



## SkillsUSA Texas Newsletter July 2023

### Greetings to SkillsUSA Texas,

I hope you're doing well and enjoying the final days of summer before the start of the 2023-2024 school year. The end of summer brings with it a unique blend of emotions. While bidding farewell to the lazy days and carefree vibes of summer may seem bittersweet, there's an undeniable sense of anticipation for what lies ahead. It's a time of new beginnings, fresh perspectives, and a chance to embrace the wonders of the upcoming school year!

I am thrilled to announce that our team has grown stronger with the addition of some remarkable new employees. We have three new staff members and a great group of new and returning district coordinators. As we move through the upcoming organizational changes, please know that our vision remains the same: to serve our members with the utmost customer service and resources to make their chapters successful. Next month's newsletter and emails will include more information about the new changes and employees.

Together, we can make the most of this transition and continue to create amazing moments in the upcoming SkillsUSA Texas year. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the state office.

SkillsUSA Texas Strong!  
Crystal Latham-Alford, Executive Director

### New Theme Released

The theme for 2023-2024 SkillsUSA was announced at NLSC. The topic to be addressed by contestants in the 2024 SkillsUSA Chapter Display, Prepared Speech and Promotional Bulletin Board competitions is our theme, "SkillsUSA: No Limits."

## UPDATED MISSION STATEMENT



SkillsUSA is America's proud champion of the skilled trades. Our MISSION is to EMPOWER students to become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders and responsible community members.

## NLSC Updates

205 Texas students competed and did amazing at NLSC. Check our social media for pictures and updates. Congratulations!

16 - GOLD MEDALS

29 - SILVER MEDALS

26 - BRONZE MEDALS

82 students placed in the top 10; over 75% of our competitors.

## Welcome New Office Staff

- Regional Manager I - Eddy Parker
- Regional Manager II - Darlene Mills
- Executive Administrative Assistant - Stephanie Evans

## 2023-2024 State Officer Team



President: Jana Kawasmi  
Vice President: Audrie Sargent  
Secretary: Braylen Perkins  
Treasurer: Melissa Alfaro-Zeledon  
Reporter: Siri Paruchuri  
Parliamentarian: Gavin Treadway  
Historian: Gustavo Flores

## District Coordinators Announced

Welcome to a new year, we can't wait to get started!

D1: [district1@skillsusatx.org](mailto:district1@skillsusatx.org)  
D2: Raymond Bannert. [district2@skillsusatx.org](mailto:district2@skillsusatx.org)  
D3: Brandon Grace, [distrit3@skillsusatx.org](mailto:distrit3@skillsusatx.org)  
D4: Derick Simpson, [district4@skillsusatx.org](mailto:district4@skillsusatx.org)  
D5: Emily Downing, [district5@skillsusatx.org](mailto:district5@skillsusatx.org)  
D6: Sheila Hyde, [district6@skillsusatx.org](mailto:district6@skillsusatx.org)  
D7: Andi Pope, [district7@skillsusatx.org](mailto:district7@skillsusatx.org)  
D8: [district8@skillsusatx.org](mailto:district8@skillsusatx.org)





**Plans are starting to develop! Washington DC trip and Texas Tours-mark your calendars and start planning now.**

The WLTW Scholarship application and tentative schedule are posted on our website:

<https://skillsusatx.org/events/washington-leadership-training-institute/>

Registration will open in August, dates TBD. Check back for updates!

**Sept. 23-27, 2023**

**Estimated cost:**

4 night WLTW Only Sept 23-27  
(Hotel, 8 meals Included)  
Single \$1,605.08  
Double: \$1,177.54  
Triple: \$1,035.03  
Quad: \$963.77

**Estimated cost:**

6 night WLTW & TX Tours Sept 21-27  
(Hotel, 13 meals Included)  
Single \$2,322.62  
Double: \$1,681.31  
Triple: \$1,467.54  
Quad: \$1,360.66

**SkillsUSA Texas Board of Directors**

Please mark your calendars; the next board meeting will be on **July 15, 2023**. The meeting will be held at the *Omni Fort Worth, 1300 Houston Street*. It will begin at 8:30 am. Your Texas Board of Directors Chair is **[Victor Ramirez](#)**. Please reach out to him. He would love to hear from our membership!

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Director of Operations  
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**Darlene Mills**  
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District Director 5,7,8,9,11  
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| SkillsUSA Texas



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