



SkillsUSA Texas Newsletter April 2023

Greetings from SkillsUSA Texas,

We appreciate all your hard work at the State Conference, and your service to the students continues to be top-notch. We surpassed last year's numbers, and we hope to continue that trend moving into next year.

Several things may have changed in the last 30 days, but one thing continues to stay constant: the state office is here to support and is dedicated to serving its members and stakeholders. Your feedback is vital to help support understanding and improvement in all areas of SkillsUSA Texas. We are here for you!

Thank you for being so dedicated to SkillsUSA Texas!
Crystal Latham Alford
Interim Executive Director

State Conference Scores are Posted

Thank you for a great conference! Congratulations to all the Champions. State Contest results are posted. You will need a contestant's number and birthday to pull up the score cards. <https://www.skillsusa.org/competitions/skillsusa-championships/results/>

The awards powerpoint and the top 3 pdf are also posted on our website:

<https://skillsusatx.org/events/state-leadership-and-skills-conference/>

NLSC Updates

A recording of the townhall is posted on our website as well as a PDF of the powerpoint. <https://skillsusatx.org/news/> Please take a look there is ALOT of information here. There is a contest packet also posted with details that are important to be prepared as advisors and students. Deadlines for registration and costs are there. Please plan on limited shuttle availability so rent a vehicle now and buy the multi day parking pass for the GWCC. There will be parking available at the Sheraton but it is not unlimited. If you want to **preorder** cowboy hats or bags of pins you can do that before April 19th. Keep checking back for updates as we get more information from the national office.

<https://skillsusatx.org/events/national-leadership-and-skills-conference/>

If you want to per

Nominate a Student Facilitator for National Training

SkillsUSA is bringing up a new generation of facilitators and we want your student programming facilitators to be a part of it! SkillsUSA will hold a national facilitator training event in Denver, Colo., May 19-21. We encourage nominations of an outgoing state officer, an alumni member or others who facilitate student programming to attend. Facilitators will learn to articulate what SkillsUSA is, the organization's philosophies and

how it impacts education programs and to identify and apply instruction and formal assessment strategies to create permanent behavior change in program attendees. To nominate someone to attend please email crystal@skillsusatx.org

National Week of Service May 7-13

SkillsUSA is asking all chapters to conduct and promote a community service project during the [National Week of Service](#), May 7-13. This helps commemorate the founding of SkillsUSA on May 8, 1965. For questions, contact [Gayle Silvey](#).

SkillsUSA National Signing Day May 4

Celebrate high school seniors who have chosen to pursue careers as professionals in the skilled trades. Register by April 21.

Advisors, the Signing Day Toolkit will help you plan an event, and it is available now on the [Signing Day](#) webpage (under the "Links and Downloads" section).

Seeking Musical Talent to Perform National Anthem at NLSC

Do you know someone who has a musical gift to share with the SkillsUSA community? We're looking for individuals who would like to perform the national anthem at the opening session of the NLSC in June. The chosen performer will be offered complimentary conference registration if their sole purpose of attendance is to perform the national anthem. Applications are due by 5 p.m. ET on Friday, April 28. For questions, contact [Joey Baker](#).

Student Scholarships Available for SkillsUSA Activate and Leverage

The [SkillsUSA Leadership Development Scholarship](#) provides financial support for top students to participate in SkillsUSA's Activate and Leverage leadership trainings to be held in Atlanta, June 17-19 prior to NLSC. The scholarships are funded by former SkillsUSA board president and Caterpillar executive Robert L. Flint. Contact [Crystal](#) for more information. Deadline is May 5.

Focus Students on Safety

The CareerSafe National Youth Safety Video Contest challenges students to create a two-minute video demonstrating workplace safety. The winning students will receive a SkillsUSA prize pack and a scholarship of up to \$2,500, and the winning school will receive a prize of up to \$5,000. For more information and to submit your entry, [visit the CareerSafe website](#).

The SkillsUSA Awards Store

Graduation season is just around the corner and the SkillsUSA Store has you covered. Don't miss the opportunity to celebrate the hard work and achievements of your SkillsUSA members. Shop for SkillsUSA graduation honor cords, tassels and stoles in our dedicated [Graduation Regalia](#) category. The store offers many items that are wonderful graduation gifts, too.

