

To:

- State Officer Team
- Advisory Board
- RI Association of CTE Directors
- Technical Committee Chairs
- Professional Members
- CTE Staff at RIDE

October 9, 2012



From: Joshua Klemp, Association Director

News from the Director

Joseph Spaziano Jr. recently contacted the state office to congratulate us on the accomplishments of SkillsUSA or VICA when Joe was in school. Joe is a small business owner and a proud parent of a SkillsUSA RI student and alumni of the Cranston Area Career and Technical Center. Joe was also Skill-

sUSA RI's first co -vice president when Bob Forrest began SkillsUSA RI in 1976. Joe's son competed in this past year's championships and seeing our event brought back the memories of beginning VICA back in 1976.

When I visit our member schools today it is great to see the instructors that

are SkillsUSA RI alumni and are now back in the classroom utilizing the skills obtained while being involved. . On page 2 I have highlighted a few of our alumni who are currently teaching.

Continued on next page

Important Dates

- October 10 - State Officer Meeting
- October 26 - Registration Deadline for Fall Leadership
- October 29 - Lowe's Grant Due into State Office
- October 31 - Pin Design Contest Deadline
- November 2 - Fall Leadership Conference

Inside this issue:

Association Director's Report	1-2
Fall Leadership Conference	3
Advisory Board Meeting Dates	3
Lowe's Grant Opportunity	4
State Pin Design Contest	5
Advisor/CTE Educator of the Year Nominations	6
Chapter Fundraiser	6
Advisor Webinars	6
Industry Speakers	7
SkillsUSA Championships Theme	7
Scholarship and Grant Opportunities	8



Follow us:

Twitter: @SkillsUSARI

Facebook search: *SkillsUSA Rhode Island*

Continued from page one-

- *Chef Michael Collette* of the Providence Career and Technical Academy was one of the first ever medalists in the Commercial Baking Contest.
- *Lynn Pise Thibeault* started as Health Careers student at Davies, where she is now the instructor. Lynn is a past National Bronze Medalist in the Basic Health Care Skills contest and a former State Officer.
- *Jill Shurtleff* was the State Secretary for SkillsUSA RI in 1978. She is currently a Cosmetology Instructor at the Chariho Career and Technical Center and the SkillsUSA RI Advisory Board Chair.
- *Lynn Fusco Swain* was also a state officer in 1989 when she represented the West Bay Vocational School, now the Regional Career and Technical Center at Coventry High School where she teaches Early Childhood Education.
- *Keith Thibeault* was a State President for SkillsUSA RI and now teaches Construction at the Woonsocket Area Career and Technical Center.
- *Joseph Fantozzi* was a State Officer and National Competitor for SkillsUSA RI and now teaches Graphic Communications at Davies.

These alumni are just a snapshot of the impact SkillsUSA Rhode Island is having on today's CTE community. SkillsUSA RI is now influencing its second generation of CTE learners. But we need your help! We want to engage those who have been through the SkillsUSA RI program and RI CTE and see if they can give back in any way. Please share with us any information you have on your alumni! We would love to invite them to be a part of SkillsUSA RI and volunteer for the Championships.

- **Advocacy News**

September 15th – 19th was SkillsUSA's annual Washington Leadership Training Institute held in Washington D.C. and our State Officer Team did an incredible job advocating support for Perkin's Funding and also expressed their concerns with the Administration's proposed blueprint for Perkin's reauthorization. The students met with Senator Reed and representative's from Congressman Langevin and Senator Whitehouse's offices. Each meeting lasted about twenty minutes and the students did a great job representing their schools and our state. Also, each earned their National Statesman Award which is the highest leadership award given by SkillsUSA.

- **Business and Industry**

Hannah Schram of Cranston, Michael Ferranti of J&W, Brittany Plante of Woonsocket and Alex St. Pierre of Coventry all joined me in attending the 3rd Annual SkillsUSA CEO Champion of the Year dinner honoring Nick Pinchuk of Snap-on Incorporated. Our attendance to the event was sponsored and was held in Washington, D.C. at the Ritz Carlton. The students had the opportunity to mix and mingle with high level executives from across the country and I was able to secure some prizes for our local events. It was a really great evening and a big thank you to Mr. Nick Pinchuk and Snap-on for their many years of support for some our SkillsUSA RI events.

