold)

**Oklahoma:**
- Metro Technology Center South Bryant Campus: Law Enforcement Cadets (Silver)

**New Jersey:**
- Bergen County Academies (Bronze)
Student2Student Mentoring Award

SkillsUSA’s Student2Student mentoring program provides a way for SkillsUSA members and chapters to participate in America’s Promise Alliance, an organization that brings together national nonprofits, businesses, community and civic leaders, educators, citizens and young people to help improve the lives and futures of America’s youth. Student2Student encourages older students to serve as mentors to younger students, helping them explore future careers and make decisions that will lead to marketable skills and productive futures. The goal is to start younger students thinking about their future careers as they work with their older mentors and experience technical training programs firsthand.

Each year, SkillsUSA recognizes a chapter that best exemplifies the purposes and goals of the Student2Student mentoring program. This year’s recipient is:

Academies of the Antelope Valley, Quartz Hill, Calif.

Discovering a new way to provide mentoring despite the restrictions of a global pandemic, SkillsUSA high school students from the Academies of the Antelope Valley used an educational program they developed called “ScienceCraft” to work with more than 100 elementary and middle school students. Their sessions focused on comprehensive science lessons ranging from oceanography to physics. Using the video game Minecraft, along with the Discord platform for chat and voice, every student could speak and interact with their mentors and teachers.

The students who created the program developed a passion for teaching younger students as they observed the impact their mentoring had on others. The SkillsUSA members intentionally leveraged each lesson to help the younger students gain useful career-readiness skills found in the SkillsUSA Framework. They used the Framework Essential Elements of Teamwork, Work Ethic and Professionalism to grow as facilitators of their Student2Student program.
Scholarship Recipients

Each year, SkillsUSA awards members with a variety of scholarships and grants made possible by the generosity of committed partners and friends. Recipients of three of those scholarships are listed below, and more winners will be announced leading up to the national conference on June 21. Stay connected with skillsusa.org for news on the latest winners, and keep up-to-date with all current scholarship opportunities on our Scholarships and Grants page. Congratulations to this year’s winners, and thanks to our supporters who made these scholarships possible.

SkillsUSA and National Technical Honor Society Scholarships
Together, SkillsUSA and the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) promote outstanding student achievement within career and technical education. SkillsUSA encourages chapters to consider participation in the NTHS. Each year, NTHS awards four $1,000 scholarships to SkillsUSA members, two going to high school members and two others to college/postsecondary members. If a qualified college/postsecondary member is not recommended by the scholarship committee, the available scholarships are awarded to high school students instead.

This year’s recipients are:

College/Postsecondary
Jasmine Godoy, Tulsa (Okla.) Tech, Riverside Campus

High School
Thomasina Lester, Oxford Hills Technical School, Norway, Maine
Savannah Pinner, Wylie (Texas) High School
Megan Van Vollenhoven, Center for Advanced Technical Studies, Chapin, S.C.

Sharon Melton Myers Memorial Scholarships
Through a donation from the Sharon Melton Myers Memorial Fund, SkillsUSA and the McMinn County Vocational Center in Athens, Tenn., the SkillsUSA Alumni and Friends Association offers a $500 scholarship each year to select high school SkillsUSA students in memory of much-loved former member Sharon Melton Myers.

This year’s recipients are:

Tarik Barnes, Cleveland (Texas) High School, Cleveland
Bailey Brown, Richlands (N.C.) High School
Scholarships (Continued)

**Marsha Daves Memorial Scholarship**
To the students and colleagues who were able to work with her, Marsha Daves was a respected educator, trusted advisor, valued mentor and cherished friend. In memory of this champion’s legacy, SkillsUSA annually offers one merit-based $1,000 scholarship for college/postsecondary education and a supplementary $500 travel stipend for SkillsUSA's national conference to a state officer.

This year's recipient is:

2021 National Pin and T-shirt Design Winners

The national conference Pin and T-Shirt Design Challenge is open to all dues-paying student members of SkillsUSA. The winning designs become the official pin and T-shirt of the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference. Both are available online at the SkillsUSA Store during the national conference.

**The national conference pin design winner is:**

Angelica Frolenko, Bucks County Technical High School, Fairless Hills, Pa. (Advisor: Tracey Glorioso)

**The national conference T-shirt design winner is:**

Edison Zheng, Thomas Edison High School, Wheaton, Md. (Advisor: Carol King Bolden)
SkillsUSA is committed to ensuring the health and safety of all members who participate in the 2021 virtual National Leadership and Skills Conference and the SkillsUSA Championships.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, 2021 SkillsUSA Championships competitors may be competing at schools, in their homes or at a local business. Because restrictions related to the pandemic vary from state to state, it is the sole responsibility of all competition facility hosts, competitors, instructors and other participants to follow all of their local and state guidelines related to COVID-19 safety protocols. Likewise, it is the responsibility of all competition facility hosts to enforce adherence to these rules in the school or place of business.

