

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Fall Leadership Conference dates set for October 10-11
- 2009 State Championships moves to Warren Tech in Denver metro area
- News from Nationals
- SkillsUSA Contest Theme Information
- Pin Design Competition
- ACTE Video Contest

Colorado earns top honors at NLSC

Colorado is pleased to congratulate all of the students and advisors who participated in the National Leadership and Skills Conference held in Kansas City, MO this past June.

The following students placed in their individual contests:

- In 3-D Visualization and Animation, the team of **Mike Kasberg, Nate Witt, and Aaron Soderquist** from **Smoky Hill High School** earned a Bronze Medal.
- In the Job Skill Demonstration A competition, **Frank Cowgill** from **Pueblo Community College** finished in second place earning him a Silver Medal.

All of the participants from Colorado did an outstanding job and represented not only their advisors and chapters well, but also the entire State of Colorado!



Time to Start Planning Program of Work

The heart of SkillsUSA is the program of work—what your chapter plans on accomplishing for the year. The Program of Work includes the activities and projects and the plan of action that your chapter will carry out during the school year. Successful chapters develop a plan of work that is related to the following seven major goals:

1. Professional Development
Crucial to preparing each

SkillsUSA member for entry into the work force and providing a foundation for success in a career is Professional Development. Becoming a professional does not stop with acquiring a skill, but involves an increased awareness of the meaning of good citizenship and the importance of labor and management in the world of work.

2. Community Service
By performing Community

Service through the donation of services, SkillsUSA chapters promote and improve good will and understanding among all segments of the community, and instill in its members a lifetime commitment to community service.

3. Employment

To increase student awareness of quality job practices and attitudes, and to increase

State Director's Corner

Welcome Back!

I want to be among the first to welcome you back to a new and exciting new year. I trust that your summer did have plenty of opportunities for you to rest, recharge and renew in preparation for SY 2008-09!

As your new State Director, I plan to send to you via email this newsletter to keep you informed of news and information from the national office regarding SkillsUSA. Please feel free to email or telephone me with suggestions, information, and pictures (we love pictures!) about your local chapters! I will do my very best to include the items you send in the newsletters and on our state website (www.skillsusa.cccs.edu).

I want to recognize a few individuals who have made my transition in to the state office an easy one! First, for those who don't know, Ben Nesbitt is now the Program Director of Skilled Trades and Technical Sciences and will still be involved with SkillsUSA—it's too much a part of him not to be there! Ben has made my transition to the state director very easy and I'm sure that in the coming year he will continue to be a valuable resource to all of us!



Secondly, I'd like to thank and recognize Herb and Sue Turnow for their work with the Colorado SkillsUSA State Officer Team. They have done, and continue to do an outstanding job with these fine young individuals.

During the coming year, I would love to arrange to visit with you and your chapters, and am eager to hear of your exploits and adventures as the year progresses. Please call me or drop me an email to let me know of chapter happenings so that I would be able to attend. (If you hadn't guessed, I was one of those kids in school who NEVER missed a field trip!)

As the year goes on, if there is any support that I, or the State Officer team, can lend you in the promotion and growth of your chapters, please feel free to contact me. We can arrange a "good will tour" at your convenience.

Please feel free to contact me with any comments, questions or concerns! My contact information is listed below. I look forward to working with you all!

Best regards,

Tony Raymond
9101 E. Lowry Blvd.
Denver, CO 80230
(720) 858-2794 (O) / (720) 858-2544 (F)
tony.raymond@cccs.edu

Planning a Program of Work

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the opportunities for employer contact and eventual employment.

4. Ways and Means

The Ways and Means simply are the way a chapter plans and participates in fundraising activities to allow all members to carry out the chapter's projects. The participation of all members is critical to a team's success in carrying out a program of work.

5. SkillsUSA Championships

The SkillsUSA Championships offer students the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and be recognized for them through competitive activities in occupa-

tional areas and leadership. The Championships at both the state and national levels are an excellent opportunity for a chapter's students to really shine!

6. Public Relations

An investment of time and energy into public relations cannot be overlooked. Making the general public aware of the good work students in career and technical education are doing to better themselves and their community, state, nation and world is extremely valuable to the continued success of CTE programs.

