



SkillsUSA Virginia Update

May 9, 2017
Volume 5 Issue 22

SkillsUSA Virginia, 5251 College Drive, Dublin, VA 24084

www.skillsusava.org

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Welcome to the SkillsUSA Virginia Update

Please share this newsletter with your teachers, administrators, students, Business partners, parents, alumni and others.

SkillsUSA's National Week of Service

SkillsUSA chapters are invited to conduct or promote a community service project during the week of May 7-13. Advisors are encouraged to submit a National Week of Service project report to the national headquarters by May 15. Photos are also appreciated. Send your reports and photographs to gsilvey@skillsusa.org. The first 50 chapters that report their plans will receive a free item.

SkillsUSA – PDP Test for those going to nationals

The test may be taken, starting Mon 17th April 2017 12:00am – **Deadline Friday 19th May 2017 12:00am**. Please don't miss this deadline.

<https://www.classmarker.com/online-test/start/?quiz=x4x58eb99dae9f1a>

mikeroweWORKS Offers Travel Scholarships for Competitors

The mikeroweWORKS Foundation will again offer scholarships for SkillsUSA student members to attend the National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, Ky., June 19-23. This is the seventh consecutive year the mikeroweWORKS Foundation, in partnership with SkillsUSA, has offered travel scholarships for SkillsUSA members who compete and place first in their state championships and who otherwise would not be able to attend the national championships for financial reasons. All SkillsUSA students who meet these competition criteria are welcome to apply.

The mikeroweWORKS Foundation scholarship program provides assistance to eligible students pursuing an education in a career and technical or similar trade-related program. The foundation focuses on high-school and college/postsecondary students working toward careers in manufacturing, construction, automotive, engineering and STEM-related trade occupations. However, this opportunity is open to all state gold medalists attending the SkillsUSA Championships who have the financial need for the travel funds.

Scholarships will be awarded based on students' written narratives describing their need for the scholarship, how they have benefited through participation in SkillsUSA and why they chose their particular trade or technical skill. Applicants are also required to provide a recommendation written by their SkillsUSA advisor or the state association director in support of the financial need. Applicants need to apply online at: www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/the-mikeroweworks-foundation-competitor-scholarship/.

Scholarship applications must be received by **Friday, May 26 (midnight EDT)**. Applications submitted after this time will not be considered.

'Growing Leaders' Founder to Present During Engage Training



Growing Leaders founder Dr. Tim Elmore will spend a day with SkillsUSA's Engage training participants in June. Elmore specializes in leadership courses and speaks at schools, universities, businesses and athletic programs. He has trained thousands of leaders in partnership with nationally renowned schools and organizations.

This expert will deliver to SkillsUSA instructors the foundations of healthy leader development, with ideas for training that result in real-life changes. He will also provide steps for nurturing new leaders.

Elmore is passionate about understanding the emerging generation and helping adults teach them how to become leaders in their schools, their communities and their careers. He educates adults to help them understand the challenges and experiences today's generation faces and connect with them in a way that resonates. Elmore believes, by cultivating leadership abilities in young adults and encouraging the adults who guide them, Growing Leaders can be the catalyst for emerging generations that will truly change the world.

According to internationally recognized leadership expert John Maxwell, with whom Elmore has worked for over 25 years, "No one teaches leadership better than Tim Elmore." To learn more about Elmore and his organization, go to: www.growingleaders.com. Teachers participating in SkillsUSA's Engage will have the opportunity to spend time with Elmore in a small group setting to ask questions and drill down into his teachings.

Engage will be held June 17-19 at the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport in Louisville, Ky. To learn more about it and how you can register, visit: www.skillsusa.org/events-training/national-leadership-and-skills-conference/training-opportunities/engage-advisor-training/.

Give Back to Kentucky by Donating Blood During NLSC

There will be a blood drive as part of the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, Ky. The drive, sponsored by the Kentucky Blood Center, will be held Thursday, June 22, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The bloodmobile will be parked at the outdoor section of SkillsUSA TECHSPO.

To schedule an appointment ahead of time, call 800-775-2522. All donors will receive a T-shirt for donating. Donors 18 and older will be entered into a drawing for a brand-new SUV (the winner will be chosen at the end of the summer). Note: Donors must weigh no less than 110 pounds and must be at least 17 years of age. A state-licensed photo ID is required at the time of donation.

