

COMMISSIONER'S RECOGNITION

FOR EXCELLENCE IN NEBRASKA
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

NOVEMBER 25, 2024





DR. BRIAN L. MAHER
Commissioner of Education



LT. GOVERNOR JOE KELLY
State of Nebraska



Learning that works
for Nebraska

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CTSO STATE LEADERSHIP



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- **PLEASE SILENCE MOBILE PHONES.**
- **THOSE WISHING TO TAKE PHOTOS ARE WELCOME TO COME FORWARD AND DO SO.**
- **APPLAUSE IS APPROPRIATE BUT PLEASE REFRAIN FROM SHOUTING.**
- **THANKS FOR ATTENDING AND ENJOY THE PRESENTATION!**

RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

Emcee - Nate Heath, SkillsUSA State President

Papillion-La Vista South High School

Introduction Nate Heath, Emcee

Special Remarks Dr. Brian L. Maher, Commissioner of Education

Special Remarks Lt. Governor Joe Kelly

Presentation of Awards Career & Technical Student Organization Leaders

CERTIFICATE PRESENTATIONS BY LT. GOVERNOR KELLY AND DR. MAHER

DECA Raylie Hollingsworth
State President
Millard North High School

Educators Rising Owen Elsasser
State Vice President of Public Relations
Ralston High School

FBLA Jena Eberspacher
State President
Seward High School

FBLA Collegiate Parker Clausen
State President
Northeast Community College

FCCLA Brooklyn Eckert
State Vice President of Competitive Events
Boyd County Jr/Sr High School

FFA Reagan Choat
State President
Plainview High School and University of Nebraska-Lincoln

HOSA Emma Yin
State Vice President of Partnerships
Lincoln East High School

SkillsUSA Nate Heath
State President
Papillion-La Vista South High School



DECA is an international organization that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management in high schools and colleges around the globe. The association has membership of over 220,000 members internationally and 1,700 members in Nebraska. DECA enhances marketing education by applying classroom instruction to performance-based competitive events directly related to career preparation in related fields.

Nebraska DECA has prepared high school students for their future careers for over 75 years. Through hands-on experiences, marketing students develop the skills and knowledge for life-long career success. Creativity, problem solving, and enhancement of academic skills in addition to economics, marketing, and management concepts are the foundations of the modern marketing curriculum.

J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Scholarship. National scholarships are awarded based on the specific criteria as well as DECA involvement, leadership ability, community service, and academic performance.

Scholarship Winner..... Ella Daily
Millard South High School
Jamie Robinson, Advisor

Business Services Marketing. In the Business Services Marketing Series event, participants are challenged to perform marketing functions and tasks involved in providing services to businesses on a fee or contract basis or providing services to consumers.

Finalist Wilson Dittman
Millard South High School
Jamie Robinson, Advisor

Project Management Community Giving. The Community Giving Project uses the project management process to raise funds or collect donations to be given to a cause/charity.

Top 10 Devin Tran
Millard West High School
Ashley Dworak and Brady Hohl, Advisors

Finance Operations Research Event. The Finance Operations Research Event requires the preparation of a detailed written strategic plan and presentation based on the results of a research study for a company providing financial services to commercial and retail customers.

3rd Place Raylie Hollingsworth
Millard North High School
Trent Jacobi, Advisor

Educators Rising is a national organization cultivating a new generation of highly skilled educators by guiding young people from high school through college and into their teaching careers. These aspiring educators reflect the demographics of their communities and are passionate about serving those communities through public education. Nebraska Educators Rising has nearly 500 members in 40 chapters across the state.

Children's Literature K-3, Junior Varsity. This competition offers participants the opportunity to explore the role of author and educator to prepare an original short storybook designed for a kindergarten through third grade audience (ages 5-9).

Top 10 Mikaylah Garcia, Karli Knaub
Scottsbluff High School
Anne Schmall, Teacher Leader

Top 10 Shelbie McKibbin
Bayard High School
Mykayla Torres, Teacher Leader

Children's Literature K-3 Spanish, Varsity. This competition offers participants the opportunity to explore the role of author and educator to prepare an original short storybook in Spanish designed for a kindergarten through third grade audience (ages 5-9).

Top 10 Rocio Arellano
Westside High School
Elizabeth Sullivan, Teacher Leader

Top 10 Mia Sanchez Rodriguez
Omaha Bryan High School
Rae Carlson and Antonio Gullie, Teacher Leaders



NEBRASKA

Children's Literature Pre-K, Varsity. This competition offers participants the opportunity to explore the role of author and educator to prepare an original short storybook designed for a pre-kindergarten audience (ages 3-4).

