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April 14, 2017



State Director's Flash Report:

**Dear Advisors:**

With the Spring break week here, there is very little time to get all things done.

We don't like last minute changes to our contests but they do come up even with the best plans. I will be sending out a Friday Flash April 21, 2017 but it will have only the most important items that you will need to know before you arrive.

If it can wait, it will be given to you at the advisors meeting which will be held in the International building Wednesday following the opening ceremony. All advisors are required to attend.

Contest updates are very important for your student's success at this conference. We have had some clarification to the contests and one that was just posted was Welding Fabrication. Please review them:

**Know Your State Contest Standards and there updates**

**State Director Action Item**



There have been updates to contest standards from chairs and we continue to post these on the website. It is very important that you check these often so your students have the latest update on the contest.

**Please keep checking the [www.nysskillsusa.org](http://www.nysskillsusa.org) website for updates to the contest standards. There is a small symbol of NY next to the standard that indicates there are updates to that standard which will be at the end of the standard so please scroll all the way down to check.**

By Clicking the Conference tab on the home webpage you will find this link ([2017 SkillsUSA New York Leadership & Skills Championships](#)) which is the day by day agenda of the conference.



## State Conference: Due Dates

**Please Note:** With the registration site closed. **Please** contact Midge McCloskey if you have any changes.

Please contact your assigned hotel if you have any room changes

### Needed:

The Alumni association is need of persons that can help at our State Conference on Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup> and Thursday April 27<sup>th</sup>. The Alumni helps with Sales, Contest assistants and Judges. If you know of anyone that was a member and would like to help and be part of the Alumni, please have them contact Kevin Hoyt at [www.alumni@nysskillsusa.org](mailto:www.alumni@nysskillsusa.org)

### Contest Judges: NEEDED

**Please note: We are always in need of people willing to judge in many contests. Opening and Closing is looking for judges and if you are knowledgeable in this area and would like to judge please contact Lisa Romeiser at [www.lromeiser@aol.com](mailto:www.lromeiser@aol.com)**

Also: There is a need for **Table Service Judges**. Contact Ellen Coughlin if interested

**Please contact Ellen if you are interested in judging in any other contest.**

Ellen Coughlin at [www.coughlinsgotskills@gmail.com](mailto:www.coughlinsgotskills@gmail.com)

### Security Corps: Update

If you have students who are going to be part of the Security Corps you need to complete the application found on the Forms page of our website and e-mail it to David Foldi at [www.davidfoldi@wswhoboces.org](mailto:www.davidfoldi@wswhoboces.org) David needs this information to be able to send information back to you as to assignments.

### Contest Helpers: Update

The Contest Helper's responsibility is to "provide service to the Chairpersons" who are running the leadership and/or skills competitions during the conference.

Application for Contest Helper are due April 1, 2017 can be found on the website [www.nyskillsusa.org](http://www.nyskillsusa.org)

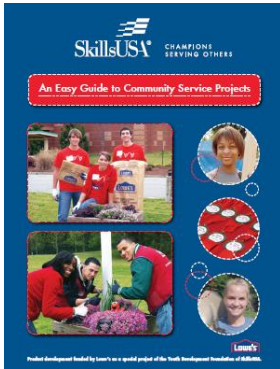
Under the Forms tab. Please e-mail this form to Ellen Coughlin at [www.coughlinsgotskills@gmail.com](mailto:www.coughlinsgotskills@gmail.com)

### NEW Photojournalist: Update

A New area to participate in is called Photojournalist. We are allowing each chapter to register 2 photographers to attend the state event. They will participate the same as Contest Helper and Security Corps with a chairperson

overseeing the students. If you have students who are going to be Photojournalist you must complete the application found on the website [www.nyskillsusa.org](http://www.nyskillsusa.org)

Under the Forms tab. Please e-mail this form to Ellen Coughlin at [www.coughlinsgotskills@gmail.com](mailto:www.coughlinsgotskills@gmail.com)



## NATIONALS Information:

### **Champions Serving Others Prepares Your Chapter for National Week of Service**

SkillsUSA chapters are invited to conduct or promote a community service project during the week of May 7-13. This will help commemorate the founding of SkillsUSA as well as harness the power of combined efforts to showcase the good work being done by student members. To help you plan and carry out this event, *Champions Serving Others: An Easy Guide to Community Service Projects* is designed to simplify the planning and executing of a community service project. It contains documents, templates and exercises that will help you identify and carry out your project in a timely and effective manner.