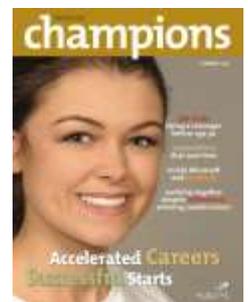
Your blood donation may be the only match for a patient's unique need. Please donate so that when your specific type is needed, it will be on the hospital shelf, ready to save a life. When you donate with Kentucky Blood Center, your blood stays in Kentucky for patients in local hospitals.

Summer's Here! New Issue of SkillsUSA Champions Magazine

A new issue devoted to SkillsUSA champions and their exciting careers is in the mail to chapter advisors and professional members. Using their electronic devices, student members can access the new issue in responsive digital format at this link:

http://read.nxtbook.com/mercury/skillsusa/champions_summer_2017/index.html

A lesson plan for the Summer issue can be downloaded from the home page at www.skillsusa.org, including guided-reading questions and activities to help students apply the articles to their SkillsUSA experience.



Magazine Offers Recognition to Our Photographers

State association directors: Please let your advisors and students know they can submit photos for our “Image” page in SkillsUSA Champions. The photos should show SkillsUSA members in action. Photography or graphic arts students may already have projects that are suitable. We currently do not have a photo selected for the Fall 2017 issue. The winning photographer’s chapter will receive a \$150 prize check and, of course, the thrill of seeing his or her work in print. For details, email Tom Hall at thall@skillsusa.org.



Exciting MakerSpace Coming to National Conference

In celebration of this year’s National Week of Making, GE Appliances and FirstBuild will host a MakerSpace at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) in Louisville, Ky., June 19-23. This year’s theme will focus on “How Do I Fit In” and will include interactive exhibits to show students how their skills and passion can translate into real-life careers.

The “MakerSpace,” located in the East Hall of the Kentucky Exposition Center, will feature fun and exciting opportunities to get hands-on in several maker-inspired events. Stop by to see a glowing inferno during a live flame-working demonstration, keep your egg safe during a drop test from 3 feet or higher, add your very own custom-made gear to our giant gear wall, and more! Special thanks to GE Appliances and FirstBuild for sponsoring the MakerSpace.

SkillsUSA Night at the Louisville Bats Baseball Stadium

Wednesday, June 21, is “SkillsUSA Night at the Louisville Bats Baseball Stadium.” The game starts at 7:05 p.m., and the Bats are playing the Columbus Clippers. The Bats Baseball Club is the Triple-A affiliate of the five-time World Series champion Cincinnati Reds. The team plays at Louisville Slugger Field, 401 E. Main St., Louisville, KY 40202. For more information, go to: www.batsbaseball.com. SkillsUSA pre-order Bat Tickets \$10 each, to **order please email Dtripp@nr.edu by May 26th deadline** and then. Please mail check to SkillsUSA Virginia, 5251 College Drive, Dublin, VA 24084.

NLSC 2017 National Courtesy Corps – Registration Procedure

National Courtesy Corps (NCC) experience at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC). We will need your assistance in providing members for the national event. We are anticipating more than 200 courtesy corps members will be needed for this year’s event. To achieve this goal, we ask every state association to look at the possibility of supplying us with several member. The work of these members is deeply appreciated by the technical committees. This is also a great opportunity for students to network with industry and business partners.

We ask members to arrive on **Saturday, June 17, by 4 p.m.** so they can start to work in the contest areas on **Sunday, June 18**. They will depart from conference on Saturday, June 24. All NCC participants will be housed at the University of Louisville’s Community Park in Louisville. This campus is about 12-15 minutes from the Kentucky Exposition Center. Advisors must supervise the students. SkillsUSA will develop an individual schedule for each student and advisor listing work assignments, breaks, free time, etc., and there will be a separate advisor session to review student duties and responsibilities. There is also a new registration process for Courtesy Corps. To register, go to: <https://w3.smartreg.com/webreg/SKILLSUSA17/> and follow the instructions.

