Fall has officially begun and besides cooler weather and pumpkin spice flavored products, this means that the Fall Leadership Development Academy at Camp Kulaqua is quickly approaching! This year’s theme is Great Classical Greek Leaders and we will be highlighting the qualities of integrity, wisdom, confidence, perseverance, communication, compassion, and creativity. Whose team will you be a part of? For members who have never attended FLDA, you will be attending various workshops constructed by your very own State Officers, as well as a few special guests, and learn all about leadership. Throughout the weekend you will also be given the opportunity to engage and network with your fellow Florida HOSA members during fun activities and recreation time. For those members whom we are welcoming back, we are excited to introduce a few new components to FLDA that we have been developing, including a large-scale Kahoot battle between the members and your State Officer Team! But no need to fear, we will still go on our traditional hayride and you will still get to watch your State Officer Team in their two-bit skits throughout the weekend. We hope to see you all there for a weekend full of leadership development and long-lasting memories!
OFFICER ARTICLES

PENNY WARS

Sometimes the smallest things in life can make the biggest impact. Likewise, the smallest form of currency, the penny, can collectively contribute to making the biggest difference. In 2017, approximately $70 million in pennies were lost in circulation. With that being said, I think it’s time Florida HOSA step up and turn things around through our annual Penny Wars! For our new members, Penny Wars is a friendly competition to raise awareness and funds for the 2018 - 2020 HOSA Service Project: The Pediatric Cancer Foundation (NPCF).

The guidelines for this competition are simple:

1) From now until SLC, be sure to collect as many pennies as possible to donate to your region. 1 Penny = 1 Point
2) Any silver coins (Nickels/Dimes/Quarters) and paper money are welcome too! Except there's a small catch - all silver coins and cash can be placed in another region's bottle SLC to subtract points! (For example, 100 pennies would be canceled out by a $1 bill)
3) The region with the highest money-value (after all point deductions) will be recognized and crowned as the winner at SLC!

Last year, we raised an astounding $8,982.45 for the HOSA Service Project, NAMI. Florida HOSA, I challenge all of you this year to break $10,000 for the National Pediatric Cancer Foundation (NPCF). Together, let's make a positive impact and change the lives of pediatric cancer patients!

To learn more about the NPCF, visit: https://nationalpcf.org/.

GETTING READY FOR COMPETITION!

Guess what time of the year it is! You guessed it; it is time to get ready for competitions. I hope everyone's school year is off to a great start so far! Competition is something we all look forward to and these events will create lifelong memories.

I would like to offer all of you some friendly advice - make sure you compete in something that interests you and choose partners that you work well with under stress. I personally know how nerve-wracking competitions can get; just remember every competitor has that same nervous feeling. Use this experience as a learning tool. When it’s time for you to compete in your event or to take your test, just take a deep breath and think about all of the positives that you will gain and how you have grown as a person from being a HOSA member.

If you are like me and want to make sure you do your absolute best, be sure to take some personal time. Try not to let your event stress you out. Don’t neglect yourself and make sure you get plenty of rest. Do your best to stay focused on school and spend quality time with friends and family. It is important that you get the most out of this opportunity. You will have many chances to network, make new friends and learn new skills. As we gear up for our competitions be supportive of your fellow HOSA members and make sure you have fun! Good luck to you all!
Simple three letters have changed my life this past September; W - L - A! Your Northern VP, Secondary, Brandon Shadeed and I had the opportunity to represent Florida HOSA at the 12th Annual Washington Leadership Academy. We were able to attend workshops, visit our nation’s monuments, hear some amazing speakers, and meet the leaders of our great association. We were able to learn about being equipped to be Socially Responsible Leaders through the Social Change Model. We are excited to bring back what we have learned to serve you, our members. We also want to thank you, Florida HOSA! If it weren’t for your support by becoming members, we wouldn’t have been able to make it to D.C. to learn these vital skills!