Top 10 Julyssa Ruiz
Westside High School
Elizabeth Sullivan, Teacher Leader

Children's Literature Pre-K Spanish, Varsity. This competition offers participants the opportunity to explore the role of author and educator to prepare an original short storybook in Spanish designed for a pre-kindergarten audience (ages 3-4).

Top 10 Estefani Aguilar Rodriguez, Neftaly Aguilar-Martinez
Omaha South High School
Samantha Koehler-Overton and Rachel Landsness, Teacher Leaders

Educators Rising Moment Spanish, Varsity. In this competition, participants articulate why they aspire to pursue a career in education through a speech entirely in Spanish that reflects their personal experiences, illustrating the impact of being an educator.

3rd place Daisy Altamirano
Omaha Bryan High School
Rae Carlson and Antonio Gullie, Teacher Leaders

Exploring Education Administration Careers, Varsity. Participants in this competition learn more about education administration careers through eight hours of job shadowing and interviewing a current education administrator.

2nd place Jacob Gill
South Sioux City High School
Shawn Carlson, Teacher Leader



NEBRASKA

Exploring Non-Core Subject Teaching Careers, Varsity. This competition offers participants the opportunity to job shadow, for eight hours, and learn from highly skilled educators whose work takes place outside the core subjects, which could include CTE, Journalism, Speech, etc.

Top 10 Amy Albro
Bayard High School
Mykayla Torres, Teacher Leader

Top 10 Chloe Price
Omaha Burke High School
Andrea Burton and Nadine Reyes, Teacher Leaders

Inside Our Schools Presentation, Junior Varsity. This competition offers participants the opportunity to showcase one innovative strategy that their school or school district employs to enhance teaching and learning.

Top 10 Desirae Bacon, Aaliyah Torres
South Sioux City High School
Shawn Carlson, Teacher Leader

Public Service Announcement-Teacher Recruitment, Junior Varsity.

This competition challenges participants to create a new public service announcement, appropriate for television and/or social media, to attract young people to consider teaching in their future career goals. Participants will collaboratively problem-solve as they produce a creative, multimedia video clip designed to elevate the image of teaching by communicating the value of the profession.

Top 10 Paarrun Gatdet, Hodhan Mohammed
South Sioux City High School
Shawn Carlson, Teacher Leader

Public Speaking, Varsity. This competition highlights participants who demonstrate the ability to clearly articulate and communicate information by combining thoughtful preparation and confident delivery into an interesting presentation on a current education topic. The 2024 topic was: Showing the good in public education.

Top 10 Tanatswa Chivero
Westside High School
Elizabeth Sullivan, Teacher Leader



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Interactive Bulletin Board. In this contest, participants must prepare an interactive display board and an oral presentation introducing the display and summarizing how it could be used in a classroom setting, either elementary or middle/high school, to teach a lesson.

Junior Varsity

Red Ribbon Kobie Kosek
Centennial Jr/Sr High School
Jen Bargaen, Teacher Leader

Varsity

Red RibbonPaige Amos
Sandy Creek Jr/Sr High School
Andrew Kuta, Teacher Leader

White RibbonAleah Nesbitt, Riley Hopkins
Bayard High School
Mykayla Torres, Teacher Leader

Blue Ribbon.....McKinlee Legg
York High School
Lauren Rabourn, Teacher Leader



Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) provides innovative leadership and career development programs for students interested in business administration, management, finance, and information technology careers. Over 4,000 students in grades 5-12 in 154 Nebraska secondary schools annually join Nebraska FBLA.

Bringing business and education together in a positive working relationship, FBLA provides students with the skills needed to successfully pursue further education, compete in the job market or manage personal skills. Benefits of FBLA membership include career preparation, partnering with business professionals, networking with community leaders, leadership development, service opportunities, and challenging competitions.

Introduction to Marketing Concepts. Introduction to Marketing Concepts provides members with the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge around introductory competencies in marketing. This competitive event consists of an objective test. It aims to inspire members to learn about basic marketing principles, actions needed to promote, and sell products or services.

3rd PlaceRikhil Jasti
Lincoln East
Lori Anderson-Stowe, Advisor

Future Business Leader. Future Business Leader is the premier competitive event where outstanding FBLA members who have demonstrated leadership qualities, participation in FBLA, and evidence of knowledge and skills essential for successful careers in business are recognized. This competitive event consists of pre-judged materials, objective test, and presentation (interview) components.