Dorothy Loges from Missouri will serve as the NCC chair again, and we look forward to working with her. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Kregiel at jkregiel@skillsusa.org or phone 703-737-0634.

'SkillsUSA Career Essentials' Suite Coming

"SkillsUSA Career Essentials" is the new umbrella name for our signature career-readiness materials (formerly the Career Readiness Curriculum, or CRC; the Professional Development Program, or PDP; and the Work Force Ready System including Skill Connect Assessments).



The name demonstrates that these essential pieces are now under one learning continuum that takes teaching career readiness to a new level while advancing the impact of the SkillsUSA Framework. SkillsUSA Career Essentials will have three main components: Foundations, Essentials and Assessments. The programs will roll out under the new names and largely with a new look, starting in the fall.

Here is the SkillsUSA Career Essentials suite of products:

- **SkillsUSA Career Essentials: *Foundations*** (formerly called CRC)
The CRC content has not changed
- **SkillsUSA Career Essentials: *Experiences*** (replaces PDP)
- **SkillsUSA Career Essentials: *Assessments*** (formerly called the Work Force Ready System or WFRS and Skill Connect Assessments) *The WFRS and Skill Connect Assessments content has not changed*

Scholarship

Graduating high school seniors who will be pursuing post-secondary CTE studies this fall may be eligible for up to \$2,500 to pursue a career or technical certificate/associate's degree. By completing a simple 45-minute application, they will be considered for one of 1,020 scholarships being awarded in 2017.

Act now to take advantage of support for your CTE pursuit. The educational program must result in a certification, credential or associate's degree. For more information or to apply, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/gmwm171>. The application is now available for students who will be enrolled in a postsecondary program in Fall 2017. **The first application deadline is June 15.**

If you have any questions or would like more information about the scholarships or the Horatio Alger Association, email Enrique Ramirez at eramirez@horatioalger.org.

Lesson Plan: "Greater Good by Joining Forces"



Don't miss this opportunity for students to get connected to SkillsUSA. The *SkillsUSA Champions* magazine brings to life stories from fellow members from across the nation. Have students read the Summer 2017 issue's "Greater Good by Joining Forces" as homework or during class individually, in small groups or aloud as an entire class. Then quickly discuss the article.

Finally, use the discussion questions to help students apply the article to their own SkillsUSA experience. Activities are provided for practice and extended learning. Enjoy the connectivity with the magazine, but most of all, enjoy the integral linkage that SkillsUSA creates to your classroom. The full lesson plan is below for easy access, and here is a quick link to the article:

http://read.nxtbook.com/mercury/skillsusa/champions_summer_2017/index.html#greater_good_by_joining_force

Content Discussion Questions

1. What led to the collaboration between the two SkillsUSA chapters?
2. What groups does your chapter collaborate with?
3. What does the community know about your chapter? What do you want the community to know about your chapter?
4. Why should chapters enter SkillsUSA's Chapter Excellence Program (CEP)?

In-Class Activity, 7 minutes

Workplace Skills: Teamwork, Work collaboratively with my peers, classmates and co-workers

Materials needed: Puzzles as described below (one per group of three students) and envelope (one per group of three students)

Prior to the session, create puzzles using the fronts of cereal boxes. Cut each front panel into 20 roughly even squares. Then put 18 pieces of the puzzle into an envelope together. Put the other two pieces into envelopes with pieces from different cereal puzzles. Each envelope should contain a total of 20 pieces. If cereal boxes cannot be obtained, you may print out images of cereal boxes on cardstock paper to create the puzzle. There may be several puzzles of the same kind.

Divide students into groups of 3. Give each group an envelope containing pieces to 1 puzzle. Give these instructions:

1. Each group has an envelope containing pieces to a cereal-box puzzle.
2. You have three minutes to put the puzzle together.
3. What questions are there? (Pause)
4. Open your envelopes!

Monitor students' work. Groups will discover that they cannot complete their puzzle because they are missing two pieces. Groups will have to find a way to work together to solve the problem. After three minutes, help groups finish if they still need help.

Facilitate a discussion by asking questions including:

- How did your group succeed in this challenge?
- When must you collaborate with others to be successful in school? In SkillsUSA? In the workplace?
- How do you help others succeed at home? In school? In SkillsUSA? In the workplace?