Please visit your local and state websites for full information on current COVID policies and restrictions that apply to you. For the latest national information and guidelines, go to: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

We encourage everyone to stay vigilant, stay healthy and stay safe!
Behind the SkillsUSA Championships

When we are in person, the SkillsUSA Championships is known as one of the largest hands-on workforce events in the world. In fact, the competition space allotted for the event encompasses more than 20 football fields, and it’s all made possible by an estimated $36 million investment from business and industry.

This year, because of social distancing restrictions related to the pandemic, the SkillsUSA Championships have been conducted in entirely new ways. Some contests were held virtually, while others were held at SkillsUSA schools or industry sites with virtual judging and proctors. The prospect of transitioning our hands-on competitions into a virtual or hybrid format was a daunting one as it was considered last fall. But, through a tremendous, collective effort from our national technical committee members, national staff, state SkillsUSA directors, local educators and so many more (including the competitors themselves), what was once a “How can we do this?” concern has become a “We did it!” triumph. As this conference ends on June 24, we’ll recognize national gold, silver and bronze medalists in 107 skilled, leadership and occupational competitions (see full contest list on page 45), and the emotions our medalists will be feeling as they receive their awards will be celebrated — and shared — by all of us.

The format of the competitions is different this year, but the ultimate goal remains the same: to test skills to industry standards for entry-level workers in each occupational area and to ensure that all student participants are developing the personal, workplace and technical skills needed to be career ready through the SkillsUSA Framework.

The SkillsUSA Championships process begins with career competitions held in local chapters across the country. Winners advance to district or regional competitions, where they test their skills against competitors from other schools. First-place district or regional winners advance to state competitions, and those state gold medalists then move on to the elite national level at the SkillsUSA Championships. Along with their gold, silver and bronze medallions, winners will receive scholarships, tools of the trade and irrefutable evidence of their commitment to excellence that will serve them well throughout their successful careers.
Behind the SkillsUSA Championships (Continued)

“Our team wants to extend our sincere thanks to every partner, every technical committee member, our state directors and every educator who supported our efforts to provide students with competition opportunities and much-needed recognition in this most unusual year,” says Darren Gibson, SkillsUSA’s program director for Career Competition Events. The following groups made this year's SkillsUSA Championships possible, and we thank them for their unwavering commitment to our students:

- SkillsUSA Championships Executive Committee members.
- SkillsUSA Championships National Technical Committee chairs and members.
- State SkillsUSA directors.
- Competition judges.
- National Education Team members.
- All industry partners supporting the competitions.
- All advisors or educators who served as mentors, proctors, chaperones or other support.
- And the most important group, our student members.

Best of luck to all our competitors. Whether you emerge from this year's event with a medal or not, your passionate and persistent commitment to your skills during this challenging year is an inspiration not just to SkillsUSA, but to our entire nation. Thank you.

**Competition Schedules**

Individual competitors and their advisors have already received detailed information about how to access the SkillsUSA Championships Hub and how to review their individual contest schedules. *For the full SkillsUSA Championships contest schedule, click here.*
Meet Our 2021 SkillsUSA Championships Competitors

SkillsUSA congratulates every member who competed in a career competition this year at the local, regional/district, state and national levels. Your participation exemplifies your dedication to personal and professional growth. You are a champion!

This year, more than 3,700 students progressed through the annual career competition process and were named eligible to compete at the national level in 102 official contests and five demonstration events. Each student may have taken a different path to the SkillsUSA Championships, but the road traveled is one that prepares every individual who participates with enhanced career-readiness skills that empower them to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. National medalists will be named June 24 and winners will be posted on the SkillsUSA website by June 25.

*Click here for a full list of our distinguished 2021 national competitors.*

For specific competitor information related to the SkillsUSA Championships, please visit: *compete.SkillsUSA.org.*
SkillsUSA Championships Executive Committee

Three committees work together to coordinate activities of the SkillsUSA Championships: the Executive Committee, the National Technical Committees and the National Education Team.

The Executive Committee assists the SkillsUSA Championships team in all management functions required to ensure a safe, orderly and successful SkillsUSA Championships. Current members are:

**James King** (representing education), retired as executive vice chancellor for the Tennessee Board of Regents and president of Northeast State College

**John Hinesley** (representing management), Meritor Inc.

**Sharon Schaub**, emeritus

**Darren Gibson**, program director, SkillsUSA Career Competition Events
2021 SkillsUSA Championships Official Contests

The SkillsUSA Championships are held each June, the culmination of hundreds of local, regional/district and state competitions held each spring. Outstanding career and technical education students — all state contest winners — will compete hands-on in 102 trade, technical and leadership competitions plus five demonstration events. Contests are run with the help of industry, trade associations and labor organizations, and test competencies are set by industry. The championships is a multi-million-dollar event. When held in-person, it occupies space equivalent to more than 20 football fields. In 2021, due to health and safety concerns, all events were virtual or hybrid and were held locally across the country.