- **Partnerships/Championships**

On September 24th, I met with Jo Ann Johnson of Tech Collective and Woonsocket Biotech. Instructor Claire Laquerre to discuss the development of a new state level Biotechnology contest. URI has expressed interest in hosting the event and I will be meeting with the state's biotech instructors later in October to discuss the contest and getting more schools involved.

- **Advisory Board News**

October 2nd was the first SkillsUSA RI Advisory Board meeting of the year. We had great attendance as each member school discussed their goals for this year. State Officer, Alex St. Pierre attended to discuss our new community service initiative called "Bags of Dignity". We also discussed the progress made with our strategic plan and started to talk about the development of the next multi-year plan.

- **National SkillsUSA Visits RI**

Kelly Horton the Director of Marketing, Membership and Sales from national SkillsUSA was in town to meet with myself and some of our advisors about educational materials. Kelly and her team took a tour of Davies and met with chapter advisors Joe Fantozzi and Kristin St. Pierre. We were also joined by two Davies students who competed in SkillsUSA RI this past year. Later that evening several advisors joined Kelly and I for dinner where we discussed types of training we could offer our student leaders at the chapter level.

That is all for now. Membership is coming in and we are ahead of where we were last year at this time. Thank you for your support for the SkillsUSA Rhode Island program.

*Advisor
and
School
Directors*

SkillsUSA Rhode Island Fall Leadership Conference—November 2nd

☞ The SkillsUSA Rhode Island Fall Leadership is an opportunity for your student leaders to network and learn more about the SkillsUSA RI program.

At the conclusion of the conference, chapters will be leaving with the foundation for a strong program of work. Registration will be first come, first serve. We are trying to offer this opportunity to as many students as possible. However, space is limited so please do not enroll more than 20 members per school.

The dress code for the conference is business casual. No one should wear jeans or t-shirts. State officers are free. Lunch will be provided.

2012 Fall Conference Information

<u>Location:</u>	New England Tech—East Greenwich
<u>Times:</u>	8:30 - 9:00 am arrival and 2:00 pm conclusion
<u>Date:</u>	Friday, November 2nd
<u>Cost:</u>	\$15 per attendee (state officers are free)

Registration is due into the state office no later than Friday, October 26th.

*Advisory
Board
Action Item*

Advisory Board Meeting Dates

☞ Advisory board meetings are mandatory and important for management of the organization. All of the meetings will be held at the Knight Campus (Warwick) of the Community College of Rhode Island. The meetings begin at 3:30 pm.

- Tuesday, December 11th, 2012
Contest Updates and Information
- Tuesday, February 5th, 2013
Registrations Due
- Wednesday, April 9th, 2013
National Conference Payment

*Advisor and
School Director
Action Item*



SkillsUSA Announces Lowes Grant Opportunity for 2013 DUE TO THE STATE OFFICE - OCTOBER 29th

The focus for the 2013 SkillsUSA Lowe's grant program is to identify schools, classrooms or teachers who have a very basic need to improve the quality of their students' educational experience. Grants will be awarded ranging from \$2,500 to \$25,000. Grant applications will detail the need for classroom improvements, upgrading or providing tangible tools for learning technical skills, leadership development opportunities, or providing for competition clothing that will give students the opportunity to compete at SkillsUSA events that would otherwise be unattainable.

Through the written application and letters of support, the applicant must clearly outline the real NEED for the grant dollars being requested. The focus in choosing the grant recipients will be to place the dollars in the hands of those who have no other means for obtaining funds. The goal of this grant program is to provide life changing experiences by providing learning opportunities that help students gain employability skills, both technical and leadership skills.

In addition, those applicants who can outline their plan to "pay it forward," by planning and implementing a project or event that will allow them to use the tools or skills obtained due to receiving the grant dollars, will stand a greater chance of receiving funding. The best projects will be those that detail how the outcome will provide a life changing experience for the beneficiaries of the grant dollars.

Submitting grant applications:

Please be sure to complete the grant application in its entirety. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Create additional space on the documents as needed. This is a competitive process and a limited number of grants will be awarded based on the specific need as well as the expected outcome. The quality of the proposed use of grant funds, detail and feasibility, and potential outreach opportunities will also be considered.