Extended Learning Activity

Workplace Skills: Planning, Organization and Management, Identify resources and standards for completing projects. Use "CEP mini lessons" at www.skillsusa.org/programs/chapter-excellence-program/ to help guide students and chapter leaders through the Chapter Excellence Program award application. Students will brainstorm activities, create goals, make plans and implement and evaluate activities.

Have Fun at NLSC as an Alumni Volunteer

We are seeking dedicated individuals to assist with the National Leadership and Skills Conference. Alumni who volunteer daily at NLSC may have their conference registration fees waived. See the full online application below for details. Alumni help is needed on the booth team, leadership team, championships team, special services team and community service activities. While at conference, alumni volunteers will also have the opportunity to network with partners, members, staff and other alumni, along with participating in events. This is a great way for alumni members to be involved and to "Stay Connected to SkillsUSA." The registration deadline to be an alumni volunteer is May 15. Sign up to be a volunteer at: <https://w3.smartreg.com/webreg/SKILLSUSA17/>

NLSC Community Service Projects Give Back to Louisville

SkillsUSA is excited to partner with Lowe's, GE Appliances Inc., Paradise Tomato Kitchens and UPS Aviation Inc. for this year's community service projects on Friday, June 23, during the National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC). SkillsUSA students will have an opportunity to apply their skills in providing much-needed services to the greater Louisville community.

The day will start with a "kickoff" event at 7:30 a.m. in South Wing C Lobby of the Kentucky Exposition Center. The process for registering students to participate in community service will be similar to last year. As students are registered for national conference, there will be a box to check and sign up for the service event. Students will be assigned to one of the locations listed below. It is very important to not register students for community service who will serve as delegates or who have contest debriefings on Friday morning. The list of Friday contest debriefings is posted on the conference management site. See the screen shot below:

We are still finalizing the locations. Here is the list so far:

- 🚧 **Brightside:** Volunteers will assist in planting trees and shrubs to help make Louisville a sustainable city. Brightside works to unite people in clean and green activities to beautify the city and foster community pride.
- 🚧 **Falls City Bike Works:** Volunteers will assist in refurbishing old bicycles and scrapping others for parts.
- 🚧 **Charlestown State Park:** Volunteers will participate in removing debris from flower beds, trails and public areas, weeding and mulching of flower beds and cleaning up trails.
- 🚧 **New Albany Floyd County Habitat for Humanity:** The project is framing a house. Volunteers will be carrying preassembled wall panels and placing them in their correct position on the house foundation while core crew volunteers will be attaching them to the foundation.
- 🚧 **Louisville Grows:** Volunteers will be assisting to build a rain garden on the property and planting vegetables and flowers.
- 🚧 **Shelby Park Neighborhood Association:** Volunteers will participate in the beautification of the city park by applying mulch, removing weeds, cleaning litter and painting.
- 🚧 **Louisville Metro Parks:** Volunteers will participate in the beautification of city parks by applying mulch, removing weeds and possibly painting and cleaning at community centers.
- 🚧 **Youth Build:** Volunteers will participate in street cleanup and landscaping on the Youth Build campus in the rain garden, vegetable garden and in the outdoor learning classroom.

If you have any questions, contact Barbi Zimmerman at BZimmerman@skillsusa.org.

Act Now: Horatio Alger National Career and Technical Scholarship Program

High-school graduates who are currently or soon pursuing postsecondary CTE studies may be eligible for up to \$2,500 to pursue a career or technical certificate/associate's degree. By completing a simple 45-minute application, they will be considered for one of 1,020 scholarships being awarded in 2017.

Act now to take advantage of support for your CTE pursuit. The educational program must result in a certification, credential or associate's degree. For more information or to apply, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/gmwm171>. The application is now available for students who will be enrolled in a postsecondary program in Fall 2017. The first application deadline is **June 15**.



If you have any questions or would like more information about the scholarships or the Horatio Alger Association, email Enrique Ramirez at eramirez@horatioalger.org.

CTE grant opportunities

Virginia ACTE proudly announces two separate grant opportunities for Career and Technical Education teachers. This is an opportunity to give back to our CTE teachers and recognize the work of our dedicated professionals.

