

## **New Jersey SkillsUSA Friday Flash 1/19/23**

### **Message from the Desk of the State Director**

I would like to thank everyone who attended our meetings on Wed at the NJPSA Center. I hope that we explained the registration process thoroughly, which we did with the help of Dan Delcher and Dave Nash. I'd like to thank them for all of their help. We tried a very last-minute Zoom Meeting through the facility's account for the first time, and we apologize for any communication problems we had with sound. In the event of inclement weather, we will make every attempt to get the information to the advisors who are unable to attend. The Zoom portion was a part that we will work on for the future.

### **Membership**

If you have any questions pertaining to membership, you can reach out to SkillsUSA Customer Care at (844) 875-4557.

### **Welding**

Unfortunately, we had to move our Welding and Welding Fabrication Competitions back to last year's sites. On March 23rd, Welding will be held at GCIT, and Welding Fabrication will be at Cumberland Tech. Center in Vineland on April 20th. This was our only option, and unfortunately we have the Payne Tech competitions on April 20th also. I am truly sorry for any inconvenience caused by these changes .

### **Registration**

State registrations are climbing. I thank you all for your efforts. As your invoices come in please try to pay as soon as possible. For questions about how many students are able to compete in any given competition, please see the Registration Booklet on our [website](#).

I know there have been many changes this year, I appreciate your patience with them. I feel we have to make these changes to keep NJ SkillsUSA at Their level of Excellence Thanks for all your help

Have a great weekend and be safe in the snow!  
*Ralph Starace*

### **Troubleshooting With Sheila!**

#### **Pass this Info along to your Graphic Design Students**

SkillsUSA is offering the 2024 National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC) Pin and T-shirt Design Challenge to all dues-paying student members. The winning designs will become the official T-shirt and pin design for the 2024 NLSC. Entries must be received by March 1 at 11:59 p.m. ET, and winners will be announced on March 8.

<https://www.skillsusa.org/news/take-up-the-challenge-national-conference-pin-and-t-shirt-design>

#### **Add this to your TO DO LIST**

The dates and locations for the Welding & Welding Sculpture competitions have been changed. Be sure to update all your downloaded and printed info to reflect the changes for these two events:

Welding: March 23, Gloucester Co. Inst of Tech, 1360 Tanyard Road, Sewell, NJ 08080

Welding Fabrication: April 20, Cumberland Co, Tech Ed Ctr., 3400 College Drive, Vineland, NJ 08360

### **National Membership**

We are uploading the week's new membership info at the end of every week on Friday Afternoon. If you processed your national membership this week, you should be able to see your student's name in the state system drop down box starting Saturday after the week's upload.

### **State Championship Registration Deadline**

The NJ Championship Registration site will close on January 30. In order to determine competition sites and order contest materials, contestant numbers are needed. Please do your best to finalize your contest registration by January 30. After the 30th, it will be necessary to contact our office to access the system.

### **News from the National Office**

#### **SkillsUSA Week at the SkillsUSA Store**

There's still time to gear up for SkillsUSA Week! The student-designed [SkillsUSA Week shirt](#) makes a great gift for hard-working advisors, dedicated supporters or for chapter officers to wear at your events. The store also offers SkillsUSA logo pens and pencils, napkins, balloons, tablecloths and banners that will make all chapter events feel festive and professional. Go to the [SkillsUSA Store](#) to see the collection — you can order 24 hours a day and shipping is fast and free.

#### **SkillsUSA Wins Big ... Thanks to You!**

Thanks to SkillsUSA's dedicated members and friends, SkillsUSA received top honors in the [LKQ Cares Holiday Vote Contest](#): a grant of nearly \$300,000! The LKQ Community Foundation committed to donating a total of \$1 million to SkillsUSA and other great organizations, including the American Cancer Society, Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, Collision Repair Education Foundation, Make-A-Wish, UNICEF and the United Nations World Food Program. The contest engaged SkillsUSA stakeholders nationwide who voted with incredible determination and passion to bring us to the forefront of the campaign. As part of the program, each of the 10 organizations received an initial \$50,000 donation, with the allocation of the remaining \$500,000 in funds determined based on votes from LKQ team members, customers and other stakeholders.

Thanks to LKQ and to all SkillsUSA members and stakeholders who took the time to vote!

#### **Upcoming SkillsUSA Technical Fridays Workshop**

Join us for "Technical Fridays," SkillsUSA's virtual workshops led by industry experts to help teachers develop specific technical skills relevant to their career fields of interest. Leave the sessions with a new skill to implement in your classroom. [Learn more about the workshops here.](#) On Jan. 26, a new Information Technology (IT) session will go beyond the classroom to address

the practical side of IT. The instructor is Nick Stocchero, principal engineer at Owl Cyber Defense. Nick has a proven track record of hiring directly from local CTE classrooms and brings real-world experiences to the forefront. Explore key IT skill areas often overlooked in traditional education and gain hands-on insights that will set you apart in the dynamic field of IT. Elevate your expertise and embark on a journey where theory meets practical application. Workshops are free of charge. [Register for the sessions online](#) (space is limited). If you have questions, contact Karolina Belen.

### **Share Your Success with SkillsUSA**

The [SkillsUSA Champions digital hub](#) provides new content frequently, from inspiring features to stories about the great work chapters and partners are doing. If your students need inspiration for new chapter activities, the online magazine is a great resource for your officer team. To submit a story idea, send us the details through our [“Submit a Story”](#) link.

### **Register Members by March 1 to Claim Big Benefits**

The national SkillsUSA membership deadline is March 1. Student members must meet both state and national membership deadlines to be eligible for national competitions; serve as voting delegates; run for national office; or apply for national scholarships, awards and honors. As a benefit of membership, professional members receive online access to these resources:

Framework Integration Toolkit

Program of Work Toolkit

SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards

Jump into Stem!

E-Courses

Advisor Professional Development

Learn how to join as a professional member and access your professional membership benefits in this [video tutorial](#).

### **Presidential Honors for Selfless Service**

At the 2024 National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC), SkillsUSA will recognize advisors, students and registered alumni for their community service through the President’s Volunteer Service Award (PVSA). To qualify, SkillsUSA members must submit a record of their service hours. With SkillsUSA’s focus on community service, you may have already met the requirements. For details on how to apply, [visit the website](#). Applications must be received by March 31, 2024, for recognition at the 2024 NLSC.

### **Spring SkillsUSA Professional Development Offerings**

Take your SkillsUSA knowledge to the next level with SkillsUSA’s Professional Development offerings. Sessions include new advisor training, the Chapter Excellence Program, how to apply for scholarships and more. Visit our [training webpage](#) and [use this form to sign up](#) for sessions. These sessions are free and all SkillsUSA professional members are welcome to join us!