Be sure to print and save a copy of your grant application for your records. If your project is selected to receive a grant, you will need your original application for future reference.

- Download the grant application
- Email the word document application including any supporting electronic documents (a limit of two attachments) to the following: lowesgrants@skillsusa.org

Announcement of Schools In Need grant recipients:

- Schools selected to receive a grant will be contacted directly in January 2013.
 - Unsuccessful applicants will be notified via email in January 2013.
 - Grants can be used during spring or fall semesters, but all must be completed by November 30, 2013.
 - A list of all schools receiving Lowe's grants will be posted at www.skillsusa.org following announcement to successful applicants.
-



SkillsUSA Rhode Island State Pin Contest Rules

The annual SkillsUSA Rhode Island Pin Design Contest has over one hundred entries each year. The winning pin designs will be used as part of the SkillsUSA Rhode Island Championships and for use at the National Skills and Leadership Conference in June of 2013. The design rules are simple, please follow them exactly to allow fairness in the judging of the designs.

1. All entries must be rendered in color (full color or two colors)
2. Preferably, entries will be created in a design software package such as Illustrator, Photoshop or in free-hand. Entries may also be hand-drawn, painted or rendered in colored pencils or markers.
3. All entries **must** be submitted with two versions of the art on a single page. The larger version is for judging. The smaller version is to show what the actual pin will look like. The larger version must be approximately 7 inches wide x 7 inches high for judging. The smaller version should be approximately 1 inch x 1 inch tall to show how the completed pin will look. Both versions should be identical. All wording on the pin must reference the name of the state.
4. The SkillsUSA emblem or SkillsUSA logo (or elements of either) should not appear on the pin.
5. All copyright laws must be followed in the creation of the design.
6. Contestants should include a paragraph or two covering the following:
 - a. The design process.
 - b. Why he/she feels it represents their state.
 - c. What are its unique qualities?
 - d. Why would other students/advisors want to wear the pin?
7. The student who designs the pin selected as the "state pin" will be asked to go on to the national conference to represent Rhode Island in the Pin Design Contest.
8. The categories are Judge Pin, Competitor Pin, and State Pin.
9. All designs must be turned in by **October 31, 2012**. Submissions must be emailed to the SkillsUSA RI State Director, Joshua Klemp, at jklemp@ccri.edu. Submitted designs become the property of SkillsUSA Rhode Island. SkillsUSA RI reserves the right to make changes to any submitted design. However, the original designer will get credit.

If you have any questions please contact the SkillsUSA Rhode Island office at 825-2316 or via email jklemp@ccri.edu. Thank you for your support!



ADVISOR OF THE YEAR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Advisor of the Year

The Advisor of the Year award to recognize and honor dedicated career and technical education instructors who serve as SkillsUSA advisors. The Advisor of the Year program is sponsored by Delmar Learning, a part of Cengage Learning. State winners are submitted to the regional competition. At NLSC, regional winners are interviewed and a national winner is selected. Students, fellow instructors, school directors and members from the Department of Education may nominate someone for this award.

Career and Technical Educator of the Year

The Career and Technical Educator of the Year award recognizes a CTE educator for achievement within their field and for their support for SkillsUSA Rhode Island. The recipient will be announced at the SkillsUSA Rhode Island Awards and Recognition Ceremony. State Officer, Advisors, Teachers, School Directors and members from the Department of Education may nominate someone for this award.

Nomination forms are available from the State Director at jklemp@ccri.edu or you can call the office at 401-825-2316.

Chapter News



SkillsUSA WARWICK CHAPTER HOSTING A FUNDRAISER

SkillsUSA Warwick is hosting their annual fundraising breakfast for their chapter on Saturday, October 13th from 7:30 am - 10:30 am at Dave's Bar and Grill in Warwick. Tickets are \$8 per person and can be purchased by calling the career and technical center at 401-734-7150. You can also email Brian Vadeboncoeur at vadeboncoeurb@warwickschools.org.

