

**NEWS RELEASE**

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July 30, 2018

**NEBRASKA STUDENTS ATTEND SKILLSUSA NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND SKILLS COMPETITION**

Students and advisors from around the country, including 255 from Nebraska, attended the 54th National Leadership and Skills Conference, sponsored by SkillsUSA, June 25 - 29 in Louisville, KY. More than 6,500 students, from 52 states and territories, competed in 102 occupational and leadership skill areas during the SkillsUSA Championships June 26 - 28. SkillsUSA programs help to establish industry standards for job skill training in the classroom. Nebraska came home with 17 medallions and 91 Skill Point Certificates, representing completion of required skill competencies in their respective competition. Nebraska students placed in the Top 10 in 42 competitions.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry representatives working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce and helps each student to excel. SkillsUSA is a national student organization that serves trade, industrial, technical, and health occupation students in high schools and college/technical schools. The career and technical student organization provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship, and character development while building and reinforcing self-confidence, work attitudes, and communication skills. The association emphasizes total quality at work, high ethical standards, superior work skills, life-long education, and pride in the dignity of work. SkillsUSA also promotes understanding of the free enterprise system and involvement in community service activities.

**Voting Delegates for Nebraska**

High School – Clayton Riley and Evan Riley of Waverly High School

**Nebraska Top Ten Award Winners are:**

**1st Place – Gold medalists**

* Additive Manufacturing – College/Technical Division

Alexander Kemnitz and Adolfo Vargas

Central Community College, Hastings – Troy Davis, advisor

* Broadcast News Production – College/Technical Division

Kaylee Dankert, Henry Hagge, Dustin Stortzum, Dustin Van Zee

Northeast Community College, Norfolk – Brian Anderson, advisor

* Motorcycle Service Technology – High School Division

Hayden Sedlak

Plattsmouth High School – Andy Christensen, advisor

* Firefighting Technology – College/Technical Division

Josh Forrest

Southeast Community College, Lincoln – Greg Burroughs, advisor

* Job Skill Demonstration OPEN – Middle School Division

Madison Melcher

Unified School District #1, Clearwater/Orchard – Bob Evans, advisor

**2nd Place – Silver medalists**

* Collision Repair Technology – College/Technical Division

Kyle Ray

Metropolitan Community College, Omaha – Joe Baker, advisor

* Internetworking – College/Technical Division

Jesse Wiseman

Northeast Community College, Norfolk – Brian Anderson, advisor

* Prepared Speech - High School Division

Miranda Hornung

Raymond Central High School, Raymond – Pat Harrington, advisor

* Cabinetmaking – High School Division

Tyler McLaughlin

Yutan High School, Yutan – Dan Krajicek, advisor

**3rd Place – Bronze medalists**

* Industrial Motor Control – College/Technical

Gene Kumm

Northeast Community College, Norfolk – Tony Hoffman, advisor

* Robotics: Urban Search and Rescue – College/Technical Division Calvin Craig & Cody Greenwood

Northeast Community College, Norfolk – Richard Chrisman, advisor

* Welding Technology – College/Technical Division

Leah Reichwaldt

Metropolitan Community College, Omaha – Chris Beaty, advisor

**4th Place**

* TV/Video Production – College Technical Division

Jamison Denton-Carter & Ulises Orozco

Metropolitan Community College, Omaha – Bob Maass, advisor

* Medical Math – High School Division

Sarah Altman

Papillion-LaVista High School, Papillion– Scott Kneifl, advisor

* Web Design – High School Division

Austin Dobrusky & Christopher Galusha

Seward High School, Seward – Kurt Holliday, advisor

* Team Engineering Challenge – Middle School Division

Cayden Huber, Traven Virus & Treyton Waldmeier

Thayer Central High School, Hebron – Louie Keim, advisor

**5th Place**

* Plumbing – College/Technical Division

Chandler Cannon

Metropolitan Community College, Omaha – Pat Leddy, advisor

* Opening and Closing Ceremonies - High School Division

Rebecca Ady, Jestynne Crankshaw, Carli Fudge, Mia Hilber-Hansmeier, Sarah Phares, Korissa Runyan & Kainin Wilson