2nd place..... Shrey Agarwal
Lincoln East
Lori Anderson-Stowe, Advisor



Human Resource Management. Human Resource Management provides members with the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge about staffing, training and development. This competitive event consists of an objective test. This event aims to inspire members to learn about human resource management.

2nd place.....Patrick Bursaw
Ravenna High School
Tanner Ellis, Advisor

Visual Design. Visual Design provides members with the opportunity to showcase their skills in designing. This competitive event consists of a presentation component where the use of design principles is shared with the judges.

2nd place..... Annabelle Kumm
Lincoln East
Lori Anderson-Stowe, Advisor



Client Services. Client Service provides members with an opportunity to develop and demonstrate skills in interacting with internal and external clients to provide an outstanding client service experience. The competitor engages clients in conversations regarding products, handles inquiries, and solves problems. This competitive event consists of a role play scenario.

National Champion Michael Forster
Broken Bow Public Schools
Angie Palmer, Advisor

Digital Animation. Digital Animation provides members with the opportunity to design an animated video. This event is designed to measure understanding and application of basic animation design. This competitive event consists of a pre-judged project and presentation component.

National Champion Brock Oeltjen, Bailey Ridder, Ali Morris
Broken Bow Public Schools
Angie Palmer, Advisor

Digital Video Production. Digital Video Production has become a prominent and effective way of conveying new ideas and products. This event provides recognition for members who demonstrate the ability to create an effective video to present an idea to a specific audience. This competitive event consists of a pre-judged project and presentation component.

National Champion Ethan Ramaekers
Aurora Public
Lynette Finley, Advisor



FBLA Collegiate prepares members for careers in business and information technology, or related occupations. Nearly 200 college and university students from 15 schools in Nebraska participate in FBLA Collegiate's innovative leadership and career development program.

The competitive event program for FBLA Collegiate is designed to prepare students for successful careers in business and information technology through support for curriculum development and innovative assessment tools. Members are allowed to demonstrate and validate their mastery of essential business concepts, skills, and knowledge.

Hospitality Management. The Hospitality Management Case Competition provides members with the opportunity to review a case study and present their findings to a panel of judges. The case study will incorporate many aspects of hospitality management such as financial management, operations, human resources, customer expectations, legal, environmental issues, etc.

4th Place Cameron Poolton
Midland University
Rita Bristol, Advisor

State of the Chapter Presentation. State of Chapter Presentation provides chapter members with the opportunity to share their chapter's Program of Work and activities for the year. This competitive event consists of a presentation component.

4th Place Trinity Black
University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Lindsay Tillinghast, Advisor

Business Communication. Business Communication provides members with the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge around competencies in communication. This competitive event consists of a production test.

3rd Place Cody Swinarski
University of Nebraska at Kearney
Theresa Yaw, Advisor



Impromptu Speaking. Impromptu Speaking provides members with the opportunity to demonstrate their skills around preparing and delivering a speech extemporaneously. This competitive event consists of a speech, with the topic being given on site.

3rd PlaceBraxton Dalton
Wayne State College
Kelly Legler, Advisor

Finance Case Competition. The Finance Case Competition provides members with the opportunity to review a case study and present their findings to a panel of judges. The case study will incorporate many aspects of finance such as financial management, financial institutions, financial services, investments, etc.

2nd Place Olivia Lawless, Austin Kenner, Omar Sanchez
University of Nebraska at Kearney
Theresa Yaw, Advisor

Foundations of Selling. Foundations of Selling provides members with the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge around competencies in sales. This competitive event consists of an objective test.

2nd PlaceScott Tatum
Midland University
Rita Bristol, Advisor

Sports Management & Marketing. Sports Management & Marketing provides members with the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge around competencies in sports management and marketing. This competitive event consists of an objective test.

2nd Place Tavian Willsea
Nebraska Wesleyan University
Dr. Ray Romero, Advisor

Technology and Computer Science Case Study. The Technology & Computer Science Case Competition provides members with the opportunity to review a case study and present their findings to a panel of judges. The case study will incorporate many aspects of technology and computer science such as cyber security, help desk, information management, networking and programming concepts, network design, website design, etc.

2nd PlaceLilly Rowe
Midland University
Rita Bristol, Advisor



Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a Career and Technical Student Organization for middle and high school students in Family and Consumer Science education that prepares members for future careers in Education & Training, Hospitality & Tourism, Human Services, and Visual Arts and Design. In Nebraska over 2,600 members, grades 6-12, in 100 chapters, are involved in FCCLA.

