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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **MARYLAND CAREER & TECHNOLOGY STUDENT ORGANIZATION WINS 17 MEDALS AT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND SKILLS CONFERENCE**

### ***SkillsUSA MARYLAND COMPETITORS BEST IN THE NATION IN FIVE COMPETITIONS***

**BALTIMORE, MD (July 5, 2011)** – Maryland's SkillsUSA delegation brought home 17 medals from the recent 47<sup>th</sup> Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference in Kansas City last month.

A team of the state's most talented Career and Technology Education (CTE) high school students showcased their skills in 79 career and technical competitions. Maryland competitors earned an unprecedented ten gold medals this year. Demonstrating exemplary CTE training, Maryland students challenged 5,700 other student champions from all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

Maryland students in Action Skills, Food and Beverage Service, Industrial Motor Control, Job Interview, and Quiz Bowl are officially among the best in the nation, returning with gold medals. Silver medals were awarded to students in Health Occupations Professional Portfolio, Preschool Teaching Assistant, T-Shirt Design, and Video Product Development. Bronze medals were awarded in Job Skills Demonstration and Photography.

SkillsUSA Maryland has a statewide membership of 5,100 high school students. Members have consistently demonstrated their expertise and professionalism while participating throughout the year in a variety of leadership and competitive conferences.

The Maryland State Department of Education, in cooperation with business, industry, and education partners, coordinates two annual statewide conferences to prepare students for this rigorous national competition.

Maryland CTE students representing 23 counties and Baltimore City competed at the 2011 SkillsUSA State Championships held at the Center of Applied Technology North, CCBC Catonsville, Anne Arundel Community Television, Anne Arundel County Fire Training Academy, Baltimore International College, Earlbeck Gases and Technologies, North County High School, and Printing Specialist Corporation.

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Maryland Public Schools: **#1 in the Nation Three Years in a Row**

The following students finished the national challenge with outstanding accomplishments:

**SkillsUSA Maryland National Top Ten – 2011 NLSC**

**Gold Medal – Action Skills**

Nicholas Collison – Center of Applied Technology North - Anne Arundel County

**Gold Medal – Food and Beverage Service**

Amala Edwards, Western School of Technology and Environmental Science – Baltimore County

**Gold Medal – Industrial Motor Control**

Jacob Vitak, Center of Applied Technology North – Anne Arundel County

**Gold Medal – Job Interview**

Trinity Story, North Point High School for Science, Technology and Industry – Charles County

**Gold Medal – Quiz Bowl**

Erin Chapman, Alexander Corbin, Gaston Lopez, Alessia Parks, Breanna Spangler and Nicholas Telesky - North Point High School for Science, Technology and Industry – Charles County

**Silver Medal – Health Occupations Professional Portfolio**

Cloe Ayenu, Frederick County Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

**Silver Medal – Preschool Teaching Assistant**

Veronica Morris, Washington County Technical High School - Washington County

**Silver Medal – T-Shirt Design**

Trevor Sitkoff, Thomas Edison High School of Technology - Montgomery County

**Silver Medal – Video Product Development**

Omar Ahmed, Christopher Dold, Frederick County Career and Technology Center - Frederick County

**Bronze Medal – Job Skill Demonstration A**

Christopher Outland, Center of Applied Technology North – Anne Arundel County

**Bronze Medal – Photography**

Jillian Porter, Carroll County Career and Technology Center, Carroll County

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**SkillsUSA**

**4<sup>th</sup> Place** – Automotive Refinishing Technology

Ryan Faurot, Center of Applied Technology North, Anne Arundel County

**4<sup>th</sup> Place** – Basic Health Care Skills

Chelsey Childress, Cecil County School of Technology, Cecil County

**4<sup>th</sup> Place** – Collision Repair Technology

Joseph Rinehart, Center of Applied Technology North – Anne Arundel County

**4<sup>th</sup> Place** – Community Service

Owen Levine, Elaina Previte, Hayley Rogers, Frederick County Career and Technology Center  
- Frederick County

**4<sup>th</sup> Place** – Job Skill Demonstration Open

Miranda Kerr, Center of Applied Technology North – Anne Arundel County

**4<sup>th</sup> Place** – Medical Terminology

Majesta Kitts, North Point High School for Science, Technology and Industry - Charles County

**4<sup>th</sup> Place** – Pin Design

Joshua Shipley, Frederick County Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

**4<sup>th</sup> Place** – Welding Fabrication

Collins Lethbridge, James Rawlings, Joseph Wentz, Carroll County Career and Technology  
Center – Carroll County

**5<sup>th</sup> Place** – Aviation Maintenance Technology

Steven Gray, Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County

**6<sup>th</sup> Place** – Commercial Baking

Kevin Sokol, Washington County Technical High School – Washington County

**6<sup>th</sup> Place** – Culinary Arts

Monica Hayden, North Point High School for Science, Technology and Industry – Charles  
County

**7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Dental Assisting

Katie Garrett, Center of Applied Technology South – Anne Arundel County

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**7<sup>th</sup> Place – Diesel Equipment Technology**

Dorchester School of Technology - Dorchester County

**7<sup>th</sup> Place – Medical Math**

Kha-Ai Tran, North Point High School for Science, Technology and Industry - Charles County

**7<sup>th</sup> Place – Promotional Bulletin Board**

Victoria Frasco, Hayden Ventrice, Carroll County Career and Technology Center - Carroll County

**8<sup>th</sup> Place – Medical Assisting**

Michael Robben, Center of Applied Technology North – Anne Arundel County

**8<sup>th</sup> Place – Occupational Health and Safety**

Andrew Barker, Colby Bunting, Michael Tyndall, Worcester Technical High School - Worcester County

**8<sup>th</sup> Place – Technical Computer Applications**

Nicholas Amigo, Center of Applied Technology South – Anne Arundel County

**9<sup>th</sup> Place – Web Design**

Miles Combs, Simon Guo, Harford Technical High School - Harford County

**10<sup>th</sup> Place – First Aid / CPR**

Alyssa Johnson, Frederick County Career and Technology Center - Frederick County

**10<sup>th</sup> Place – Robotics and Automation Technology**

Brandon Rappozzo, Brady Vickers, Harford Technical High School – Harford County

For more information about Career Technology Education and SkillsUSA, please contact Charles Wallace, State Director, Maryland State Department of Education at 410-767-8872. You can also visit the Maryland State Department of Education's website at [http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/careertech/career\\_technology/](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/careertech/career_technology/) or visit the official SkillsUSA Maryland website at [www.mdskillsusa.org](http://www.mdskillsusa.org).