Click here for specific contest information and schedules.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
- Action Skills
- American Spirit
- Chapter Business Procedure
- Chapter Display
- Community Action Project
- Community Service
- Employment Application Process
- Extemporaneous Speaking
- Job Interview
- Job Skill Demonstration A (includes Middle School)
- Job Skill Demonstration Open (includes Middle School)
- Occupational Health and Safety Multiple
- Occupational Health and Safety Single
- Opening and Closing Ceremonies (includes Middle School)
- Outstanding Chapter (includes Middle School)
- Pin Design (State Conference) (includes Middle School)
- Prepared Speech
- Promotional Bulletin Board
- Quiz Bowl
- T-shirt Design

SKILLED AND TECHNICAL SCIENCES
- 3D Visualization and Animation
- Additive Manufacturing
- Advertising Design
- Architectural Drafting
- Audio/Radio Production
- Automated Manufacturing Technology
- Automotive Refinishing Technology
- Automotive Service Technology
- Aviation Maintenance Technology
- Barbering
- Basic Health Care Skills (High School only)
- Broadcast News Production
- Building Maintenance
- Cabinetmaking
- Carpentry
- CNC Milling Specialist
- CNC Technician
- CNC Turning Specialist
- Collision Repair Technology
- Commercial Baking
- Computer Programming
- Cosmetology
- Crime Scene Investigation
- Criminal Justice
- Culinary Arts
- Cyber Security
- Dental Assisting
- Diesel Equipment Technology
- Digital Cinema Production
- Early Childhood Education
- Electrical Construction Wiring
- Electronics Technology
- Esthetics

OCCUPATIONALLY RELATED
- Career Pathways Showcase
- Customer Service
- Engineering Technology/Design
- Entrepreneurship
- First Aid/CPR
- Health Knowledge Bowl
- Health Occupations Professional Portfolio
- Medical Math
- Medical Terminology
- Principles of Engineering/Technology
- Related Technical Math
SKILLED AND TECHNICAL SCIENCES (Continued)
  Firefighting
  Graphic Communications
  Graphics Imaging – Sublimation
  Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration
  Industrial Motor Control
  Information Technology Services
  Interactive Application and Video Game Development
  Internet of Things (IOT)/Smart Home*
  Internetworking
  Marine Service Technology
  Masonry
  Mechatronics
  Medical Assisting
  Mobile Electronics Installation
  Mobile Robotics Technology
  Motorcycle Service Technology
  Nail Care
  Nurse Assisting
  Photography
  Plumbing
  Power Equipment Technology
  Practical Nursing
  Residential Commercial and Appliance Technology**
  Restaurant Service
  Robotics and Automation Technology
  Robotics: Urban Search and Rescue
  Screen Printing Technology
  Sheet Metal
  Team Engineering Challenge (Middle School only)
  TeamWorks
  Technical Computer Applications
  Technical Drafting
  Telecommunications Cabling
  Television (Video) Production
  Web Design and Development
  Welding
  Welding Fabrication
  Welding Sculpture

DEMONSTRATION EVENTS
  Automobile Maintenance and Light Repair demonstration (High school only)
  CNC 5-Axis demonstration
  Collision Damage Appraisal demonstration
  Commercial Drone demonstration
  Emergency Medical Technician demonstration

*Formerly known as Residential Systems Installation and Maintenance
**Formerly known as Major Appliance and Refrigeration Technology

Official Contest Rules
The “2021 SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards” is the official competition guide. As a free member benefit, SkillsUSA professional members (teachers) received the Technical Standards when they registered as members with a valid email address. For more information, visit: www.skillsusa.org/competitions/skillsusa-championships/technical-standards/.
The way SkillsUSA conducts our competitions might have temporarily changed as a result of the global pandemic, but one thing hasn’t: earning a medal at the SkillsUSA Championships is the same “kind-of-a-big-deal” it’s always been.

For most SkillsUSA members, the competitive experience — along with so many other aspects of life — looks a lot different than it did pre-pandemic. But whether the competitions are being conducted in virtual or hybrid settings, those technical and leadership skills on display are just as impressive as ever.

When SkillsUSA made the difficult decision to hold our 2021 National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) virtually as a result of the ongoing pandemic, some expressed concern that the also-virtual SkillsUSA Championships held in conjunction with NLSC would be considered as “less than,” or that any medal earned in 2021 would have an asterisk beside it as a result of the event’s virtual nature.

SkillsUSA Executive Director Chelle Travis put that concern to rest in the official NLSC announcement, saying, “I want to assure each one of you that the bronze, silver and gold medals we’ll deliver through the virtual event will be just as valued by industry as they’ve always been. National medalists in 2021 will have the same cause for pride as the thousands who’ve earned those medals throughout our illustrious history.”

In the same message, Sam Bottum (pictured at left), chief marketing officer of Snap-on Incorporated and president of the SkillsUSA Board of Directors, affirmed the importance of SkillsUSA: “Your personal, workplace and technical skills grounded in academics are in fact more valuable than ever. You are the people we want to hire,” he said. “Business and industry partners recognize SkillsUSA as a vital solution to the skills gap. We must upskill our nation. That hasn’t changed, and it’s not going to change.”