Criteria and application information are available on the Virginia ACTE website, http://virginiaacte.org/awards_grants.html

The grants include:

- [Building Awareness Campaign Grants](#)

Virginia ACTE is providing two \$500 grants to CTE teachers for the development of an awareness campaign for parents, stakeholders, and/or policymakers about their class, department, school, or school division's CTE programs or career pathways.

- [Teacher Licensure Reimbursement Grants](#)

Virginia ACTE is providing five reimbursement grants to assist CTE teachers with the cost of the Praxis licensure assessment. Grants will be awarded to five licensed teachers, including career switchers, who have accepted employment as CTE teachers and who have passed, within the past six months, or are scheduled to take the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators assessment. Successful CTE teachers may apply for reimbursement of the Praxis assessment not to exceed \$120 by completing the application below and providing supporting documents. The grant also includes one year of free membership in Virginia ACTE, which includes services and resources provided by the association.

Issues and Solutions Update. Virginia ACTE is working on the 2017-2018 policy updates referred to as the Issues and Solutions for CTE. The current document is on the Virginia ACTE website, http://virginiaacte.org/public_policy.html and your input is needed for updates, revisions, and recommendations. Should Virginia ACTE change the current five policy statements? Are there additional pressing concerns which Virginia ACTE should address? **Please provide your input by May 20.**

Since this is an election year for the Virginia House of Delegates, Governor, Lt. Governor, and Attorney General, Career and Technical Education has a great opportunity to showcase initiatives which enhance and expand career access for students and adults. Thank you for your support of Career and Technical Education and especially Virginia ACTE

SkillsUSA technical and employability assessments (new pricing)

We are pleased to continue to offer more than 40 technical and employability assessments to state directors and their schools. We have worked hard to keep the content of the assessments current while keeping the price low. In order to keep up with the costs of producing and maintaining these quality assessments, we have found it necessary to implement a modest price increase. Beginning August 1, the new cost will be \$22 per assessment. The discounted SkillsUSA membership price will increase to \$12. Schools are offered one discounted assessment for each member registered with SkillsUSA in the previous school year.



Time to Nominate Outstanding VATIE Members

Please take a moment in your busy schedule to nominate a worthy teacher/administrator for awards recognition at our conference this summer. We all work with so many outstanding people we need to recognize them. **Deadline for nominations is June 2, 2017.**

Please complete the form for the following:

http://www.vatie.org/award_nominations.html

1. Career & Technical Teacher of the Year
2. Outstanding New Career & Technical Teacher
3. Roger Johnson Lifetime Achievement Award
4. Outstanding Career & Technical Educator



VATIE Summer Professional Development Conference - Registration

Teachers, Advisors and Administrator, VATIE is your Professional Organization for Trade and Industry Educators. The VATIE summer conference is full of college credited classes, OSHA training, Manufacturing Skills Institute MT1 training, Cybersecurity Training, Curriculum updates, workshops, networking and much more. Come join us in Norfolk this summer, July 26 – 28, 2017 at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott, 235 E Main St, Norfolk, VA 23510.

Registration is now open for the 2017 Virginia Association of Trade and Industrial Educators (VATIE) Professional Development Conference. Early conference registrations entered before July 1 is \$290 for members and \$330 for non-members. Registrations entered after July 1 will be \$365.

<https://vatie.wufoo.com/forms/znprn7314vjrmpl/>



Give some back to SkillsUSA Virginia

The next time you visit Amazon, start with www.smile.amazon.com Select **SkillsUSA Virginia** as your charity. Each purchase you can help us to grow our program. Please share this information with your school, community and family. Thank you for your support.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-6064988>



Important Dates

May 7-13	SkillsUSA Week of Service
June 19-24	National Leadership & Skills Conference, Louisville, Kentucky
July 26-28	VATIE in Norfolk, Va.

Deadlines & Due Dates

May 8	NLSC Hotel reservation Traveltyme.com
May 19	NLSC Registration deadline
May 26	mikerowe Scholarship due
May 26	Bats Baseball ticket order due
May 31	NLSC Hotel final payment
June 1	NLSC Registration Payment due
June 2	VATIE Awards nominations due
July 1	VATIE Summer Conference deadline



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