



NEWS RELEASE

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NEBRASKA FBLA NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS NAMED

More than 400 Nebraska students, advisers, and guests recently attended the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) National Leadership Conference in Chicago, Illinois. Nebraska FBLA Middle School and High School members competed June 29-July 2 in 79 competitive events and Nebraska FBLA Collegiate members competed June 24-27 in 47 competitive events. More than 12,000 FBLA members from 48 states, as well as U.S. territories and international chapters, attended the conference.

Students attended learning sessions with industry leaders, elected a national student officer team, and competed, with more than 700 middle school students, 8200 high school students, and nearly 600 college students competing in a variety of national events. The National Leadership Conference is the culmination of students' hard work over the previous academic year and an opportunity to showcase the skills and knowledge gained in the classroom.

Nebraska members brought home 98 Top Ten awards. The Top Ten award winners are:

Middle School Awards

Third Place:

- Middle Level FBLA Mission & Pledge: James Fletcher from Litchfield Middle School

Fourth Place:

- Middle Level Financial Literacy: Tate Johannes from Arlington Middle School
- Middle Level Elevator Speech: Carsen Vincent from Sargent Middle School

Fifth Place:

- Middle Level Business Ethics: Caydence Feldman and Ava Paitz from Litchfield Middle School

Seventh Place:

- Middle Level Career Exploration: Caitlin Reade from Cedar Bluffs Middle School
- Middle Level Business Ethics: LoReena Schauda from Sargent Middle School
- Middle Level FBLA Mission & Pledge: Madilynn Nolan from Boyd County Middle School

Eighth Place:

- Middle Level Exploring Technology: Emily Stamm from Emerson-Hubbard Middle School

- Middle Level Career Research: Addilyn Janousek from Boyd County Middle School

Tenth Place:

- Middle Level Multimedia & Website Development: Dallas Grunden & Jaylee Sellers from Maywood Middle School

High School Awards**Second Place:**

- Future Business Leader: Peyton Schoone from Minden High School
- Business Plan: Emelia Richling from Grand Island Northwest High School
- Health Care Administration: Kaylee Rimel from Wilber Clatonia High School
- Spreadsheet Applications: Cooper Zabka from Twin River High School

Third Place:

- Public Speaking: Kate Jones from Auburn High School

Fourth Place:

- Economics: Bo Ott from Omaha Skutt Catholic High School

Fifth Place:

- Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure: Sarah Lange from Raymond Central High School
- Graphic Design: Tyler Baue and Ali Lundberg from Wausa High School

Sixth Place:

- Cyber Security: Asher Lahm from Raymond Central High School
- Economics: Taylor Wickham from Kearney High School
- Partnership with Business Project: Trent Koger, Gabbi Anzalone, and Makenzie O'Flaherty from Arlington High School

Seventh Place:

- Introduction to Business Concepts: Austin Schmidt from Heartland High School
- Introduction to Public Speaking: Hope McDonald from Centura High School
- Management Information Systems: Gage Waterhouse and Zack Holloway from Broken Bow High School
- Publication Design: Zoe Kaczor and Liz Kersch from Boyd County High School

Eighth Place:

- Accounting II: Justin Johnson from Broken Bow High School

Ninth Place

- Introduction to Social Media Strategies: Morgan Calkins, Graham Christenson, and Parker Smith from Aurora High School

Tenth Place

- Agribusiness: Mekenna Fisher from Sutherland High School
- Sales Presentation: Trey McQuay from Wausa High School

Collegiate Awards

First Place

- Business Sustainability: Kelsi Leininger from Peru State College
- Economic Analysis & Decision Making: Maddie Getz from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Financial Analysis & Decision Making: Diego Korol from York College
- Financial Services: Tommy Ganos from Chadron State College
- Future Business Educator: Sydney Atkinson from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Strategic Analysis & Decision Making: Kelsi Leininger from Peru State College
- Website Design: Jessica Chen from University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Second Place

- Computer Concepts: Connor Nichols from University of Nebraska - Lincoln
- Desktop Publishing: Riley Herring and Bridget Praest from Midland University
- Financial Services: Courtney Cox from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Global Analysis & Decision Making: Andrew Kurtenbach and Markus Ramsey from Chadron State College
- Local Chapter Annual Business Report from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Management Analysis & Decision Making: Andrew Kurtenbach, Logan Parde, and Allison Schneider from Chadron State College
- Marketing Analysis & Decision Making: Andrew Kurtenbach from Chadron State College
- Microeconomics: Logan Parde from Chadron State College
- Programming Concepts: Connor Nichols from University of Nebraska - Lincoln
- Sales Presentation: Felipe Venegas from York College
- Small Business Management Plan: Joseph Hiatt from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Sports Management & Marketing: Markus Ramsey from Chadron State College

Third Place

- Administrative Support Technology: Tyson Shields from University of Nebraska - Lincoln
- Business Communication: Sydney Atkinson from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Forensic Accounting: Maddie Getz from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Integrated Marketing Campaign: Andrew Avila, Aubree Noble, and Phillip Soto from Chadron State College
- Management Analysis & Decision Making: Burton Brandt and Scott Tatum from Midland University
- Public Speaking: Riley Herring from Midland University
- Website Design: Kyra Creamer from University of Nebraska at Omaha

Fourth Place

- Business Sustainability: Diego Korol and Felipe Venegas from York College
- Emerging Business Issues: Connor Nichols and Taylor Shellenberger from University of Nebraska - Lincoln
- Human Resource Management: Moriah Toledo from York College
- Macroeconomics: Logan Parde from Chadron State College
- Management Analysis & Decision Making: Moriah Toledo from York College
- Small Business Management Plan: Riley Herring from Midland University
- Statistical Analysis: Jessica Chen from University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Fifth Place