The fact that so many states have held or are currently holding their own virtual state competitions shows that SkillsUSA members across the nation took those sentiments to heart.
New Ways to Prepare and Practice

Preparation will not be exactly the same for virtual competitions as opposed to the in-person events we’re so used to. Darren Gibson (pictured at right), SkillsUSA’s director of Career Competition Events, says, “Students should familiarize themselves with Zoom software before their event so they can be 100% focused on competition day.” He also points out, “If you are presenting on Zoom or another virtual platform, students should look directly at the camera so that contest judges will have a sense that you’re making eye contact.”

Gibson suggests that, for contests which normally require a competitor to turn in a notebook when held in person, students should create electronic versions of the notebooks for virtual competition. These could be PDFs or PowerPoint presentations. “Students should practice presenting on camera,” Gibson adds. “You should practice so that you always appear comfortable on camera, whether it’s live on Zoom or on a pre-recorded video.” Gibson also says it’s important that competitors are familiar with uploading videos to YouTube or to a file-sharing platform such as Dropbox.

Here’s one tip that hasn’t changed, whether we’re talking about in-person or virtual events: READ THE CONTEST RULES. “The SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards have been updated to reflect our virtual setting,” Gibson explains, “Your advisor should have the latest version. Be sure to read those before competing.”

Tips for Competing Virtually

These tips are excerpted from the SkillsUSA guides for Hosting a Local Career Competition, which are available for professional members at absorb.skillsusa.org. While most virtual competitions will run as close to the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards as possible, it’s important to keep in mind that some rules may be modified or adjusted for the virtual environment. Be sure to obtain the latest rules for your event and review them carefully.

If you will compete from home, look for a space where you can control noise from outside the room by shutting a door.

- Test out your computer setup ahead of time, including your video and audio settings.
- A desktop computer or laptop is preferred over an iPad or smartphone so you can clearly see all information that is posted, including chats.
- You will need a stable, strong internet connection. If possible, be close to the router and limit other Wi-Fi users during your competition.
- Most online contests do not allow a virtual background. A blank wall behind your computer is preferred; remove anything distracting from your background.
- Natural light works well to be seen without shadows (face your computer toward a window). You can also use a lamp on your desk or the overhead light. Turn off any ceiling fans; these can be distracting.
Tips for Competing Virtually

- Whether you are seated or must stand for your event, ensure you can be properly seen and stay within the frame of the Zoom screen at all times.
- Double-check to be sure you have the Zoom log-in information and know what time to report to the virtual holding room.
- Ensure that contest organizations and your advisor have your correct email and cell phone number in case there are technical issues. Watch your cell phone and email for any last-minute instructions.

Advice from a State Director: Tjazha Mazhani

Tjazha Mazhani (pictured at left) is the state director for SkillsUSA Georgia’s college/postsecondary division. Coming off the coordination of a successful SkillsUSA Georgia competition, Mazhani shared her experience and advice for how to be successful as a virtual competitor.

Aside from familiarization with contest rules, what is the most important thing a virtual competitor should do to prepare?

Test your internet! If possible, try to compete from your school if it is open and available, as their internet is likely more reliable. If you have to compete from home, try to make sure no one else at your home is using internet during your contest time. Find a quiet space to do your competition.

What was the biggest challenge competitors faced when competing virtually?

Make sure you have thoroughly read over all your materials. Due to the virtual nature, there are likely more documents than just the Technical Standards that you will need to prepare. Make sure you know where to submit your materials, what type of files are necessary for submission, what the Zoom/WebEx links are, etc. Read and ask questions in advance. We would rather you ask us on the front end for clarification instead of being confused on the day of your contest.

What was the hardest part about competing virtually?

We all feel a bit disconnected in this virtual competition format. We wish we could have the comradery amongst our competitors, but the virtual distant nature doesn’t necessarily allow for that.

What was the best part of competing virtually?

The ability to still showcase your skills in this virtual nature in a location that you are familiar with provides a certain level of comfort. While nerves are normal, there’s a bit more relaxation when you are competing at home or at your school’s lab that is familiar to you.
Advice from a State Director: Janet Conner

Janet Conner (pictured below) is the state director for the SkillsUSA Texas high school division. She shared her advice about virtual competitions.

Aside from familiarization with contest rules, what is the most important thing a virtual competitor should do to prepare?
Be ready to test your presentation before contest day. Schedule a free Zoom meeting and record yourself to listen for audio, and look at the video lighting. I’ve had students sitting at a desk to present, but their leg was shaking so badly that the computer was shaking, and boy, was it hard to watch. Watch the camera angle. Are you looking up or down? Look at the camera, not at yourself in the screen.

What was the biggest challenge competitors faced when competing virtually?
Finding a place to perform may be difficult. Watch for background sounds: School bells, smoke alarms, dogs, cats, little brothers or sisters. We’ve had [examples when] maintenance was changing the blinds on the windows during a contestant’s performance.