Since 1945, FCCLA has promoted personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education by focusing on the multiple roles of family member, wage earner, and community leader. Members have the opportunity to participate in over 50 Competitive Events at three different levels: Level 1 for members in grades 6-8, Level 2 for members in grades 9-10, and Level 3 for members in grades 11-12.

Rural Teen Road Safety Assessment. The Rural Teen Road Safety Assessment (RSA) is a proactive endeavor to improve road safety for teenagers and the broader community. In partnership with local law enforcement, school administrators, and community members, chapter members worked to assess and identify road safety concerns and issues that affect teenagers and students. This national contest is sponsored by the Ford Motor Company Fund.

Award Winner Clara Preister, Layney Matthes
Twin River
Britton Andreasen, Adviser

Safe Rides Save Lives PSA Contest. Developed by FCCLA and sponsored by The National Road Safety Foundation (NRSF), the Safe Rides Save Lives national PSA contest allows FCCLA members to display their creativity and advocacy skills as they encourage their peers to make safe choices on the road. The 2024 topic was Passenger Self Advocacy, which involves passengers actively speaking up about any unsafe driving behaviors and emphasizes the responsibility of passengers to actively contribute to creating a safe environment during transportation, thereby reducing the risk of crashes and promoting overall traffic safety.

3rd Place Kaitlyn Vahl, Allison Burchell,
Adalle Banzhaf-Diaz, Dawson Conyers
Minden
Pam Johnson, Adviser



Early Childhood Education Challenge. This Challenge Test allows participants to demonstrate their knowledge of child development and early childhood education concepts

Level 3

1st Place Allison Burchell
Minden
Pam Johnson, Adviser

3rd Place Korah Hier
Cross County
Sarah Hubel, Adviser

Nutrition Challenge. This Challenge Test is a knowledge and skill test which allows participants to demonstrate their knowledge of nutrition, wellness, and health concepts.

Level 2

1st Place Paxton Burke
Cross County
Sarah Hubel, Adviser

Consumer Math Challenge. This Challenge Test is an applied academic math test which allows participants to complete everyday consumer challenges related to Family and Consumer Sciences subject matter, including personal finance and consumer education concepts.

Level 2

3rd Place Paxton Burke
Cross County
Sarah Hubel, Adviser

Career Investigation. This STAR Event recognizes participants for their ability to perform self-assessments, research and explore a career, set career goals, create a plan for achieving goals, and describe the relationship of Family and Consumer Sciences coursework to the selected career.

Level 1

3rd Place - Gold Emma Bowder
O'Neill
Angie Ehlers, Adviser



Chapter in Review Display. This STAR Event recognizes chapters that develop and implement a well-balanced program of work and promote FCCLA and Family and Consumer Sciences to the community and then showcase their work on a display.

Level 3

2nd Place - Gold Chloe Zegers, Kaitlyn Palik
David City
Tonya Zegers, Adviser

Chapter in Review Portfolio. This STAR Event recognizes chapters that develop and implement a well-balanced program of work and promote FCCLA and Family and Consumer Sciences to the community and then showcase their work in a portfolio.

Level 1

2nd Place - GoldAlaina Rogat, Lillie Tucker, Michael Maughan
Battle Creek
Bri O'Brien, Adviser

Digital Stories for Change. This STAR Event event recognizes participants who demonstrate their knowledge, skills, and abilities to actively identify an issue concerning families, careers, or communities; research the topic; and develop a digital story to advocate for positive change. The 2024 topic was to focus on one of the units with the Families First National Program: Dynamics, Balance, Development, Safety, or Skills.

Level 1

2nd Place - Silver Emelia Morrison
Neligh-Oakdale
Kim Scarborough, Adviser



Entrepreneurship. This STAR Event recognizes participants who develop a plan for a small business using Family and Consumer Sciences skills and sound business practices. The business must relate to an area of Family and Consumer Sciences education or related occupations.

Level 1

3rd PlaceLainee Cook, Peyton Tillotson
Battle Creek
Bri O'Brien, Adviser

Event Management. This STAR Event recognizes participants who apply skills learned in Family and Consumer Sciences courses to plan an event for an educational institution, community or non-profit organization, business, or government institution.

Level 1

1st Place - GoldKeeley Wickett, Taylor Olsen
Battle Creek
Bri O'Brien, Adviser

Chapter Service Project Portfolio. This STAR Event recognizes chapters that develop and implement an in-depth service project that makes a worthwhile contribution to families, schools, and communities. Students must use Family and Consumer Sciences content and skills to address and take action on a community need and then showcase their work in a portfolio.

