

Maryland Students Earn 13 National Medals at SkillsUSA Conference!

BALTIMORE (June 18, 2026) – The SkillsUSA Maryland student delegation received 13 medals during the recent 62nd Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) in Atlanta. A team of 165 Career and Technical Education (CTE) students showcased their skills in 92 competitions against more than 6,800 other students. Overall, 76 Maryland students placed in the top 10 nationally.

Students competing in Career Pathways Business Management and Technology, Occupational Health and Safety, and Sheet Metal received gold medals. Silver medals were awarded to students competing in Community Service, Digital Cinema Production, Firefighting, Nurse Assisting and Photography, and bronze medals were awarded to students competing in Architectural Drafting, Basic Health Care Skills, Faciliton (Facility Maintenance), Health Occupations Professional Portfolio, and Welding.

The SkillsUSA chapters at Center of Applied Technology North (Anne Arundel County Public Schools) and Thomas Edison High School of Technology (Montgomery County Public Schools) received national Models of Excellence honors. Josie Wolfe, Baking and Pastry Arts instructor at the AACPS Center of Applied Technology North, received a national Outstanding Educator Award.

“Maryland’s SkillsUSA students continue to demonstrate exceptional skill, determination, and professionalism,” said **Dr. Carey M. Wright, State Superintendent of Schools**. “Their achievements at the national level reflect the strength of our career and technical education programs and the commitment of educators who prepare students for success in high-demand fields.”

The NLSC draws students from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. SkillsUSA Maryland has a statewide membership of 5,700 CTE high school students. Members participate throughout the year in a variety of leadership and competitive conferences and events.

The following students placed in the national top ten in competitions:

Gold Medal

Career Pathways – Business Management and Technology: Jackson DuPee, Tiiu Nomm, and Holly Braughton, Severna Park High School - Anne Arundel County

Occupational Health and Safety – Multiple: Gavin Kidwell, Brody Hydorn, and Angelo Rossi, Carroll Career & Technology Center - Carroll County

Sheet Metal: Joshua Yudt, Frederick Career & Technology Center - Frederick County

Silver Medal

Architectural Drafting: Matthew Lyon, Carroll Career & Technology Center – Carroll County

Basic Health Care Skills: Abigail Eberly, Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center – St. Mary's County

Facilithon: Jaclyn Ryan, Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center – St. Mary's County

Health Occupations Professional Portfolio: Julieann Henderson, Carroll Career & Technology Center – Carroll County

Welding: Tanner Shorb, Frederick Career & Technology Center – Frederick County

Bronze Medal

T-Shirt Design: Alexander Schnitzer, Carroll Career & Technology Center – Carroll County

4th Place

Barbering: Johana Munguia-Hernandez, Thomas Edison High School of Technology – Montgomery County

Chapter Display: Valeria Molina, Jordan Preston, Katherine Smith, Frederick Career & Technology Center – Frederick County

Early Childhood Education: Kynzee Sullivan, Boyd J. Michael, III Technical High School – Washington County

Electrical Construction Wiring: Nathaniel Fousek, Allegany Center for Career & Technical Education – Allegany County

Extemporaneous Speaking: Josephine Melchizedek, Thomas Edison High School of Technology – Montgomery County

Nurse Assisting: Peyton Warfel, Carroll Career & Technology Center – Carroll County

5th Place

Career Pathways: Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources: Ryder Pobst, Armirah Gonzales, Abigail Aina, Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center – St. Mary's County

CNC Programmer: Andrew Hill, Parkside High School CTE – Wicomico County

Dental Assisting: Addison Keen, Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center – St. Mary's County

Emergency Medical Technician: Trista Christiansen and Christian Often, Carroll Career & Technology Center – Carroll County

Engineering Technology/Design: Rowan Dorsey, Andrew Hitzel, Reeth Kokatnur, Carroll Career & Technology Center – Carroll County

Information Technology Services: Pavel Hilliard, Thomas Edison High School of Technology – Montgomery County

Mobile Robotics Technology: Kyle Petrov and Connor Shoff, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

6th Place

Medical Math: Jessica Liu, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

Photography: Shelby Baumgardner, Carroll Career & Technology Center – Carroll County

Promotional Bulletin Board: Caylen McCall, Lily DiNello, Patryk Render, Carroll Career & Technology Center – Carroll County

7th Place

Community Action Project: Nina MacRobbie and Parker Carroll, Severna Park High School – Anne Arundel County

Mobile Robotics Technology: Ryan Wang and Nicole Wang, Somerset Technical High School – Somerset County

Occupational Health and Safety – Single: Harper Hastings, Amelia Harper, Kalli Rathel, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

8th Place

Career Pathways – Health Science: Henry Le, Catherine Valenzuela, Aubrey Nguy, Thomas Edison High School of Technology – Montgomery County

Crime Scene Investigation: Stevie Schultz, Paige Hale, Na'Imah Epps, Carroll Career & Technology Center – Carroll County

Diesel Equipment Technology: Gabriel Stollings, Cecil School of Technology – Cecil County

Job Skill Demonstration Open: Meagan Agnew, Center of Applied Technology North – Anne Arundel County

Principles of Engineering Technology: Cassandra Thompson, Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center – St. Mary's County

Robotics: Urban Search and Rescue: Travis Sharar and Meara Emerick, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

Technical Computer Applications: Kevin Littlejohn, Center of Applied Technology South – Anne Arundel County

9th Place

Audio Production: Vere Lotmore and Nicholas Hutchison, Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center – St. Mary's County

Computer Programming: George Eggers, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

Graphic Communications: Ashley Collins, Center of Applied Technology North – Anne Arundel County

Internetworking: Ipsita Swain, Eastern Technical High School – Baltimore County

Job Interview: Maya Foy-Filer, Center of Applied Technology South – Anne Arundel County

10th Place

American Spirit: Sophia Leschishin, Kendall Williams, Evelyn Elder, Severna Park High School – Anne Arundel County

Entrepreneurship: Ella Connors, Kysaiah Williams, Cristina Esch, Jack Phillips, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

Interactive Application and Video Game Development: Khaleil Pirmohamed and Katelyn Smith, Center of Applied Technology South – Anne Arundel County

Internet of Things (IoT) Smart Home: William Lebby, Thomas Edison High School of Technology – Montgomery County

Prepared Speech: Ethan Hitchens, Parkside High School CTE – Wicomico County

Telecommunications Cabling: Avi Juneja, Thomas Edison High School of Technology – Montgomery County

About SkillsUSA Maryland

SkillsUSA Maryland is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry representatives working together to ensure Maryland has a skilled workforce. Serving more than 5,700 students statewide, SkillsUSA Maryland provides opportunities for leadership development, technical skill attainment, workplace readiness, and community engagement through Career and Technical Education programs.

For more information about SkillsUSA, please contact Chuck Wallace, Coordinator of CTE Student Organizations, Division of College and Career Pathways, Maryland State Department of Education at charles.wallace@maryland.gov or 410-767-8872.

Additional information can be found on the official [SkillsUSA Maryland](#) website.

###