What was the hardest part about competing virtually?
I think all of the above. It’s not as easy as it would seem. For state directors, we are totally reinventing the wheel here. For students, the uncertainty of what is happening. Will they be in school, at home, in-person or virtual? Not being able to travel is hard. Not meeting other students or being part of SkillsUSA Texas [in person].

Good Luck to All Our Champions!

Earning the right to compete as part of the national SkillsUSA Championships is an incredible honor, no matter what format the competition is held in. Actually winning a medal while competing against the best career and technical education students in the nation? That’s an accomplishment that will look as great on your resume in 2021 as it would any other year, an achievement that will mean as much to industry as it always has, and a source of pride that will continue to shine long after this pandemic has faded.
SkillsUSA acknowledges the invaluable support of its national conference supporters. Due to the remote nature of this year’s national competitions, sponsors were spread across various signature and new programs such as the Connect to My Future Career Conference and National Signing Day. We thank all of our sponsors for standing by our students during our virtual events and year-long programming.

In the following section, we will be spotlighting partners in the following categories:

- **National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) and SkillsUSA Championships Sponsors.**
- **SkillsUSA National Sign Day Sponsors.**
- **Connect to My Future Career Conference Sponsors and Volunteers.**
- **SkillsUSA TECHSPPO Virtual Trade Show Exhibitors.**
- **SkillsUSA Official Partners.**
- **SkillsUSA Championships Cluster Sponsors.**

### National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) and SkillsUSA Championships Sponsors

Components of the 2021 NLSC will culminate on June 24 at the Awards and Recognition Session. We honor Snap-on Incorporated for its lead sponsorship of the session. They, along with our dedicated technical committee members and in-kind donors, helped make this year’s virtual competitions possible.

- Snap-on Incorporated
- Carhartt Inc.
- State Farm Insurance Companies
- Kreg Tool Co.
- Centuri Construction Group
SkillsUSA National Signing Day Sponsors

SkillsUSA’s second annual National Signing Day event promoted member occupational identity and honored our students while elevating the skilled trades. Held in locations across the country on May 4, the event featured the following partners:

84 Lumber Co.
The Home Depot
Klein Tools Inc.
NC3

“Our national partners played a critical role in the planning and delivery of SkillsUSA National Signing Day, each working to highlight the value of a career-ready student who is ready to contribute to the United States workforce,” said SkillsUSA Executive Director Chelle Travis.

The event received national media coverage on a variety of outlets, including ABC’s “Good Morning America” program, where SkillsUSA Massachusetts students Brian Lopez Mejia and Nyssa Lewis were surprised with scholarships from 84 Lumber. Check out the full clip below. NFL Hall of Fame running back Jerome Bettis and current NFL quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo also served as spokesmen for the event, and both conducted satellite media tours that further amplified the program.

Learn more and view photos from National Signing Day here. Click the image below for the Good Morning America segment.
“Connect to My Future” Career Conference Sponsors and Volunteers

This inaugural career conference increased access for students to connect to their occupational identities at a national event. On May 5 and 6, middle school, high school and college/post-secondary students gathered with business partners for a virtual conference that held sessions on career introductions, resume reviews, interview skills and more.

SkillsUSA acknowledges these conference sponsors, many of which also provided volunteer support.

Magna International
Toyota USA Foundation
CareerSafe
NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research)
Volvo Construction Equipment
Aerotek
CBRE
Insurance Auto Auctions (IAA)
John Deere
Penske Truck Leasing
Ryder System Inc.
Swinerton
“Connect to My Future” Career Conference Sponsors and Volunteers (Continued)

Volunteers from these organizations also contributed to the success of the conference.

3M
American Culinary Federation
Automotive Service Excellence (ASE)
Built Brothers
Caterpillar Inc.
Centuri Construction Group
City of Milton Fire Rescue
Clean Harbors
CPC Behavioral Healthcare
Frederick County Public Schools
Georgia Aquarium
Georgia Department of Corrections
Henges Insulation
HPN Global
Kopy King
Law and Public Safety Education Network (LAPSEN)
Lowe’s Companies
McCarthy Builders
Michels Corp.
Morton Buildings Inc.
Ocala Regional Medical Center
Printing Specialist Corp.
Pursuit
Reliant Studios
Reston Limousine and Travel
Snap-on Incorporated
Spectrum and Beyond
Springer Opera House/Columbus State University
Stanley Black and Decker Inc.
State Bar of Georgia
State Farm
Strong City Baltimore
U.S. Government Publishing Office
University of Nebraska — Lincoln
— Department of Agricultural Leadership
SkillsUSA TECHSPO Virtual Trade Show Exhibitors

SkillsUSA TECHSPO is always one of the highlights of an in-person NLSC, an opportunity for members to engage directly with partners from industry and education. The 2021 TECHSPO event is being held virtually and features business and industry partners that initially engaged with SkillsUSA’s “Connect to My Future” Career Conference participants when the event was launched in early May. This virtual trade show will continue throughout the duration of the national conference, ending June 24. It allows every member to interact with partners across dozens of industries. To visit SkillsUSA TECHSPO, go to our virtual conference site and register or log in. Next, navigate to “Virtual Conference Center” and click on “Exhibit Hall.” Now you can search exhibitors by name or just click through the booth icons and visit them all. In each booth, you can watch videos, explore products and services, engage in career exploration or connect through platform chat.