Level 1

3rd Place - GoldAnnabelle Kleckner, Addie Bishop
Twin River
Britton Andreasen, Adviser

FCCLA Chapter Website. This STAR Event recognizes participants who use a chapter website to educate, inform, and involve members and the general public about the importance of the Family and Consumer Sciences program and the FCCLA chapter.

Level 2

3rd Place - SilverEmma Baldeh
Dundy County-Stratton
Jen Loker and Lindsay Anderson, Advisers



NEBRASKA
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Food Innovations. This STAR Event recognizes participants who demonstrate knowledge of the basic concepts of food product development by creating an original prototype formula, testing the product through focus groups, and developing a marketing strategy based upon an annual topic. The 2024 topic was to create an innovative, industry–game–changing snack product that is delicious, nutritious, and has the potential to become a hit among peers, with less than 300 calories and at least 3 grams of dietary fiber.

Level 1

1st Place - Gold Abby Ehlers
Chambers
Kelly Bordovsky, Adviser

Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation. This STAR Event recognizes participants who demonstrate their knowledge of the hospitality, tourism, and recreation industries and ability to translate their knowledge into a hypothetical or real business related to culinary, lodging, recreation, tourism, or event coordination. Participants will research existing businesses which are similar to their project, develop basic business plan and client services information, and create a website that highlights the business.

Level 2

1st Place - GoldKatrina Cassell, Carmen Wagner, Alyssa Lawrence
Ord
Rachel Hornickel, Adviser

Instructional Video Design. This STAR Event recognizes participants who demonstrate their knowledge, skills, and abilities to research, plan, and create an instructional video to deliver content as part of a lesson or unit of instruction.

Level 3

2nd Place - SilverLorelei Walters
Nebraska City
Stefanie Wenz, Adviser

Interior Design. This STAR Event recognizes participants who design spaces to meet client needs. Participants create design deliverables addressing the specifics of the design scenario. The 2024 scenario required students to create spaces for a dog rescue inside an existing warehouse.

Level 1

1st Place - GoldReagan Lindsay
O'Neill
Angie Ehlers, Adviser



Job Interview. This STAR Event recognizes participants who use Family and Consumer Sciences skills to develop a portfolio, participate in an interview, and communicate a personal understanding of job requirements.

Level 2

3rd Place - Gold Adrianna Mincer
West Holt
Sarah Medina, Adviser

National Programs in Action. This STAR Event recognizes participants who explain how the FCCLA Planning Process was used to plan and implement a project related to one of the National Programs: Career Connection, Community Service, Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety (FACTS), Financial Fitness, Stand Up, or Student Body.

Level 3

3rd Place - Gold Trina Wetzel, Amanda Davis
Boyd County
Sherry Black, Adviser

Nutrition and Wellness. This STAR Event recognizes participants who track food intake and physical activity for themselves, their family, or a community group and determine goals and strategies for improving their overall health.

Level 2

2nd Place - Gold Jaquelin Luna-Duran
Neligh-Oakdale
Kim Scarborough, Adviser

Professional Presentation. This STAR Event recognizes participants who make an oral presentation about issues or topics in the field of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Level 3

2nd Place - Gold Christian Burton
Lexington
Emma Krysl, Adviser



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Promote and Publicize FCCLA. This STAR Event recognizes participants who develop an FCCLA promotion and publicity campaign to raise awareness and educate the school, parents, and members of the community about the importance of FCCLA and Family and Consumer Sciences education.

Level 1

2nd Place - GoldKatelyn Uldrich, Ziva Stratman
Hartington-Newcastle
Kelsey Schumacher, Adviser

Public Policy Advocate. This STAR Event recognizes participants who demonstrate their knowledge, skills, and abilities to actively identify a local, state, national, or global concern relating to an area concerning Family and Consumer Sciences and/or related occupations, research the topic, identify a target audience and potential partnerships, form an action plan, and advocate for the issue in an effort to positively affect a policy or law.

Level 1

1st Place - GoldElla Eickhoff, Kloe Fischer
Hartington-Newcastle
Kelsey Schumacher, Adviser

Repurpose and Redesign. This STAR Event recognizes participants who apply recycling and redesign skills learned in Family and Consumer Sciences courses and create a display using a sample of their skills. Participants select a used fashion, home, or other postconsumer item to repurpose into a new product.

Level 3

1st Place - Gold Emma Hitts, Brooklynn Christenson
Aurora
Paula Dush, Adviser

Say YES to FCS Education. This STAR Event recognizes participants who demonstrate the knowledge and skills needed to explore and experience the career of being a Family and Consumer Sciences educator. Participants conduct classroom observations, plan and execute a lesson, and develop an FCCLA integration plan as part of their project.

