

SkillsUSA Announcements March 6, 2018

SLSC Registration Reminders Please use correct birthdates when registering for the state conference. This DOB is how students access their scores along with their contestant #. Please include emergency contact numbers including your own contact!

If there are any students who are unable to attend the conference or there is a specific change, please fill out this form: (All requests must be made on this form)

<https://goo.gl/forms/QwVvthbsZjAiAHAF3>

Alternates will be contacted individually once someone has declined their invitation to state. Contact will be made via email through Brandon Hirst or your regional coordinator.

Remember to book your hotel for SLSC! Approved hotels are in the registration packet. All participants requiring lodging must stay at an approved conference hotel. All reservations must be made by contacting the hotel directly and stating you are with SkillsUSA. All reservations are subject to availability. Please be sure to get your purchase order completed so you can bring a check with you to the conference or have the check mailed immediately following the conference.

SkillsUSA celebrates Women in the Skilled Trades with March 8 Facebook Live Chat

SkillsUSA students and instructors are invited to join national television personality Kayleen McCabe on Thursday, March 8 at 6 p.m. EST for a Facebook Live conversation about Women in the Skilled Trades. The live chat is to celebrate International Women's Day.

To join the conversation, go the SkillsUSA Facebook page at 6 p.m. on March 8. Comment during the live broadcast for a chance to win SkillsUSA swag.

The Facebook video chat will be hosted by TV host, carpenter and business owner McCabe along with machine tool technology student Maci Key, a student at Wallace State Community College, Ala. Key is the 2017-18 SkillsUSA college/postsecondary secretary, and she will share her personal path to a career in quality control inspection through the skilled trades.

The livestream event will invite comments and sharing by SkillsUSA students and instructors nationwide — we hope you will help us go viral with this important conversation. McCabe and Key will encourage students and instructors to involve more females in the skilled trades and discuss ways to provide greater exposure of career options and enhancing gender-neutral access to technical programs for all interested students.

International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on March 8 every year. First observed in 1909, the day commemorates the movement for women's rights. It was adopted in 1975 by the United Nations. The day is an official holiday in numerous countries. This year's theme is **#PressforProgress**.

mikeroweWORKS Offers Travel Scholarships for Competitors

The mikeroweWORKS Foundation will again offer scholarships for SkillsUSA student members to attend the National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, Ky., June 25-29. This is the eighth consecutive year the mikeroweWORKS Foundation, in partnership with SkillsUSA, has offered travel scholarships for SkillsUSA members who compete and place first in their state championships and who otherwise would not be able to attend the national championships for financial reasons.

This year's scholarships will focus on high-school and college/postsecondary students working primarily toward careers in manufacturing, construction, transportation, electronics and other program areas where a skills gap exists; a written application that includes financial need and SkillsUSA involvement.

Applicants must also provide a recommendation from a SkillsUSA member instructor or state association director.

Applicants need to apply online at: www.skillsusa.org/membership-resources/scholarships-financial-aid/the-mikeroweworks-foundation-competitor-scholarship/. Scholarship applications must be received by May 15, 2018 (midnight EDT). Applications submitted after this time will not be considered.

Hypertherm's 'Spark Something Great' Grant Application Open



For four years, Hypertherm has sponsored an educational grant program. The 2018 program will equip 10 schools with a Powermax45 XP air plasma cutting, gouging and marking system, a \$2,270 value; Hypertherm's AWS SENSE approved "Plasma Cutting Technology: Theory and Practice" curriculum kit, a \$499 value; and an initial visit by a Hypertherm district manager to set up and train on the equipment and curriculum. Schools are selected based on commitment to metal fabrication education, program, number of students who complete the program each year, instructor plans for system use, and a student testimonial. The submission deadline is **April 2**. For more information, visit: www.hypertherm.com/grant. If you have questions, contact Betsy Van Duyne Donka at: Betsy.VanDuyne@Hypertherm.com.

Alumni Association Announces Awards Availability

The SkillsUSA Alumni and Friends Association will once again be presenting two awards at the National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, Ky.:

- The **Pioneer of Excellence Award** recognizes Alumni and Friends members and/or business and industry partners who have been a "Pioneer of Excellence" for *over five years* for the alumni association
- The **Outstanding Alumni and Friends Achievement Award** is for Alumni and Friends members and/or business and industry partners who have demonstrated a "Commitment for Excellence" for *up to five years* for the alumni association

To apply, please find the applications here: <https://www.skillsusa.org/alumni-pioneer-excellence-award-outstanding-alumni-friends-achievement-award/>

Applications must be received, not postmarked, by **April 16** at the SkillsUSA National Leadership Center. Please mail to: SkillsUSA Alumni Executive Board, c/o Taryn Zeigler, 14001 SkillsUSA Way, Leesburg, VA 20176.

Transportation Career Fairs Open for Students

The Collision Repair Education Foundation is hosting transportation careers fairs all around the country, averaging over 300 transportation students at each event. The foundation is inviting high-school and postsecondary collision, automotive and diesel programs to come and meet industry to see the array of opportunities that exist for them. Students who attend receive access to a S/P2 online résumé writing course and a professional technician shirt.

To get involved, go to: www.collisioneducationfoundation.org/transportation-career-fairs/. For more information, contact: Christen Battaglia at christen.battaglia@ed-foundation.org or Brandon Eckenrode at Brandon.eckenrode@ed-foundation.org.

Terri Lufkin, Executive Director

SkillsUSA Washington / www.skillsusawashington.org

tlufkin@comcast.net / 360.904.8578