North Platte High School, North Platte – Diane Livingston, advisor

* Audio-Radio Production – College/Technical Division

Landen Scheffler & Noah Wilcox

Northeast Community College, Norfolk – Brian Anderson, advisor

* Robotics: Urban Search and Rescue – High School Division

Collin Kotz & Dylan Raney

Papillion-LaVista High School, Papillion – Scott Kneifl, advisor

* Career Pathways: Natural Resources – High School Division

Rieley Kowalski, Erica Riley & Jenifer Velazquez-Perfecto

The Career Academy, Lincoln – Tom Wheeldon, advisor

* Carpentry – College/Technical Division

Ryan Essink

Wayne State College, Wayne – Greg VanderWeil, advisor

* Job Interview – High School Division

Lexa Rauert

York High School, York – Jason Hirschfeld, advisor

**6th Place**

* TeamWorks – College/Technical Division

Dakota Francis, Keenan Lienemann, Pedro Nunez & Jerrod Puncochar

Central Community College, Hastings – Keith Dubas, advisor

* Mechatronics - High School Division

Joseph Massman & Dylan Smith

Columbus High School, Columbus – Tracy Dodson, advisor

* Welding Fabrication – College/Technical Division

Andrew Lempke, Daniel Levy & Austin Points

Metropolitan Community College, Omaha – Chris Beaty, advisor

**7th Place**

* Engineering Technology/Design – High School Division

Jacob Maguire, Jack Rollin & Nolan Stengel

Papillion-LaVista High School, Papillion – Scott Kneifl, advisor

* Medical Assisting – High School Division

Cordell Vrbka

Seward High School, Seward – Kurt Holliday, advisor

* Commercial Baking – College/Technical Division

Cassie Belling

Southeast Community College, Lincoln – Robert Epps, advisor

**8th Place**

* Mechatronics – College/Technical Division

Joey Nyfleler & Robert Simon

Metropolitan Community College, Omaha – Geoff Horjes, advisor

* Electrical Construction Wiring – College/Technical Division

Drew Eskins

Northeast Community College, Norfolk – Tony Hoffman, advisor

* Sheet Metal – College/Technical Division

Austin Zoucha

Northeast Community College, Norfolk – Paul Bailey, advisor

* Carpentry – High School Division

Zachary Lagasse

The Career Academy, Lincoln – Loran Stara, advisor

* Culinary Arts – High School Division

Hanna Christiansen

The Career Academy, Lincoln – Maybell Galusha, advisor

**9th Place**

* Digital Cinema Production – College/Technical Division

Jenn Harris & Kara Schmoeller

Metropolitan Community College, Omaha – Bob Maass, advisor

* Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning – College/Technical Division

Tyler Kudlacek

Metropolitan Community College, Omaha – Robert Nirenberg, advisor

* Nurse Assisting – High School Division

Tori Ostrand

Bancroft-Rosalie High School, Bancroft – Linda Munderloh, advisor

* Motorcycle Service Technology – College/Technical Division

Jesse Worrell

Southeast Community College, Lincoln – Terry Kuebler, advisor

**10th Place**

* Automotive Service Technology – College/Technical Division

Joseph Stellato

Northeast Community College, Norfolk – Bowdie Otte, advisor

* Computer Programming – College/Technical Division

Patrick Kosmacek

Northeast Community College, Norfolk – Richard Chrisman, advisor

* Career Pathways: Business, Management & Tech – High School Division

Dam Bolt, Morgan Haner & Ben Hier

Sterling High School, Sterling – Chris Salberg, advisor

* Job Skill Demonstration A – High School Division

Fatima Ayal

The Career Academy, Lincoln – Loran Stara, advisor

Complete results can be found at the SkillsUSA website.

<http://www.skillsusa.org/competitions/skillsusa-championships/results/>

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