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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Maryland Career & Technology Student Organization Sweeps Louisville at National Leadership and Skills Conference

More Than Half of Maryland Competitors Finish in National Top Ten

BALTIMORE (July 12, 2018) – Maryland Career and Technology students challenged 6,400 other student champions from all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam and Virgin Islands, at this year's 54th Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) held in Louisville, KY. Over 100 Maryland students competed in 90 Career and Technology Education (CTE) program-aligned competitions, and brought home a record-breaking 27 medals. United States Department of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos attended this year's conference and expressed her support of CTE and the SkillsUSA student organization.

Conference attendees also celebrated two nationally-recognized Maryland advisors, Etta Maynard (Wicomico County) for honorary life membership and Marjorie Kellman (Washington County) for advisor of the year. Dorchester County's SkillsUSA chapter was recognized as a National SkillsUSA Models of Excellence recipient. Additionally, 2017 Graphic Communications national gold medalist Brittany Whitestone earned a spot on Team USA and will be travelling to Kazan, Russia in 2019 for the WorldSkills competitions, where Team USA will compete against the best CTE students from across the globe.

Demonstrating exemplary CTE training, Maryland students competing in Career Pathways-Industrial and Engineering Technology, Electronics Technology, First Aid/CPR, Graphic Communications, Medical Math and Promotional Bulletin Board are officially among the best in the nation, returning home with gold medals. Silver medals were awarded to students in Cosmetology, Diesel Equipment Technology, Humanoid Robotics, Quiz Bowl and Television (Video) Production. Bronze medals were awarded to students competing in Additive Manufacturing, Digital Cinema, and Nurse Assisting.

SkillsUSA Maryland has a statewide membership of 6,000 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. In April, Maryland CTE students representing 23 counties and Baltimore City competed at the 2018 SkillsUSA State Championships held at education centers throughout Maryland.

The following students finished the national challenge with outstanding accomplishments:

SkillsUSA Maryland National Top Ten – 2018 NLSC

Gold Medal – Career Pathways – Industrial and Engineering Technology

Olivia Dart, Jackson Larimore, Jacob Ramsey, Frederick Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

Gold Medal – Electronics Technology

Joshua McKelvey, Parkside High School / CTE – Wicomico County

Gold Medal – First Aid / CPR

Cheyenne Biser, Southern Garrett High School – Garrett County

Gold Medal – Graphic Communications

Julia Meassick, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

Gold Medal – Medical Math

John Canonizado, North Point High School for STI – Charles County

Gold Medal – Promotional Bulletin Board

Lauren Conaway, Lauren Jenne, Clare Preston, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

Silver Medal – Cosmetology

Julie Plunkert, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

Silver Medal – Diesel Equipment Technology

Mason McKechnie, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

Silver Medal – Humanoid Robotics

Darion Haile, Ly Nguyen, Frederick County Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

Silver Medal – Quiz Bowl

Adolf Accad, Adam Cullen, Andrew Fan, Amara Gammon, Amber Wachowski, Carl Wachowski, North Point High School for STI – Charles County

Silver Medal – Television (Video) Production

Taran McNulty, Nora Sanchez, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

Bronze Medal – Additive Manufacturing

Andrew Daddone, Layke Martin, Frederick County Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

Bronze Medal – Digital Cinema

Alec Rosinski, Jacob Rosinski, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

Bronze Medal – Nurse Assisting

Kelsey Swegle, North Point High School for STI – Charles County

- 4th Place** – Mobile Robotics Technology
Maggie Kemp, Kaleb Schmucki, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County
- 4th Place** – T-Shirt Design
Ethan Tucker, Thomas Edison High School of Technology – Montgomery County
- 5th Place** – Electrical Construction Wiring
Ryan Robertson, Washington County Technical High School – Washington County
- 5th Place** – Telecommunications Cabling
Bailey St. Clair, Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County
- 6th Place** – Crime Scene Investigation
Jodi Bentz, Jordan Kimble, Alisha Smith, Washington County Technical High School – Washington County
- 6th Place** – Career Pathways – Health Services
Danielle Munn, Sierra Payne, Makayla Zajdel, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County
- 6th Place** – Career Pathways – Human Services
Mia Dill, Stacia Elbert, Helen Odenwald, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County
- 6th Place** – Major Appliance and Refrigeration Technology
Edilberto Lovaton, J.M. Tawes Technology and Career Center – Somerset County
- 6th Place** – Welding Fabrication
Jhared Biddinger, Dylan Martinez, Nathan Schwartzbeck, Frederick County Career and Technology Center – Frederick County
- 6th Place** – Health Occupations Professional Portfolio
Peace Arobieke, Western School of Technology and Environmental Science – Baltimore County
- 6th Place** – Job Skill Demonstration A
CharNae Brown, Western School of Technology and Environmental Science – Baltimore County
- 6th Place** – Occupational Health and Safety - Single
Harley Elsner, Zachary Moats, Darren Taylor Jr., Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County
- 6th Place** – Team Engineering Challenge (MS)
Chase Farlow, Daniel Outten, Rebecca Staines, Worcester Technical High School - Worcester County
- 7th Place** – Aviation Maintenance Technology
Vince Dickerson, Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County
- 7th Place** – Related Technical Math
Shea Griffin, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

7th Place – Technical Computer Applications

J'Mari Romain, Western School of Technology and Environmental Science – Baltimore County

8th Place – Audio-Radio Production

Victoria Brooks, Rick Girard, Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County

8th Place – Internetworking

Christian Frazier, North Point High School for STI – Charles County

8th Place – Mobile Electronics Installation

Eric Ballard, J.M. Tawes Technology and Career Center – Somerset County

9th Place – Building Maintenance

Eric Taylor, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

9th Place – Career Pathways – Business, Management and Technology

Caleb Gee, Leah Lindsay, Stephen Smith, Washington County Technical High School – Washington County

9th Place – Firefighting

Ethan Poore, Calvert Career and Technology Academy – Calvert County

9th Place – Technical Drafting

Grace Neff, Frederick Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

9th Place – Interactive Application and Video Game Development

Vivekkyoti Bannerjee, Ya'akov Goldberg, Western School of Technology and Environmental Science – Baltimore County

10th Place – Carpentry

Cameron White, Parkside High School CTE – Wicomico County

10th Place – Community Action Project

DeShawn Collick, Adam Taylor, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

10th Place – Graphic Imaging - Sublimation

Colby Barclay, Center for Career and Technical Education – Allegany County

10th Place – Health Knowledge Bowl

Tara Gabrielsen, Hannah Gruber, Riley MacIntyre, Caytlyn Rose, Center of Applied Technology North – Anne Arundel 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.mdcteprograms.org/> or visit the official SkillsUSA Maryland website at www.mdskillsusa.org.