



## NEWS RELEASE

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# NEBRASKA FBLA NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS NAMED

More than 300 Nebraska students and advisers recently attended the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) National Leadership Conference in Chicago.

Nebraska FBLA members competed June 29-July 2 in 70 competitive events. More than 11,000 FBLA members from 46 states, as well as U.S. territories and international chapters attended the conference.

Nebraska members brought home 22 Top Ten awards, including 3 first-place awards.

The Top Ten award winners are:

### First Place

- **Banking & Financial Systems:** Catie Theiler, Kami Timm, Trevor Koger, Arlington High School
- **Network Design:** Josh Jones, Nate Brown, Zach Brown, Bellevue East Senior High School
- **Parliamentary Procedure:** Cody McCain and Riley Knust, Tri County Junior-Senior High School; Heather Bentley, Amherst High School; Mia Kegley, Kearney Senior High School

### Second Place

- **Future Business Leader:** Brenna Backemeyer, Elmwood-Murdock Junior-Senior High School
- **Word Processing:** Kaitlyn Quiring, Heartland High School

### Third Place

- **Accounting II:** Colton Siebert, Heartland High School
- **Banking and Financial Systems:** Eric Le and Jacob Shiers, Lincoln Southwest High School
- **Emerging Business Issues:** Alex Schneider, Allison Penner, Kristin Bell, Aurora High School
- **Partnership with Business Project:** Cristian Perdomo, Madeline Hall, Paige Nelson, Bellevue West Senior High School

### Fourth Place

- **Business Presentation:** Claire Vanness, Sam Hennings, Tori Clausen, Wausa High School
- **Local Chapter Annual Business Report:** Callie Zeorian, Brandon Frates, Owen Kunz, Elmwood-Murdock Junior-Senior High School
- **Sales Presentation:** Alyssa Faber, Aurora High School

### Fifth Place

- **Business Presentation:** Kendra Alberts, Johnson-Brock High School

### Seventh Place

- **Sports and Entertainment Management:** Brandon Keffer and Matt Jensen, Arlington High School

#### **Eighth Place**

- **Future Business Leader:** Samantha Teten, Johnson-Brock High School
- **Mobile Application Development:** Edmon Adams, Westside High School

#### **Ninth Place**

- **Desktop Publishing:** Claire Kuenne and Makenna Wallin, Chase County High School
- **Emerging Business Issues:** Mirissa Scholting, Naomi Snyder, Natalie Elwood, Elmwood-Murdock Junior-Senior High School
- **Management Decision Making:** Alicia Zeng and Ojus Jain, Lincoln East High School
- **Sports and Entertainment Management:** Ashley Colwell, Sally Brechbill, Tommie Brechbill, Stanton High School

#### **Tenth Place**

- **Management Decision Making:** Blake Bracht, Bradie Schmidt, Natalie Schmidt, Arlington High School
- **Network Design:** Austin Shroder, Devin Duren, Thomas Kinman, Grand Island Senior High School

The following students were Top 15 Finalists:

- **American Enterprise Project:** Brenna Backemeyer, Natalie Elwood, Wyatt Story, Elmwood-Murdock Junior-Senior High School
- **Computer Game and Simulation Programming:** Treyten Carey, Grand Island Senior High School
- **Desktop Application Programming:** Jared Frenzel, Auburn High School
- **Entrepreneurship:** Jessica Swantek and Jeffrey Vanderhart, Twin River Senior High School
- **Future Business Leader:** Emily Pawoll, Tekamah-Herman High School
- **Hospitality Management:** Aarsal Aktar, Tim Joe, Cody Wullenwaber, Bennington High School
- **Public Speaking II:** Rachel Shadley, Lakeview High School
- **Sales Presentation:** Makayla Coan, Lakeview High School

#### **Other national awards included:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Membership Increase in Mountain Plains Region
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Largest Increase in State Chapter Membership in Mountain Plains Region
- 6<sup>th</sup> Place in Seven Up Award
- 10<sup>th</sup> Place in Big Ten Business Achievement Awards (BAA)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Place in Business Achievement Awards Fight to the Finish

#### **National Business Achievement Awards – America Level (top award in this four-level program)**

- Trevor Koger of Arlington High School
- Melanie Slama of Auburn High School
- Lauren Wiegand of Bellevue West Senior High School
- Whitney Aman of Blair High School
- Adrienne Cavill of Kearney Senior High School
- Brittany Blaser of Lakeview High School
- Taylor McHugh of Marian High School
- Cody McCain and William Stokebrand of Tri County Junior-Senior High School
- Jessica Wieck of Twin River Senior High School

#### **National Community Service Awards – Achievement Level**

- Trevor Koger of Arlington High School
- Cammi Merklin of Dundy County Stratton High School
- Travis Graffe and Jacob Meeske of Weeping Water High School
- Taylor McHugh and Molly Haddick of Marian High School
- Whitney Laritson of Waverly High School
- Mason Frey of Lincoln Southwest High School
- AnnaLee Christensen and Samantha Young of Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca High School
- Alyssa Faber of Aurora High School

### **National Recognition Event Winners**

- **Who's Who in FBLA:** Trevor Koger, Arlington High School,
- **Nebraska FBLA Outstanding Local Chapter Adviser:** Jane Blum, Minden
- **Nebraska FBLA National Businessperson of the Year:** Kelly Lammers, Nebraska Department of Banking and Finance
- **National FBLA Wall of Fame Members:** Pat Hinkle, Bellevue West Senior High School, and Shawna Koger, Arlington High School

### **Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit**

- Elmwood-Murdock Junior-Senior High School
- Raymond Central High School
- Bellevue West Senior High School
- Lakeview High School
- Twin River Senior High School
- Arlington High School
- Blair High School
- Minden High School
- Fillmore Central High School
- Tri County Junior-Senior High School
- Dundy County Stratton High School
- Johnson-Brock High School
- Sandhills High School
- Crete High School
- Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca High School
- Gibbon High School
- Bellevue East High School

### **Outstanding Chapter Award**

- Blair High School
- Dundy County Stratton High School
- Elmwood-Murdock Junior-Senior High School
- Fillmore Central High School
- Johnson-Brock High School