Level 3

3rd Place - GoldBrittany Borchers
Battle Creek
Bri O'Brien, Adviser



Sustainability Challenge. This STAR Event recognizes participants who address environmental issues that adversely impact human health and well-being and who actively empower others to get involved. Participants will research one of the topics, investigate areas where they can make a difference, develop and carry out a project for their home, school, or community, and educate others in their school or community. The 2024 topics were: Exploring sustainable alternatives in the fashion industry; Investigating the key principles and best practices for creating sustainable communities that promote long-term viability, resilience and livability; Reducing consumer plastic packaging; Sustainable food; Sustainable transportation and reducing carbon emissions.

Level 1

3rd Place - BronzeTrevor Timmerman
Chambers
Kelly Bordovsky, Adviser

Level 2

1st Place - Gold Chelsea Stephens
Chadron
Brenda Budler, Adviser

Teach or Train. This STAR Event recognizes participants who demonstrate their ability to explore and experience the career of teaching or training. Participants present research on the teaching/training career and prepare and execute a complete lesson/workshop plan as part of their project.

Level 1

First Place - Gold Jailyn Romesser
O'Neill
Angie Ehlers, Adviser



FFA is an organization of agricultural education students preparing for careers in agriculture, food, and natural resources. As an integral part of the agricultural education curriculum, FFA provides a real-world laboratory to demonstrate technical skills and develop personal and leadership abilities.

Founded in 1928, Nebraska FFA membership is over 11,800 members in 218 chapters. National FFA membership is over 1,000,000 student members as part of over 8,000 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Nebraska FFA offers a continuum of leadership experiences and career development events for students from seventh grade to post-secondary.

Nebraska FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

Agriscience Fair, Plant Systems Division 2. Students use scientific principles and emerging technologies to solve complex problems related to agriculture, food, and natural resources.

1st PlaceHailee Greiner, Hannah Greiner
Johnson-Brock
Dawn Metschke and Ashton Bohling, Advisors

Agriscience Fair, Social Systems Division 3. Students use scientific principles and emerging technologies to solve complex problems related to agriculture, food, and natural resources.

1st PlaceEsther VanOverbeke
Waverly
Kris Spath, Advisor



Farm and Agribusiness Management. Students demonstrate their ability to analyze agricultural business management information, apply economic principles and concepts of business management, evaluate business management decisions, and work together cooperatively as a team.

4th Place TeamBryson Bickel, Jace Lien,
Jadyn Tidyman, Gabe Tidyman
Chadron
Jon Cogdill, Maribeth Moore, Miakayla Koerber, Advisors

10th Place Individual Bryson Bickel
Chadron
Jon Cogdill, Maribeth Moore, Miakayla Koerber, Advisors

Marketing Plan. Students develop practical marketing skills while creating and presenting a marketing plan for a local agribusiness. The team researches and presents a marketing plan for an agricultural product, supply, or service. The plan should provide a reasonable and logical solution to a marketing problem.

4th Place Team Colton Kroeker, Cooper Kroeker, Trevor Laber
Perkins County
Doug Babbitt and Seth Burge, Advisors

Beef Entrepreneurship Proficiency. Agricultural Proficiency Awards honor FFA members who, through supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs), have developed specialized skills that they can apply toward their future careers.

Gold Finalist.....Adyson Groteluschen
Lakeview
Kaydie Brandl and Rebecca Wulf, Advisors



Environmental and Natural Resources Proficiency. Agricultural Proficiency Awards honor FFA members who, through supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs), have developed specialized skills that they can apply toward their future careers.

Gold Finalist.....Sidney Gawrych
St. Paul
Boyd Bowder, Advisor

American Star Farmer. Each year four FFA members are selected as American Star Farmer finalists for outstanding accomplishments in FFA and agricultural education. The finalists are FFA members who demonstrate outstanding agricultural skills and competencies through completion of a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). A required activity in FFA, an SAE allows students to learn by doing, by either owning or operating an agricultural business, working or serving an internship at an agriculture-based business, or conducting an agriculture-based scientific experiment and reporting results. Other requirements to be a finalist include demonstrating top management skills; completing key agricultural education, scholastic and leadership requirements; and earning an American FFA Degree, the organization's highest level of student accomplishment.

