



NEWS RELEASE

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NEBRASKA FCCLA MEMBERS RECOGNIZED WITH SUCCESS AT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) brought more than 7,500 of its student leaders, members and advisers to Nashville, Tennessee July 2nd-6th to participate in its National Leadership Conference. Nebraska was well represented by more than 250 students, advisers, and guests.

The conference provided opportunities for students and advisers to come together to learn about new initiatives in the organization, hear from inspiring speakers, as well as to expand leadership skills, sharpen talents and explore career pathways. The theme of this year's conference was "Unlimited Possibilities" and attendees were challenged to discover and grow their potential to make change in their local communities, schools, and families.

The FCCLA Leadership Academy develops leadership, employability, and 21st Century skills and gives members the opportunity to be recognized for their personal growth efforts. Through the program, members are given the opportunity to explore and practice essentials for the roles of family member, wage earner and community leader. The eight members of the Nebraska FCCLA State Officer Team participated in the Leadership Academy.

In addition to the many learning and networking experiences offered at the conference, more than 30 Family and Consumer Sciences related events, also known as STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) Events were offered, providing competitions in such areas as Culinary Arts, Entrepreneurship, Sports Nutrition, Career Investigation, and Fashion Construction for more than 5,000 event participants.

Nebraska came home with 94 Gold medals, 37 Silver Medals, and 10 Bronze medals and had multiple individuals and teams score in the top 10 nationally. Colton Kraft from Waverly High School, received 3rd place in Interior Design earning a \$1,00 Scholarship from the Art Institute. This scholarship was presented during a special STAR Event Scholarship session hosted by FCCLA.

Nebraska members brought home 48 Top Ten award winning events. The Top Ten award winners are:

First Place

- Andrea Jackson, Franklin – Chapter Service Project Display, Gold
- Emma Bixler, Neligh-Oakdale – Environmental Ambassador, Gold
- Adrianna Vinton, Mullen – Environmental Ambassador, Gold
- Brooke Ehlers, Mary Walnofer, Chambers – Food Innovations, Gold
- Callie Carraher, Sydney Schildt, Madeline Wittstruck, Interpersonal Communications, Gold
- Taylee Neefe, Hemingford – Job Interview, Gold
- Robyn Isom, O'Neill – Leadership, Gold
- Caitlin Murphy, Exeter-Milligan – Life Event Planning, Gold
- Hayley Vitosh, Chase County – Sports Nutrition, Gold
- Tessa Metschke, Chambers – Teach and Train, Gold

Second Place

- Claire Harrison, Franklin – Chapter in Review Display, Gold
- Sheldon Johnson, Medicine Valley – Chapter Service Project Portfolio, Gold
- Sabra Schmidt, Medicine Valley – Digital Stories for Change, Silver
- Allison Becker, Allison Ludwig, Emily Morrow – Digital Stories for Change, Gold
- Jillian Karl, Whitney Parker, Tara Stelling – Food Innovations, Gold
- Mia Kegley, Kearney – Job Interview, Gold

Third Place

- Audrey Worthing, Elm Creek – Career Investigation, Gold
- Colton Kraft, Waverly – Interior Design, Gold
- Jordan Bidwell, Overton – Leadership, Gold
- Jordan Wilbur, Madison Yelken, Franklin – Promote and Publicize FCCLA!, Gold
- Alexis Richmond, Chase County – Sports Nutrition, Gold

Fourth Place

- Whitney Bauer, Morgan Sindt, Elm Creek – Focus on Children, Gold
- Medicine Valley Knowledge Bowl Team

Fifth Place (no 5th place event winners)

Sixth Place

- Julia Bauer, Blair Langan, Haley Schmeichel, O'Neill – Advocacy, Gold
- Rebecca Hiatt, Alyssa Ludwig, Kelli Mashino, West Boyd – Chapter in Review Portfolio, Gold
- Logan Burke, Hope Stone, Medicine Valley – FCCLA Chapter Website, Gold
- Kelsey Reiman, Rhiannon Smalley, West Boyd – Interior Design, Gold
- Calyn Mowinkel, Milford – Recycle Redesign, Gold

Seventh Place

- Simon Beacom, Neligh-Oakdale – Advocacy, Gold
- Payton Birkel, Emma Krysl, O'Neill – FCCLA Chapter Website, Gold
- Kassidy Grosserode, Nicasia Grosserode, Neligh-Oakdale – Focus on Children, Gold
- Valerie Perez, Karen Ruiz, Perkins County – Hospitality, Tourism & Recreation, Gold
- Taylor Nielsen, Wavery – Teach and Train, Gold

Eighth Place

- Andrew Hale, Kearney – Fashion Construction, Gold
- Destiny Henne, Kearney – FCCLA Chapter Website, Gold
- Tyra Reardon, St. Edward – Food Innovations, Gold
- Lauren Osborne, O'Neill – Illustrated Talk, Gold
- Kyler Horn, Brady – Recycle Redesign, Gold
- Lydia Haselhorst, Randolph – Teach and Train, Gold

Ninth Place

- Ryann Lewis, Cambridge – Applied Math for Culinary Management, Bronze
- Ellery Simpson, Maxwell – Career Investigation, Gold
- Ali Cottrell, Korinne Hansen Hannah Schultz, Medicine Valley – Chapter in Review Display, Gold
- Shaeleigh Fletcher, Zoe Francescato, Zaylie Pelland, Maxwell – Chapter Service Project Display, Gold
- Sydney Atkinson, Emma Stahlecker, West Boyd – Chapter Service Project Portfolio, Gold
- Paxton Bertrand, Will Whited, Humphrey – Environmental Ambassador – Silver
- Truman Lauck, Carolyn Nagengast, Bloomfield Hospitality, Tourism & Recreation – Gold
- Emily Mann, Brady – Recycle Redesign, Gold

Tenth Place

- Rashell Neefe, Hemingford – Chapter Service Project Display, Gold

Other national award winners included:

FACTS (Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety) \$500 National Program Award

Runner-up: Howells-Dodge FCCLA Chapter

Say Yes to FCS National Signing Day Recognition:

- Tia Smith, Neligh-Oakdale (Family & Consumer Science Education Major)

National FCCLA Media Team:

- Lauren Osborne, O'Neill (photographer)

Raye Virginia Allen State President's Scholarship

- Adrianna Vinton – Mullen; former Nebraska FCCLA State President

Chipotle Mexican Grill Scholarship:

- Dylan Lase – West Point Beemer

Japanese Exchange Scholarship:

- Josselyn Vazquez-Catalan – Wakefield

Spirit of Advising:

- Michelle Galles, Wakefield

Master Adviser:

- Kristin Vest, Kearney

About FCCLA

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a dynamic and effective career and technical student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education. FCCLA has more than 164,000 members and more than 5,300 chapters from 49 state associations, in addition to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

FCCLA: The Ultimate Leadership Experience is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members, and it's the only career and technical in-school student organization with a central focus on careers that support

families. Participation in national FCCLA programs and chapter activities helps members become strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities.

Nebraska FCCLA is supported through the Nebraska Center for Student Leadership and Extended Learning at the Nebraska Department of Education.

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