**WHY DO YOU WANT TO SERVE ON THE SKILLSUSA MARYLAND BOARD OF DIRECTORS?** –

As a SkillsUSA Maryland alumni, serving on the Board of Directors for SkillsUSA Maryland will allow me to give back to the organization that greatly impacted my professional life, career path, and leadership development. I hope that, if elected, I can use my diverse SkillsUSA experiences to guide the future path of our organization to allow the best, most equitable experiences for all our students across the state. This will include development in both leadership and technical facets of the organization, utilizing the SkillsUSA Framework and Program of Work.

**DESCRIBE SKILLSUSA AND BACKGROUND EXPERIENCES** - I feel privileged to have served SkillsUSA in many different capacities throughout my life. I have been deeply involved in the organization at the local, state, and national levels, including both our skilled competitions and leadership-related programming. I have competed in local, state, and national-level competitions in Commercial Baking, including earning regional, state, and national medals. I have also served as a state officer while in college in Rhode Island and served at the 2017-2018 National College/Postsecondary President for SkillsUSA. These experiences have given me the opportunity to visit many SkillsUSA programs and CTE schools across the country, as well as the opportunity to interact with many different constituent groups within the organization. I have been able to facilitate sessions for both SkillsUSA students and advisors, as well as judge and host competitions. I also had the opportunity to work at the SkillsUSA National Headquarters for over two years, in the Office of Business Partnerships and Development. This experience serving as a professional fundraiser for SkillsUSA gave me great knowledge into the innerworkings of our organization, and how local and state level sectors of the organization can utilize national level partnerships to maximize the benefits for our students and instructors. I am proud to now be back at my alma mater, the Center of Applied Technology North as an instructor in the Baking & Pastry program.

**WHAT WILL YOU BRING TO THE TABLE AS A BOARD MEMBER?** - I hope my unique experiences within our organization as a student, competitor, state office, national officer, national staff member, and now instructor will allow me to contribute to the betterment of the SkillsUSA Maryland Board of Directors and help continuously improve our organization, the same organization that has provided me so many amazing opportunities over the past many years. I commend the hard work and dedication of the SkillsUSA Maryland Board of Directors and look forward to being a value-added member of this hardworking team. Additionally, I think my professional experiences in the Office of Business Partnerships and Development can help with grants and fundraising efforts, and my leadership and facilitation skills can help strengthen the conference experiences we offer our students. My goal is to continue to increase the opportunities for our students and allow our organization to grow equitably to support all career and technical education students in Maryland.

**WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE THE MEMBERSHIP TO KNOW THAT IS RELEVANT TO YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPLICATION?** - The SkillsUSA Maryland Board of Directors have been a force behind the scenes that makes the life-changing organization that is SkillsUSA Maryland possible. I want to extend my sincerest gratitude for the hard work and dedication of all the staff, teachers, instructors, volunteers, business partners, alumni, and other leaders who have made this organization the driving force for lives of so many career and technical education students.