7. Social Activities

Social activities increase cooperation in the school and com-

munity through events that allow members to get to know each other in areas other than business or classroom settings. Chapter activities will provide some of the best opportunities your students will have to "learn by doing" by giving them real-world, hands-on projects that truly make a difference. Additionally, a successful program of work creates a positive learning environment in the classroom/work area where they learn how to accept responsibility, work as a team, manage a budget, and gracefully handle success and failure.

It's never too early to plan your program of work!

"An investment of time and energy into public relations cannot be overlooked. Making the public aware of the work CTE students are doing to better themselves and their community is extremely valuable to the continued success of CTE programs."

News from Nationals

Call for SkillsUSA Talent

Do you have a talented singer in your state that would enjoy a special performance opportunity? SkillsUSA seeks talented singers for the Opening Ceremony or Awards Ceremony during the 2009 SkillsUSA National Conference. We are looking for a SkillsUSA student member to sing the National Anthem or another patriotic song appropriate for opening a general session. Singers may sing a capella or to a pre-recorded instrumental track. Send in all audition videotapes on DVD, postmarked by **February 1, 2009** to: Karen Perrino, SkillsUSA, 14001 SkillsUSA Way, Leesburg, VA 20176. Please send any questions to Karen Perrino at 703-737-0610 or email her at kperrino@skillsusa.org.

National Conference Pin Contest

February 1, 2009 is the deadline for the entries for the SkillsUSA National Conference Pin competition. This event is open to all paid student members of SkillsUSA.

Fall Leadership Conference: October 10-11

The Colorado SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference is set and ready to go! All we need is you!

The Fall Leadership Conference will be held October 10 and 11 at Pueblo Community College in Pueblo. The conference runs from 6-9 p.m. on the night of Friday, October 10th, and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 11th.

Recently, a PDF file containing conference information was sent via email to advisors. However, if you need a copy of the document, you can find it on our website at www.skillsusa.cccs.edu. The document contains all the registration forms, medical forms, code of conduct forms, as well as information about the hotel where arrangements have been made for a special SkillsUSA rate.

State Championships moves to Warren Tech/Red Rocks

Coming this spring, the Colorado SkillsUSA State Championships which are scheduled for April 15-17, 2009, will have a new venue: Warren Tech and Red Rocks Community College in Lakewood, CO, on the west side of Denver.

The State Championship competitions will be held primarily at the Warren Tech and Red Rocks facilities against the picturesque

Sed de Saber Program offers an effective ESL tool

Sed de Saber is an interactive, effective and affordable English as a second language tool that helps employers and workers break the language barrier.

The construction edition includes an electronic notebook, seven interactive books and cartridges, a carrying case and handbook.

Rules are in the Membership Kit and are also posted on the SkillsUSA Web site at: <http://www.skillsusa.org/compete/other.shtml>.

Questions may be directed to Danielle Rinker at 703-737-0636 or to drinker@skillsusa.org.

Advisor Incentive for Membership

November 15 is the deadline for SkillsUSA membership to be received in order for chapters to receive all four issues of *SkillsUSA Champions* magazine.

In addition, if at least 20 student members and one or more professional members are registered by that date, the advisor will receive a **FREE** SkillsUSA Chapter Banner (value \$25.00). Instructors who submit a roster with 100-percent membership, plus one or more professionals, will also receive a SkillsUSA planning calendar.

For more information, see the SkillsUSA Membership Kit.

Breakfast is provided at the hotel, and the cost of registration also includes a buffet-style lunch on the 11th.

This conference, hosted by the Colorado state officer team, will be jam packed with tons of information and training for your chapters. You are encouraged to bring everyone to this very special event. Professional trainers are brought in specifically for this conference and will lead your students through an amazing set of activities that develops their own leadership skills and allows them to stand out as leaders in an ever-increasingly technical world.

Registration is only \$55 and includes all printed training materials, a conference t-shirt, lunch on Saturday, and great leadership training!

backdrop of the Rocky Mountains near Golden, CO.

At this time, hotel information is pending and will be forwarded to you as soon as details have been taken care of. Check back with the Colorado SkillsUSA website (www.skillsusa.cccs.edu) or contact the state advisor, Tony Raymond at tony.raymond@cccs.edu or (720) 858-2794.

The program comes in two formats, English for Hospitality and English for Construction. SkillsUSA will be partnering with Lowe's Companies and Home Builders Institute to offer the Sed de Saber program as a possible community service project for local chapter grants this coming school year. To learn more, go to: www.seddesaber.com/

SkillsUSA Theme Information

The topic to be addressed by contestants in these events is how the theme **SkillsUSA: Champions at Work, Leadership in Transition** relates to our national program of work and how the SkillsUSA program fosters personal and professional development and prepares students for the next phase of their lives. Within this topic, contestants might illustrate or discuss any of the following:

- SkillsUSA helps students to develop their knowledge and technical skills and also an attitude of sincere enthusiasm and passion in their educational path, in their career and in their relationships
- SkillsUSA members are better prepared for lifelong learning and for transition into the workforce or into higher education
- Being in SkillsUSA is a learning and growing experience.
- SkillsUSA members are engaged in their communities and aware of transitions in local, state and national leadership, especially during this presidential election year.
- Our ongoing slogan is **SkillsUSA: Champions at Work**. We

2009 Colorado Pin Design Contest

Colorado SkillsUSA is proud to sponsor the 2009 State Pin Design Contest again this year.

The state pin will be produced prior to next April's state contest and will be the "official" pin traded at the National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) held in Kansas City in June.

The contest is open to all active SkillsUSA student members who are enrolled in a career and technical education program at a high school or postsecondary institution. Membership for the 2008-09 school year will be verified. Only one entry per SkillsUSA member is permitted. (Rules and Specifications sheet available on our state website: www.skillsusa.cccs.edu)

One 1st place winner will be selected, and will receive a \$100.00

want our members to feel like champions and stand up for quality work, both in school and on the job

- SkillsUSA motivates students to be the best they can be in their technical skill development and personal/ professional development.
- SkillsUSA provides an opportunity for students to put into practice teamwork skills, creativity and project management.
- SkillsUSA increases productivity by cultivating a highly skilled and knowledgeable workforce to meet 21st century needs.
- SkillsUSA is the national organization for public high school and college/postsecondary technical students enrolled in trade, technical, and skilled service profession instructional programs including allied health occupations.
- SkillsUSA represents more than 300,000 students in 130 different occupational areas.

cash award and plaque, recognition on our state website and at the state conference. 2nd place will receive a \$50.00 cash award and 3rd place will receive a \$25.00 cash award. Entries must be received in the State office no later than December 14, 2008.

Remember — **FOLLOW THE RULES AND SPECIFICATIONS!** A great design may be disqualified from the competition if the rules and specifications are not followed!

Send all entries to:

Tony Raymond, SkillsUSA State Director
9101 E. Lowry Blvd.
Denver, CO 802130

We look forward to judging your creative entries again this year!

ACTE hosts video contest to promote CTE Month

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) is searching for student filmmakers to create a 29-second public service announcement (PSA) to publicize CTE Month during February 2009. Secondary and Post-Secondary students in film, video, and production classes are invited to submit video PSAs based on the 2009 CTE Month's theme: "CTE: Building Blocks for a Successful Career" and emphasizing the importance of CTE.

The deadline to enter is October 31, 2008.

ACTE is partnering with SchoolTube, a safe, moderated website for students to host this year's contest. The website is www.schooltube.com. Students will upload videos to the website in addition to sending broadcast-quality versions to ACTE, and a panel of media professionals will judge the entries. The winners

will be announced at the National ACTE convention December 4-6, 2008 in Charlotte, NC.

The first-place students will receive a \$750 prize and the school will receive one complimentary copy of Apple's Final Cut Studio 2, a professional video editing suite, which Apple is donating for the contest. The second place winners will receive \$250 and one complimentary copy of Apple's Final Cut Studio 2 for the school.

The first and second place videos will be publicized on the Internet and may air on television.

Complete rules and copies of copyright assignment and release forms are available at www.acteonline.org/contest. For more information, please contact onlinemedial@acteonline.org.