Thanks to our 2021 SkillsUSA TECHSPO exhibitors:

- American Culinary Federation
- American Technical Publishers
- Army and ROTC Opportunities
- Auguste Escoffier School of Culinary Arts
- Baker College / The Culinary Institute of Michigan
- CareerSafe
- CBRE
- Certiport (Pearson VUE)
- Channellock Inc.
- Cummins Inc.
- Explore The Trades
- Fluke Corporation
- Goodheart-Willcox Publisher
- Haas Automation
- Hypertherm Inc.
- Insurance Auto Auctions (IAA)
- International® Truck and IC Bus® Dealer Network
- IPC Education Foundation
- John Deere
- Malco Products SBC
- Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC)
- Miller Electric Mfg. LLC
- Miller Pipeline
- Morton Buildings
- National Association of Home Builders
- National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA)
- Penske Truck Leasing
- Ryder System Inc.
- ShopBot Tools
- SOLIDWORKS Education
- Southwire
- State Farm Insurance Companies
- Swinerton
- The United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry
- UFP Business School
- United Rentals
- Universal Technical Institute
- University of Wyoming College of Business
- Valmont Industries Inc.
- Volvo Construction Equipment
SkillsUSA Official Partners
The following organizations have made financial contributions of at least $25,000 and/or documented in-kind contributions of at least $75,000 since 2020. SkillsUSA is appreciative of the many partners that support year-long programmatic work and scholarships.

3M
84 Lumber Co.
Aerotek
Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI)
ASE (National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence)
CareerSafe
Carhartt Inc.
Caterpillar Inc.
CBRE
Centuri Construction Group
Channellock Inc.
DCA (Distribution Contractors Association)
Fine Homebuilding/Tauton Press
Harbor Freight Tools for Schools
The Home Depot
Huntington Ingalls Industries Inc.
IAA Inc. (Insurance Auto Auctions)
Invitation Homes
John Deere
Klein Tools Inc.
Kreg Tool Co.
Lincoln Electric Co.
Lowe’s Companies
Magna International
Miller Electric Mfg. Co. LLC
National Association of Sewer Service Companies (NASSCO)
National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA)
NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research)
NC3
Nissan Motor Corp. in USA
Pella Corp.
Penske Truck Leasing
Robert Bosch Tool Corp.
Ryder System Inc.
Snap-on Incorporated
Stanley Black & Decker
State Farm Insurance Companies
Swinerton
Toyota USA Foundation
Viega LLC
Volvo Construction Equipment

SkillsUSA Shoutout:
Lowe’s Companies provided tools to students at the start of the 2021 spring semester for virtual learning.
SkillsUSA Career Cluster Sponsors
SkillsUSA partners can pledge their support for Career Clusters year-round. Career Clusters are broad occupational groupings of specific industry-based jobs. Learn more about Career Clusters in this video. Our 2021 Career Cluster sponsors include:

### Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- Aerotek
- CareerSafe
- Caterpillar Inc.
- John Deere

### Architecture and Construction
- 3M
- 84 Lumber Co.
- Aerotek
- CareerSafe
- Carhartt Inc.
- Caterpillar Inc.
- CBRE
- Centuri Construction Group
- Channellock Inc.
- Distribution Contractors Association (DCA)
- Fine Homebuilding/Taunton Press
- Grizzly Industrial
- Harbor Freight Tools for Schools
- The Home Depot
- Huntington Ingalls Industries Inc.
- Invitation Homes
- John Deere
- Klein Tools Inc.
- Kreg Tool Co.
- Lincoln Electric Co.
- Lowe’s Companies
- Miller Electric Mfg. LLC
- National Association of Sewer Service Companies (NASSCO)
- National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA)
- National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER)
- Pella Corp.
- Robert Bosch Tool Corp.
- Stanley Black & Decker
SkillsUSA Career Cluster Sponsors (Continued)

**Architecture and Construction (Continued)**
- Swinerton
- Viega LLC
- Volvo Construction Equipment

**Arts, AV Technology and Communication**
- 3M
- Aerotek
- CareerSafe

**Business, Management and Administration**
- 3M
- Aerotek
- CareerSafe
- Distribution Contractors Association (DCA)

**Education and Training**
- 3M
- Aerotek
- ASE (National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence)
- CareerSafe
- NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research)