Gold Finalist.....Jacie Wolfinger
SEM
Emily Klintworth, Advisor



HOSA - Future Health Professionals is part of an instructional program that prepares students for a health care career. With programs found in high schools, middle schools, technical schools, community colleges, and universities, the organization develops leadership and technical skill competencies through a program of motivation, awareness, and recognition, which is an integral part of the Health Science Education. The organization strives to enhance the delivery of compassionate, quality health care by providing opportunities for knowledge, skill, and leadership development of all health science education students, therefore, helping the student meet the needs of the health care community.

Over 1,500 Nebraska students join the more than 290,000 HOSA members around the world in pursuit of health professions. Members engage in activities which reinforce classroom instruction and students develop, practice, and refine their leadership and teamwork skills.

Barbara James Service Award. This event recognizes individual HOSA members who have a commitment to community service in health. The award is in memory of Barbara James, whose leadership skills and contributions to HOSA exemplify the caring and compassion of HOSA members.

Gold Level-over 250 hoursVaibhavi Kota
Millard North High School
Christina Preuss, Advisor

Gold Level-over 250 hoursNithya Khandavalli
Millard North High School
Christina Preuss, Advisor

Gold Level-over 250 hoursIsrael Sanchez Garcia
Ralston High School
Laura Prochaska, Advisor

College Physics. This testing event measures knowledge and understanding of college physics at the recall, application, and analysis levels.

Top 10Gurnoor Hayer
Gering High School
Mai Lee Olsen, Advisor



Job Seeking Skills. This event requires competitors to prepare a personal statement and resume and then participate in a mock job interview with judges. The event aims to inspire members to learn more about applying and interviewing for health-related positions and experiences.

Top 10Dominika Kouassi
Marian High School
Matt Winterboer, Advisor

Personal Care. This event consists of a skills assessment and aims to inspire members to learn more about the field of nursing and how to provide quality care.

Top 10Emily Watts
South Central USD #5
Kristi Wehrman and Jaycee Schroer, Advisors



Representing over 413,000 career and technical education students and teachers, SkillsUSA chapters thrive in middle schools, high schools and college/postsecondary institutions nationwide. Our mission is to empower students to become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders, and responsible community members. This is accomplished through the SkillsUSA Framework of Personal Skills, Workplace Skills, and Technical Skills Grounded in Academics, which is integrated into classroom curriculum.

Through the Framework, SkillsUSA students hone their hands-on skills against current industry standards in more than 130 occupational areas, from 3D Animation to Welding and nearly everything in between. At the same time, they develop the transformative career-readiness skills — teamwork, communication, professionalism, leadership, and more — that fuel career and life success.

A vital solution to the ongoing skills gap, where more highly skilled jobs are available than skilled professionals ready to fill them, SkillsUSA has served over 15 million diverse, difference-making members since 1965.

Opening and Closing Ceremony. This teamwork and oral presentation competition evaluates a team's understanding of the symbolic representation of the colors and assembled parts of the SkillsUSA emblem. Each team includes seven registered members in the roles of president, vice president, parliamentarian, reporter, treasurer, secretary, and historian.

3rd Place (*Middle School*) Haylen Holliday, Chloe Brozovsky,
Lily Phillips, Carly Kolterman, Isla Krahulik, Charish Sidlo, Lizzie Wiseman
Seward Middle School
Kurt Holliday, Advisor

2nd Place (*High School*) Ava Welch, Dany Zheng, Hazie Uerling,
MaKenna Nelson, Natalia Wiezorek, Savvy Miles, and Stephanie Budke
North Platte St Pats High School
Ali Blake, Advisor



Team Engineering Challenge. This competition evaluates and recognizes outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the areas of creative and critical thinking skills and the decision-making process used to solve a problem.

3rd Place Peyton Hubl, Aiden Degenhardt, Jaxson Bowers
Thayer Central Schools
Louie Keim, Advisor

Career Pathways - Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources. Student teams use their course of study as the basis of a project that will benefit their class, school, community, or industry. The project must highlight an aspect of their Career Cluster training.

2nd Place Chase Dubas, Chloe Inbody, Kennedy Bahm
The Career Academy
Tom Wheeldon, Advisor

Mechatronics. This competition consists of events designed to measure the skills required in the modern automated manufacturing environment.

1st Place (*High School*)Nykolys Rutten, Fisher Cyza
Columbus High School
Benjamin Loeffelholz and Adam Whitmore, Advisors

1st Place (*College*)Calvin Christensen, Christopher Efta
Northeast Community College
Eric Roskeland, Advisors



Plumbing. Competitors rough-in hot and cold-water lines with copper tubing and rough-in sanitary drainage, waste and vent lines with cast iron and PVC plastic for a water closet, a lavatory, a washer box and a floor drain.