*Advisor and
Instructor
Action Item*



SkillsUSA ADVISOR WEBINARS

The 2012-2013 SkillsUSA membership kit is loaded with new resources, best practices and lesson plans to ensure your chapter is prepared for a successful year. Please join us on Thursday, October 18 at 11 a.m. or 3:30 p.m. (EDT) as we discuss the many uses of the information and resources included in the kit. The new registration landing page will be unveiled and the easy to use 1, 2, 3 step system for membership registration.

Thursday, October 18, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. (EDT)
Webinar url: <https://www.yourcall.com/webecho/GuestLogin.aspx>
Meeting Number: 30039980
Participant Passcode: 5787

*Advisors and
School Directors*



Industry Guest Speakers and Volunteers

Do you need volunteers from industry to serve on a program advisory board? How about someone from industry to come into the classroom as a guest speaker? If yes, consider asking the SkillsUSA RI office for help. We have a strong network of industry supporters that would be interested in volunteering their time and talent.

Feel free to email me, Joshua Klemp at jklemp@skillsusari.org or call the office at 401-825-2316.

*Advisors and
School Directors*



SkillsUSA Announces 2012 –2013 Theme

“SkillsUSA: Champions at Work Prepared with the Skills America Needs”

The topic to be addressed by contestants in the Prepared Speech and Promotional Bulletin Board contests is how our slogan, SkillsUSA: Champions at Work, relates to our national program of work in the area of Professional Development.

- Within this topic, contestants might illustrate or discuss any of the following:
- Based on research from employers, what skills do Americans need?
- How does SkillsUSA provide the skills needed?
- How does participation in SkillsUSA provide members an edge in the workforce?
- How does involvement in SkillsUSA provide a competitive edge to America in the global economy?
- By participating in SkillsUSA events, how will you be more marketable in the workforce?
- What do SkillsUSA members need to do to be prepared?
- What skills have you gained through SkillsUSA that will make you prepared to enter your chosen field?
- How does SkillsUSA continue to adapt to prepare students with these needed skills?
- What principals was America founded on, how are those still relevant today?
- Why do American citizens need to have a variety of skills?
- How do we establish an attitude of life-long learning of through the SkillsUSA programs?
- What is the American workforce projected to look like when you graduate, how does this impact your plans?



NATIONAL YOUTH SAFETY VIDEO CONTEST

CareerSafe®, Safety Education for America's Future™, is sponsoring the 2012-2013 National Youth Safety Video Contest. Students across the country are challenged to create a video demonstrating safety in the workplace. The contest will kick off on October 15, 2012 and all submissions should be sent into CareerSafe by **March 1, 2013**. The winning students will receive a SkillsUSA Prize Pack as well as a scholarship up to \$2,500 and the winning school will receive a prize up to \$5,000. To view an online flyer about the contest, go to:

<http://www.careersafeonline.com/images/video%20contest%20flyer.pdf>.

For more information on the contest, please visit the CareerSafe® website on October 15 at www.careersafeonline.com.

PROJECT IGNITION GRANTS AVAILABLE TO HIGH SCHOOLS

Project Ignition (PI), is in the driver's seat again, announcing the availability of \$2,000 grants for public high schools to address teen driver safety using service-learning. In its ninth year, PI is a great extension of Celebrate My Drive™ and another way to interact with local high schools on safer teen driving behaviors. Car crashes remain the leading cause of death for teens in the United States, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Young people, in partnership with teachers and communities, can change this staggering fact through Project Ignition — a student-led teen driver safety program funded by State Farm® and coordinated by the National Youth Leadership Council®. Project Ignition offers grants to students and their advisors interested in creating impactful awareness campaigns focused on teen driver safety while using service-learning — a teaching method that combines meaningful community service with classroom instruction.

Youth-led teams host events, form community-wide partnerships, work on local and state policy, produce public service announcements, and more.

Now through **November 15**, schools can apply for a grant. In January 2013, 25 schools will be chosen to receive \$2,000 grants to support the implementation of teen driver safety awareness and engagement campaigns. In May 2013, the 10 best campaigns will be selected to receive an additional \$7,500 to continue their project in the following school year and participate in the National Service-Learning Conference in 2014 in Washington, D.C.

Additional information and the grant application can be found at www.sfprojectignition.com. Get connected at www.facebook.com/projectignition.