The guide is based on a four-step process: Getting Started, Planning and Preparation, Implementation, and Evaluation and Celebration. Below are two sample activities from the Getting Started process. Try these out with your students to get them involved in the process of planning a community service activity. For more activities, purchase this resource for \$9.95 by visiting: [www.skillsusa.org/store/CSO.html](http://www.skillsusa.org/store/CSO.html).

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](mailto:gsilvey@skillsusa.org). The first 50 chapters that report their plans will receive a free item.

#### **Retrieve It**

This activity will divide the students into three different groups. One group will identify benefits of community service to students; one group will identify the benefits of community service to advisors; and one group will identify the benefits of community service to the community. Using three different colors of cardstock, create enough cards for each student. One-third of the cards should have Benefits of Community Service to Students printed on them; one-third should have Benefits of Community Service to Advisors printed on them; and one-third should have Benefits of Community Service to the Community printed on them.

Scatter the cards throughout the room or a space that will allow the students to become physically active while looking for them. The cards should be partially hidden but still in view so students can find them. Give the following instructions: "When I say 'retrieve it,' each of you will stand up, search until you find a card, and gather with other students who also have your color card. When you are together, sit down and demonstrate silence. Who has a question? Retrieve it!"

When all groups are formed, proceed. Once the benefits of community service have been identified by the three groups, have them create a poster on flip-chart paper. Have each group report to the rest of the students and then post its paper identifying the results in the classroom.

#### **This or That**

This activity is a fun and interactive way to illustrate that students have different interests, leadership skills and preferences. For a project to be successful, students will want to work on something that is interesting to them. They will also want to achieve success. Conduct a student interest survey\* (see sample at the end of this document). Have a discussion with the students to compare the results of the survey. If time permits, you may want to conduct the This or That activity. You will give the students two choices. Based on their preference or interests, they will move to one side of the room or the opposite side. An example would be if you said those who prefer *red* move to the right side of the room, and those who prefer *blue* move to the left side of the room. Another example for practice might be students who prefer *tacos* move to the right side of the room and those who prefer *hamburgers* move to the left side of the room. (If the student doesn't like either one, he or she may remain in the middle of the room.) Select some of the items on the student interest survey, and have the students stand up and move to one side of the room or the other based on the options you

present. As you conclude the activity, have a discussion about preferences and interests. Diversity is good — life would be pretty boring if everyone was interested in the same or preferred the same things.

## Fine Homebuilding Scholarship Offered in Construction Fields

Fine Homebuilding is offering a scholarship opportunity for SkillsUSA high-school, college/postsecondary and alumni members studying in *construction-related fields* for applicants planning to continue their education in community colleges, undergraduate programs or industry certifications.

Fine Homebuilding will award five \$5,000 scholarships — a total of \$25,000 — to students in fields such as architectural drafting, carpentry, cabinetmaking, electrical and residential wiring, HVACR, masonry, woodworking and plumbing for the 2017-18 academic year. Winners will be acknowledged at a special reception June 22 during the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference, at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville. An added benefit is the possibility of a travel stipend to attend the event.

Applications must be submitted by **May 1**. To apply, use the application at:  
<https://skillsusa.wufoo.com/forms/keepcraftalive-scholarship/>.

## The mikeroweWORKS Foundation Offers Competitor Scholarship



The mikeroweWORKS Foundation, in partnership with SkillsUSA, is proud to offer a scholarship opportunity for SkillsUSA members who have competed and placed first in their state association competition.

The scholarship provides support for SkillsUSA state-contest winners who have insufficient personal, chapter, school or community resources to participate at the 2017 SkillsUSA Championships. Several scholarships of up to \$1,000 each will be awarded, based on need, to help offset the costs of travel and to participate in the national Championships. The winners may also have the opportunity to attend a luncheon with a member of the mikeroweWORKS Foundation staff during the conference.

The award is based on a student-written, one-page narrative describing the student's financial need for the scholarship including the lack of school or community resources. The student may be nominated with a letter of recommendation written by his or her advisor or state SkillsUSA director. Applications should be sent to the national headquarters of SkillsUSA for review and determination. They must be submitted online by **midnight EDT on May 26**. For more information, visit: [www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/the-mikeroweworks-foundation-competitor-scholarship/](http://www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/the-mikeroweworks-foundation-competitor-scholarship/).