1st Place Wyatt Zeleny
High School Academy - Metropolitan
Andy Queen, Advisor

Prepared Speech. The competition requires students to deliver a five- to seven-minute prepared speech based on the annual SkillsUSA competition theme.

3rd Place Braydon Hoelsing
Wausa Public Schools
Kirk Hamm, Advisor

3D Visualization and Animation. This competition allows students to step into a real-world 3D production environment. Competitors must produce high-quality images and animated short subjects using computer-generated 3D images.

3rd Place AJ Konecny, Eli Mohr
Metropolitan Community College
Jordan Scribner and Bob Maass, Advisors

Additive Manufacturing. Additive manufacturing, also known as 3D Printing, embraces a wide range of materials and derivative processes to build parts suitable for end-use service. Competitors design and create a prototype to solve an engineering problem.

3rd Place Landon Nelson, Riley Mason
Central Community College - Hastings
Ryan Jones and Brian Davis, Advisors



Collision Damage Appraisal. The competition is consistent with expectations and competencies associated with collision repair center estimators, insurance auto claim appraisers/adjusters, and independent appraisers.

1st Place Joseph Lytle
Metropolitan Community College
Chris Cogan, Advisor

Firefighting. The competition evaluates the competitor's preparation for firefighting careers through hands-on skill demonstrations and both written and oral presentations.

2nd Place Winston Ruzicka
Metropolitan Community College
Boomer Strawn, Advisor

Heavy Equipment. Heavy equipment competitions test the knowledge of equipment operation, day to day maintenance, and activities (such as surveying and blueprint reading) on various machines in different applications.

2nd Place Trevor Brown
Central Community College - Hastings
Jason Baker, Advisor

Mobile Robotics Technology. The Mobile Robotics Technology competition includes team activities that simulate situations encountered by robotic programmers and support professionals.

2nd Place Caleb Baustian, Kolton Ginter
Southeast Community College-Milford
Jeffrey Ives and Lynnette Frey, Advisor



Motorcycle Service Technology. Motorcycle Service Technology competitors perform tasks that are representative of those encountered in a dealership's service department. Technical skills include performing scheduled maintenance tasks; use of service, electrical diagnostic and parts manuals; electrical diagnostics; precision measurement; brake service; chassis/suspension service; fuel delivery system inspection and repair; transmission and drive systems; and powertrain systems.

1st PlacePeter Paul
Southeast Community College-Milford
Trevor Nebesniak, Advisor

Power Equipment Technology. The Power Equipment Technology competition evaluates the performance tasks representative of those encountered in a dealership's service department for small engine equipment.

1st Place (College)Callan Scholz
Metropolitan Community College
Terry Kuebler, Advisor

1st Place (High School)Garrett Hartweg
Waverly High School
Kate Jones, Advisor

Related Technical Math. Through a written test, competitors demonstrate the skills required to solve mathematical problems correctly that are commonly found in the skilled trades and professional and technical occupations.

2nd PlaceCole Vogt
Northeast Community College
Joe Ottis, Advisor



Robotics - Urban Search and Rescue. Teams are required to build a robot and arm mechanism prior to the competition. The robot must be capable of locating, grabbing, and moving simulated ordinances on the challenge course.

1st Place Hailey Hoffman, John Mann
Wayne State College
Grant Schrick, Advisor

Chapter Display. Teams build a three-dimensional display that articulates the annual SkillsUSA competition theme.

3rd Place Sarahi Lopez, Zach Covington, Jonathon Dixon
Wayne State College
Grant Schrick, Advisor

TeamWorks. Competitors work together to build a construction project over two days that demonstrates their ability to work as a team. Judging is based on the team's presentation skills, ability to construct the project per competition specified building codes, jobsite safety and cleanliness, organized and correct ordering of materials from the competition material depot, proper use and accountability of tools and equipment, and the rate of completion of the project.

1st Place Austyn Kieborz, Daxton Behmer,
Logan Kaup, Ryan Schmit
Northeast Community College
Bonnie Henkel, Brian Rastede, and Curtis Brandt, Advisor

The Nebraska Department of Education recognizes the value of Career & Technical Student Organizations in the personal and professional development of career education students through Nebraska Career Education. Per state statute 79-772-79-775, the Nebraska Department of Education provides financial and administrative support for state leadership and administration of the Center for Student Leadership and Expanded Learning.

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This project was funded through the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), administered through the Nebraska Department of Education. However, the contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the United States Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