**Health Science**
- 3M
- Aerotek
- CareerSafe

**Hospitality and Tourism**
- 3M
- Aerotek
- CareerSafe
SkillsUSA Career Cluster Sponsors (Continued)

**Human Services**
3M  
Aerotek  
CareerSafe

**Information Technology (IT)**
3M  
Aerotek  
CareerSafe

**Leadership**
3M  
Aerotek  
CareerSafe  
Carhartt Inc.  
Caterpillar Inc.  
Centuri Construction Group

**Manufacturing**
3M  
Aerotek  
Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI)  
The Association for Manufacturing Technology (AMT)  
CareerSafe  
Carhartt Inc.  
Caterpillar Inc.  
Channellock Inc.  
Grizzly Industrial  
Huntington Ingalls Industries Inc.  
John Deere  
Klein Tools Inc.  
Kreg Tool Co.  
Lincoln Electric Co.  
Magna International  
Miller Electric Mfg. LLC  
Nissan Motor Corp. USA
SkillsUSA Career Cluster Sponsors (Continued)

**Manufacturing (Continued)**
Pella Corp.
Robert Bosch Tool Corp.
Snap-on Incorporated
Stanley Black & Decker
Toyota USA Foundation
Viega LLC
Volvo Construction Equipment

**Marketing, Sales and Service**
3M
Aerotek
CareerSafe
Carhartt Inc.

**Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Safety**
3M
Aerotek
CareerSafe

**STEM**
3M
Aerotek
The Association for Manufacturing Technology (AMT)
CareerSafe
Caterpillar Inc.
Huntington Ingalls Industries Inc.
John Deere
Lincoln Electric Co.
Magna International
Miller Electric Mfg. LLC
National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS)
Nissan Motor Corp. USA
Ryder System Inc.
SkillsUSA Career Cluster Sponsors (Continued)

**STEM (Continued)**
Stanley Black & Decker
Toyota USA Foundation
Viega LLC
Volvo Construction Equipment

**Transportation, Distribution and Logistics**
3M
Aerotek
ASE (National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence)
CareerSafe
Carhartt Inc.
Caterpillar Inc.
Channellock Inc.
Huntington Ingalls Industries Inc.
Insurance Auto Auctions (IAA)
John Deere
Lincoln Electric Co.
Miller Electric Mfg. LLC
Nissan Motor Corp. USA
Penske Truck Leasing
Robert Bosch Tool Corp.
Ryder System Inc.
Snap-on Incorporated
Stanley Black & Decker
State Farm Insurance Companies
Toyota USA Foundation
Volvo Construction Equipment
Host a Watch Party for the SkillsUSA Awards and Recognition Session

The awards, the cheers, the pride that our members feel for themselves, their classmates and their trades — those are the elements of an emotional, inspiring, unforgettable Awards and Recognition session, the kind SkillsUSA has been known for since its founding in 1965 and the kind we WILL have again in 2021.

We’ve spent this year apart, but join us as we come together to celebrate the achievements of our members LIVE on Thursday, June 24. This special Awards and Recognition session will be split into three segments held at 3:30 p.m., 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. ET. We’ll recognize the SkillsUSA Pin and T-shirt Design Challenge winners, our Advisor of the Year, Honorary Life recipients, Outstanding Educator awards, Models of Excellence winners and much more. Finally, we’ll announce our 2021 national medalists and our 2021-22 National Officer Team. Consider joining us in three ways:

- **Host an in-person watch party.** As long as it’s safe to do so, have your chapter officers plan activities for members and offer food and a few icebreakers or games.
- **Host a drive-in chapter watch party.** Get a projector, purchase an FM transmitter online (they’re inexpensive) and your chapter can create a drive-in theater to watch the Awards and Recognition session in a school parking lot or other community location (obtain permission first).
- **Host a virtual watch party.** Not able to join in-person? No worries. Stream the Awards and Recognition session on Zoom or Google meets and invite all of your local SkillsUSA members and supporters to hop online and join the fun. Between sessions, you can host games or small group chats.

**Whichever watch party style you select, invite everyone you choose.** Don’t just include current members; invite school administrators, industry partners, program graduates, prospective members, parents and other supporters to join and celebrate with you. See page 8 for the complete Awards and Recognition Ceremony agenda.

*Click here for downloads to help promote your Watch Party.*

**Gear Up for NLSC at the SkillsUSA Store!**
Visit the SkillsUSA Store during NLSC week for great ways to celebrate and commemorate this one-of-a-kind SkillsUSA national conference. Look for deals on shirts, patches, pins and more at [skillsusastore.org](http://skillsusastore.org).

**Tune in to the 2021 NLSC Awards and Recognition Session**
For full information on how to join the celebration live, *visit this page of our website.*
2021 SkillsUSA Championships Medalist Frames for Social Media

To give our SkillsUSA medalists even more opportunities to be recognized for their stellar achievements this year, SkillsUSA has created a few photo frames to use on your Facebook profile picture and/or to download and add to your own photos. Let’s make competing at #NLSC21 special for our members!

To add a frame to your page’s profile picture on Facebook:
• Go to www.facebook.com/profilepicframes.
• Click your profile picture in the bottom left and select your page.
• Search for a frame by entering the frame’s name, the creator’s name (SkillsUSA) or related words (SkillsUSA National Medalist).
• Choose the frame you want to use from the results.
• Click “Use as Profile Picture.”

To download and add a photo to a frame:
• Pick which frame you like best.
• Download the frame to your desktop.
• Use programs like Photoshop, InDesign, Paint, Canva, etc. to add your photo to the frame.