NLSC 2023 Courtesy Corps Members Needed

SkillsUSA needs 120 or more National Courtesy Corps (NCC) members to support the 2023 National Leadership & Skills Conference. This much-appreciated group supports the technical committees and the overall conference experience, and it's a great way for students to network with industry partners and SkillsUSA students from across the nation. NCC members receive free registration plus housing, local transportation, meals and entertainment. NCC participants are housed at the Georgia Tech Woodruff North Residence Hall in Atlanta. For eligibility requirements, visit the [National Courtesy Corps](#) web page. For questions, contact [Tracy Whitehead](#). The deadline for [nominations](#) is May 16. State directors will receive a

Texas Regulations

The latest version for 2022-2023 is posted on our [website](#). Please read it carefully and discard any previous versions. Check for updates regularly.

Absorb

Any paid professional member has access to the National standards through this site. Call Customer care if you need help: 844-875-4557

Next Townhall Meeting

**Thurs, Apr 6, 2023 at 5:30PM
Central**

Deatails about Summer, NLSC and looking ahead to TIVA and WLTI.

[Click here](#) to register in advance for this zoom meeting. Recordings of these meetings will be posted on our website.

Summer Leadership

We are headed to Mo Ranch in June. Please check out the website for details and start planning your travel now. Each district is invited to bring 7 officers and 2 alternates, 4 advisors along with the state officers and national officer candidates.

4 days of training and team building with lots of laughter and fireside chats. Pricing is posted and registration is open now. www.skillsusa-register.org

We hope to see you there!

<https://skillsusatx.org/events/skillsusa-texas-summer-leadership-conference/>

TIVA

2023 Summer Conference.

Registration is open now!

<https://www.acteonline.org/tiva/conference/>

**Omni Fort Worth
July 16-21, 2023**

WLTI

Plans are starting to develop so keep checking back! Washington DC - mark your calendars and start planning now.

Sept. 23-27, 2023

2023 NLSC Travel Scholarship: Harbor Freight Tools for Schools

SkillsUSA high school members in the construction pathways competing at the 2023 National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) in specific construction or leadership contests.

Eligible members can apply to receive up to \$1,500 to assist in attending the 2023 NLSC. Recipients of scholarship funds must agree to use the funds for reasonable and appropriate travel costs to and from, lodging for, and registration for the 2023 NLSC, as described in the online application. Applications will be accepted from March 15 – May 22, 2023.

[Apply here](#)

Apply for the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence

Applications are now open for the [Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence](#) awards. The prize recognizes outstanding instruction in the skilled trades in U.S. public high schools and the teachers who inspire students to learn skills to prepare for life after graduation. In 2023, Harbor Freight will award more than \$1.5 million in cash prizes to 25 skilled trades teachers and their programs. In 2022, the prize recognized 12 SkillsUSA instructors as winners. Applications must be received by May 5. Winners will be announced in October.

Scholarship Opportunities

The Horatio Alger Association is offering 500 career and technical education scholarships of up to \$2,500 each to students who've overcome obstacles and wish to pursue further career and technical education at an accredited, nonprofit college/postsecondary institution. The deadline to apply is June 15. Scholarships are awarded on a rolling basis

throughout the spring and summer. [Visit their website](#) for full information and to apply.

Join the Career Z Challenge

The U.S. Department of Education has launched a new [Career Z Challenge](#). This multi-phase competition is designed to expand high school student access to high quality work-based learning (WBL) to prepare them to contribute to today's workforce and propel them into careers of the future. The Career Z Challenge supports the [Raise the Bar: Unlocking Career Success](#) initiative. Semifinalists and finalists are eligible to receive targeted technical assistance, including professional development support, webinars and training, participation in a community of practice (CoP) as well as a portion of a \$2.5 million prize pool. Learn more on the [Career Z Challenge website](#).

Register Now for the "Your Place in Space Challenge"

The U.S. Department of Education has launched a [Your Place in Space Challenge](#). This is the first challenge in [CTE Momentum](#), an annual series to prepare high school students for rewarding careers. The "Your Place in Space Challenge" invites high schools to submit designs for a product or service that will contribute to space missions and exploration. Up to 10 winners will receive at least \$5,000 each! Learn more about the challenge [on the website](#).

SkillsUSA Texas Board of Directors

Congratulations Nathan Van Ryn and Danna Farmer on your election to the Texas board of directors! Thank you to all that voted. The next board meeting will be on April 22nd.

Your Texas Board of Directors Chair is [Victor Ramirez](#). Please reach out to him, he would love to hear from our membership!

Crystal Latham Alford

Interim Executive Director
District 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
903-887-4013 Ext 1
crystal@skillsusatx.org

Amy Baxmann

Sr Director of Operations and Finance
District 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
903-887-4013 Ext 3
amy@skillsusatx.org