- Financial Concepts: Zachary Figge from University of Nebraska - Lincoln
- Future Business Executive: Kelsi Leininger from Peru State College
- Hospitality Management: Scott Tatum from Midland University
- Information Management: Austin Guhde-Egger from Peru State College
- Public Speaking: Markus Ramsey from Chadron State College
- Social Media Marketing: Bridget Praest from Midland University

Sixth Place

- Business Law: Taylor Shellenberger from University of Nebraska - Lincoln
- Computer Concepts: Tyson Shields from University of Nebraska - Lincoln
- Job Interview: Megan Wallman from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Marketing Analysis & Decision Making: Burton Brandt and Bridget Praest from Midland University

Seventh Place

- Administrative Support Technology: Cindy Howard from McCook Community College
- Business Presentation: Cody Swinarsk from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Client Service: Olivia Lawless from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Cost Accounting: Hayden Retzlaff from Nebraska Wesleyan University
- Justice Administration: Taylor Shellenberger from University of Nebraska - Lincoln
- Networking Concepts: Austin Guhde-Egger from Peru State College
- Personal Finance: Courtney Cox from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Sales Presentation: Olivia Lawless and Megan Wallman from University of Nebraska at Kearney

Eighth Place

- Business Communication: Courtney Cox from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Business Law: Allison Schneider from Chadron State College
- Justice Administration: Allison Schneider from Chadron State College
- Macroeconomics: Jessica Chen from University of Nebraska - Lincoln
- Strategic Analysis & Decision-Making: Diego Korol and Felipe Venegas from York College

Ninth Place

- Administrative Support Technology: Maira Ahilon-Calmo from McCook Community College
- Business Law: Maira Ahilon-Calmo and Cindy Howard from McCook Community College
- Desktop Publishing: Sydney Atkinson and Joseph Hiatt from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- Future Business Executive: Azlyn Fendrick from Peru State College
- Personal Finance: Noah Kreifels from Peru State College
- Social Media Marketing: Aubree Noble from Chadron State College

Tenth Place

- Desktop Publishing: Leslie Hernandez from McCook Community College
- Emerging Business Issues: Moriah Toledo from York College
- Financial Concepts: Noah Kreifels from Peru State College
- Future Business Executive: Tommy Ganos from Chadron State College
- Macroeconomics: Hayden Retzlaff from Nebraska Wesleyan University
- Microeconomics: Zachary Figge from University of Nebraska - Lincoln
- Statistical Analysis: Tyson Shields from University of Nebraska - Lincoln

The following teams and individuals qualified for finals and were the Top 15 Finalists:

- **Middle School Top 15**
 - Career Research: Cheyenne Boettcher from Boyd County Middle School
 - Multimedia & Website Development: Will Nelson from Boyd County Middle School
- **High School Top 15**
 - American Enterprise Project: Cassidy Callaway, Haylee Josoff, and Jordan Vogler from Elmwood-Murdock High School
 - Digital Video Production: Faith McDonald from Centura High School
 - E-Business: Jaycee Fangmeyer and Bree Schefdore from Ashland-Greenwood High School
 - Entrepreneurship: Lila Marzouk from Ashland-Greenwood High School
 - Management Information Systems: Kember Huber, John Stork, and Derek Wang from Blair High School
 - Network Design: Cameron Carlson, Anthony Ramirez, Jack Voss from Academies of Grand Island High School
- **Collegiate Top 15**
 - Hospitality Management: Hannah Willis and Cindy Howard from McCook Community College
 - Job Interview: Shea Kinnison from Peru State College
 - Public Speaking: Shea Kiinnison from Peru State College
 - Strategic Analysis and Decision Making: Tommy Ganos from Chadron State College
 - Website Design: Jackie Kalkwarf from University of Nebraska – Kearney

Other national awards and recognitions included:

March of Dimes Fundraising

- 2nd Place Top Fundraising State – Nebraska FBLA High School

National Recognition Event Winners during the Parade of States

- James Fletcher, Litchfield Middle School – Young Leader Award-Middle School
- Lucas Lunzmann, Auburn High School – Who's Who in FBLA-High School
- Moriah Toledo, York College – Who's Who in FBLA-Collegiate
- Jan Osborn, Sargent High School – Nebraska Outstanding Local Chapter Adviser High School/Middle School
- Stacie Turnbull, York College/Nebraska Department of Education – Nebraska Outstanding Local Chapter Adviser - Collegiate
- Payton Smidt, Tri County High School – Nebraska FBLA High School State President
- Kimberly Osborn, University of Nebraska – Lincoln – Nebraska FBLA Collegiate State President

Gold Seal Chapter Award, Merit

- Arlington High School
- Ashland-Greenwood High School
- Bellevue West High School
- Blair High School
- Boyd County High School
- Centura High School
- Chadron High School
- Dundy County Stratton High School
- Elmwood-Murdock High School
- Fillmore Central High School
- Gibbon High School
- Kearney High School
- Midland University
- Omaha Marian High School
- Raymond Central High School
- Sandhills High School
- Sargent High School
- Syracuse High School
- Tri County High School
- Twin River High School
- University of Nebraska – Kearney
- Waverly High School
- Weeping Water High School
- Wilber-Clatonia High School

Nebraska FBLA inspires and prepares students to become community-minded business leaders in a global society through relevant career preparation and leadership experiences. Nebraska FBLA is supported through the Nebraska Center for Student Leadership and Expanded Learning at the Nebraska Department of Education.

<https://nebraskafbla.org/>

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