If you have questions, contact Hayley Uffelman at huffelman@skillsusa.org.

Send Your “Good Luck” Messages to Our Tweet Wall

Send your well-wishes to competitors, delegates, officer candidates and other participants in the 2021 NLSC using our NLSC Tweet Wall. Simply use #NLSC21 on Instagram or Twitter, and your comments will appear on the tweet wall. The NLSC Tweet Wall will be embedded on our home page from June 20-25.

For More NLSC Information

For general information about the delegate sessions, Leverage leadership training, advisor professional development, and the Awards and Recognition session, visit: conference.SkillsUSA.org.

For specific competitor information related to the SkillsUSA Championships, please visit: compete.SkillsUSA.org.
Champions Challenge: SkillsUSA Official Song

Enter Our TikTok "Champions Challenge" to Win SkillsUSA Swag

SkillsUSA has just released a new version of the organization’s Official Song: “SkillsUSA: Champions at Work.” Help share the new song — and earn a shot at some great prizes — by entering our SkillsUSA Champions Challenge on TikTok!

Rules

- Create a SkillsUSA video on TikTok.
- Video can be 15 to 60 seconds in length.
- Video must incorporate the new version of the SkillsUSA Official Song.
- Video can feature students lip syncing, dancing, talking or engaging in a combination of efforts.
- Video can feature one person or a group, using the duet or stitch features, etc.
- No profanity or inappropriate language, clothing or gestures.
- Challenge begins June 7 and continues through August 7.
- SkillsUSA will announce the top two winners and contact the top 10 by August 15, 2021.

Prizes

- Top winner will receive a SkillsUSA Swag Bag worth $100.
- Second-place winner will receive a SkillsUSA Swag Bag worth $50.
- Top 10 finishers will receive a gift pack of the SkillsUSA Official Song Keychain and logo item.
- To be eligible for prizes, upload your video to SkillsUSA in addition to posting it on TikTok.

How to Enter

- Create and post your video on TikTok and tag it using the hashtag #SkillsUSAChampionsChallenge.
- Upload your video using our upload form.

Judging Criteria

- Video effectively highlights SkillsUSA and the new SkillsUSA Official Song.
- Video is creative.
- Video utilizes TikTok tools such as duets, stitching, typography, transitions or special effects.
- Video shows people having fun with SkillsUSA.
- Video follows the stated guidelines.

Note: All videos entered into the SkillsUSA Champions Challenge — whether declared winners or not — may be used in whole or in part by SkillsUSA now or in the future with the understanding that no compensation will be provided to the creator(s).

For questions, please contact Hayley Uffelman, SkillsUSA’s social media manager. Good luck, and we can’t wait to see what you submit!
SKILLSUSA STAFF

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Chelle Travis, Executive Director
Missy Wilson, Executive Office Liaison
Dr. Lee Ross, Senior Consultant to the Executive Director and Board of Directors

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Taryn Zeigler, Program Manager, Leadership Initiatives
Megan Flinn, Program Specialist, Member Engagement
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Customer Care Team
Marcia Strickland, Senior Manager, Customer Service
Lauri Dorrer, Customer Care Team Member, Membership
Payten Gallatin, Customer Care Team Member, Career Essentials and Membership
James Harper, Customer Care Team Member, Membership
Katie Rodebaugh, Customer Care Team Member, Career Essentials

In keeping with a tradition of respect for the individuality of our members and our role in workforce development, SkillsUSA strives to ensure inclusive participation in all of our programs, partnerships and employment opportunities.

SkillsUSA’s diversity encompasses differences in ethnicity, gender, language, age, sexual orientation, religion, socio-economic status, physical and mental ability, thinking styles, experience and education. We strive to make all members, partners and employees feel welcomed and valued in the SkillsUSA family. SkillsUSA believes in treating all people with respect and dignity. We want SkillsUSA to be regarded as a “membership organization of choice” — one that encourages all individuals to be involved.

NASSP Approved Activity
For More NLSC Information
For general information about the delegate sessions, Leverage leadership training, advisor professional development, and the Awards and Recognition session, visit: conference.SkillsUSA.org.

For specific competitor information related to the SkillsUSA Championships, please visit: compete.SkillsUSA.org.

For More SkillsUSA Champions
For success stories, chapter spotlights and much more, visit the SkillsUSA Champions Magazine Digital Hub at: https://skillsusachampions.org.

Connect with the SkillsUSA Customer Care Team
Have questions about SkillsUSA membership, the 2021 virtual National Leadership and Skills Conference or other issues? There are three ways to connect:

- Call us at 844-875-4557.
- Chat on the SkillsUSA membership registration page: skillsusa-register.org.
- Email us at: customercare@skillsusa.org.

The Customer Care Team is available Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (ET), and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. We look forward to hearing from you!

SkillsUSA Social
Get SkillsUSA updates, stay up-to-date on all things #NLSC21 and share your SkillsUSA experience. Connect to SkillsUSA on: