May 8, 2020
State Director’s Friday Flash Report:

Dear Advisors:

Just last week we were looking at the possibility that schools might be back in session for a short time before the end of the year but now that has changed to schools being closed until summer. I am sure that you are all now wondering just how schools will look in September and how they will function. We here at NY SkillsUSA are also wondering just how we will look and function in the new year. The Staff and Board will be looking at what is happening and adjusting to the new times ahead. We will continue to keep you updated as to what is happening and with information that might be helpful as we go through the rest of this school year and into summer.

Special Events

We would like to thank all the schools that sent in press links to events that your students and schools have been doing to help the frontline workers. These have been sent on to Nationals as they are gathering these events from around the United States to show what SkillsUSA is doing to help and prepare for the times to come.
We did not have a State Event, but we still have winners: This is a revised list as there were some that received Quality Awards that were not listed on the original list.

**GOLD**
Wildwood Educational Center  
Level 2 Forward to Level 3  
gacker@gstboces.org  

Thomas A Edison Career & Technical High School  
Level 2 Forward to Level 3  
jkalloo@schools.nyc.gov  

Oneida Herkimer Madison BOCES CTEC  
Level 2 Forward to level 3  
jstratton@oneida-boces.org

**SILVER**
Orange-Ulster BOCES  
Level 2  
lindatorborg@gmail.com  

Urban Assembly Gateway School for Technology  
Level 2  
Csukhoo@uagateway.org
Below is the information we have received from Nationals.
State Director,

This is Martha Stewart with Soundzabound Music. We are the company that provides royalty-free music to schools so they can create awesome one-minute PSA's for the SkillsUSA conference. Please sample one of the videos that won for the nation at a SkillsUSA conference. It was from the state of Wisconsin and is on drunk driving. It is immensely powerful. Click: https://youtu.be/HWlM3n9dh78

Soundzabound is the #1 music company in the world to schools. We have been around for over 22 years, and have sold statewide to Iowa, Wisconsin and Utah. The head of education for the state of Wisconsin just commented to her state that Soundzabound was the most valuable database they own.

Also, I have attached a few songs from our latest volume called, “Hip Hop Beats.” Hope you like them! We added a couple of songs that are not Hip-Hop that will be amazing for any video created for the SkillsUSA conference. Just click on the song title, and you can listen to the music. You may want to turn up the speakers on your computer. They sound so good when they are played loud. https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tmto39yax51pvh7/AADFoZuhGyw-SL7bFcfvHK5Ma?dl=0

Thanks for your help!

Warmly,

Martha Stewart

Soundzabound Music

www.soundzabound.com

770-314-8705 Cell

888-834-1792 Office

New Digital Hub for SkillsUSA Champions Magazine Goes Live

SkillsUSA is excited to announce the new SkillsUSA Champions digital hub, launching May 1 at www.skillsusachampions.org! SkillsUSA created this new digital version of SkillsUSA Champions in response to member requests for more content more often, and that is exactly what this site will provide. Look for more inspiring features, more relevant and timely news items and a user-friendly design that lets you easily share anything you deem share worthy.

There is also a “Submit a Story” link at the top of every page, so if you have a story idea you think is worth sharing, please submit it for SkillsUSA’s communications staff to review. Rather than looking at the site as a traditional “issue” of the magazine, look at it as an ever-expanding resource of inspirational, real-world examples of the SkillsUSA mission in action. The hope is that when someone asks you what effect SkillsUSA can have on a life, you can point them to the new site and just say, “Pick a story. Any story.”

As for the print edition of the magazine, SkillsUSA Champions will now be published in print format twice per school year: once in the fall and once in the spring. The fall printed issue will debut design changes to the magazine’s look and layout.
Celebrate Our Graduates During “SkillsUSA Grad Night 2020”

Join fellow SkillsUSA graduates, their families and their supporters as we celebrate “SkillsUSA Grad Night 2020” on Wednesday, May 27. The 30-minute virtual event will stream live on Facebook, YouTube media platforms at 7 p.m. EDT. Hosted by four of our talented national officers, Executive Director Chelle Travis, a keynote address from Snap-on Inc. CEO Nick Pinchuk and more. Immediately following the event will be the “SkillsUSA Grad Night 2020 After-Party,” streaming live on SkillsUSA’s Instagram channel. Also hosted by SkillsUSA national officers, this informal event will allow our members to communicate and commiserate with each other. It will also feature the debut of SkillsUSA’s new set of Instagram stickers along with giveaways from the SkillsUSA Store. Watch for more details and links soon on all SkillsUSA social media channels coming very soon.

Graduation Gifts from the SkillsUSA Store

Commemorate the year and honor the hard work of the Class of 2020 gift from the SkillsUSA Store. From customized plaques to jewelry to there is something special for everyone. Looking for inspiration on your graduation gifts? Explore this specially curated collection of store SkillsUSA Store Graduation Gift Collection

ACTE Offers Free Resources to Help Teachers Transition to Online Instruction

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) recognizes the dramatic impact that dealing with the coronavirus (COVID-19) is having on your instructional efforts. To this end, ACTE is pleased to announce that they are extending the offer to register for a selection of free online courses to prepare CTE teachers to teach online. The new registration deadline is May 31.

Go to Online Teachers on CTE Learn and click on Delivering Online Instruction. You’ll see the following online courses that you can access for free:

- EL102 Online Teaching Techniques
- EL103 Teaching Online: A Student-Centered Approach
- EL104 Teaching and Organizing a Virtual Learning Environment
- EL105 Online Language: Communicating with Students
- EL108 Preparing Students to Become Good Online Learners
- EL112 Workload Management Strategies for Teaching Online
Register/login on the CTE Learn site and enter the master key “MK-ACTE” to enroll in any of the above courses. This complimentary key is valid through May 31. Contact support@ctelearn.org if you have any questions. CTE Learn courses are self-paced, and each course takes approximately four hours to complete. Designed and developed specifically for the CTE community, these courses focus on practical strategies and techniques that participants can apply right away. Additionally, ACTE has created a listing of other free distance learning resources they hope can provide assistance to your programs.

#KeepCraftAlive Scholarship Application Deadline Extended to May 29

Fine Homebuilding will be awarding a minimum of twelve scholarship awards to SkillsUSA high school or college/postsecondary students continuing their education certification programs in construction-related fields. In the #KeepCraftAlive movement, applicants should celebrate the value and meaning of true craftsmanship in their trades and plan to continue their educations in community colleges, undergraduate programs or industry certification curricula.

Fine Homebuilding will award a minimum of twelve $2,500 scholarships to students in fields such as architectural drafting, carpentry, cabinetmaking, electrical and residential wiring, HVACR, masonry, woodworking and plumbing.

Selections will be based on completion of an application, along with a 300-word essay showing applicants’ passion for their craft and a letter of support from a teacher, administrator, SkillsUSA advisor or educational/professional mentor.

Application deadline has been extended to Friday, May 29 at midnight EDT.

New SkillsUSA Graduate Frames for Social Media

In order to give our graduating SkillsUSA members an opportunity to be recognized, SkillsUSA has created a few editable frames to use on Facebook. Let us make graduating special for our members!

To add a frame to your Page's profile picture:

- 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 (graduation).
- Choose the frame you want to use from the results.
- Click Use as Profile Picture.

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