As members of our organization, you have the chance to become a State Officer! Please check our Florida HOSA website over the Winter Break to find the State Officer Candidate Application which outlines the process of how to become a State Officer. The application deadline will be February 2, 2019, and it will come quickly! Don’t forget! If your application is properly submitted and meets the requirements, start studying for the test! At our State Leadership Conference, you will take a test and if you meet the standards, you will be scheduled for an interview with the various leaders of our association. Once slated, you will get to show our voting delegates your potential by giving a speech at our business session the following day. This is your chance to shine, so make it memorable! Let our members see what skills you have to contribute to the State Team for the 2019 - 2020 year!

We thank you again and we wish all our State Officer candidates good luck!

Hello, Florida HOSA Members! It is officially Fall, and I hope everyone is getting excited to attend our upcoming Fall Leadership Development Academy (FLDA)! The current State Officer Team and State Staff have been working hard on this conference to make sure it is a great experience for everyone who attends.

An aspect of FLDA is fundraising for our Florida HOSA Foundation Scholarship. This year your State Officer Team will showcase the State Officer Challenge where you can take us on using the online interactive trivia quiz platform Kahoot! This challenge will happen during the Saturday evening General Session and there will be three different quizzes. Your 3 - 5 person team can choose which quizzes they want to challenge the State Officers in - HOSA Hodgepodge, FLDA Theme of Classical Greece, and/or Potpourri. Each quiz will be $3.00 per team. Let’s see if your team can Kahoot! better than the State Officers!

Also, your State Officers have designed a long-sleeve t-shirt that can be purchased for $15.00. While many were pre-ordered during online registration, there will also be a few extra shirts available at FLDA. All proceeds will go to the Florida HOSA Foundation Scholarship.

Your State Officer Team can’t wait to see you at the Fall Leadership Developmental Academy!
Hello, Florida HOSA! I hope your school year has been off to a great start! For some of you, Senioritis has begun to set in and you cannot wait until you set foot on a college campus. As you begin to submit your college applications, you may be wondering how you are going to be able to afford these pricey tuitions. I always tell individuals that HOSA is all about the members which includes offering multiple scholarships! Florida HOSA offers two scholarship applications for its members: the Florida HOSA Foundation Scholarship and the HOEAF Scholarship. Along with these scholarships, you can apply for the HOSA Scholarship that is offered by Global HOSA. The first deadline for the Florida HOSA Foundation Scholarship is February 15, 2019, which includes turning in a scholarship application form, activities summary, proof of membership, grades, and an essay. Supporting materials for this scholarship must be postmarked on/before February 28, 2019. The first deadline for the HOEAF Scholarship is March 1, 2019, with supporting materials submission postmarked on/before March 15, 2019. In order to be eligible for the HOEAF Scholarship, your advisor must be a HOEAF member so make sure you speak to your advisor. Additional information on these two scholarships can be found at http://www.flhosa.org/resourcespublications/scholarships.

For those interested in applying for the HOSA Scholarship, you will need to use STEM Premier to complete your application. Once your resume is completed on STEM Premier, you need to search “HOSA Scholarship” and click apply. For more information on this scholarship, visit http://www.hosa.org/scholarships.

As excited as you may be for college, it is important to not overlook these scholarships. You have worked very hard the past four years and you should be rewarded for your passion and dedication. Apply, even if you don’t think you have a chance. You have nothing to lose and MONEY to gain! “You miss 100% of the shots you don’t take” -Wayne Gretzky. I look forward to seeing you all throughout the rest of this school year!

Charles Benitez
State Southern Vice-President, PS/C

HOSA WEEK!

What could be better than spending a day celebrating HOSA? A week of it! Greetings, Florida HOSA! I hope you are having an exciting start to the new HOSA year. Along with November comes HOSA Week - a time when HOSA chapters all over the world celebrate HOSA through promotional, service, and educational events. HOSA Week is scheduled to be taken place November 4 - 10, 2018; however, if you are like me, HOSA Week is every week! And HOSA Week can be celebrated during ANY week of the year, not just the first week in November.

If your chapter is interested in participating in HOSA Week, be sure to check out some ideas that HOSA has provided at this link: http://www.hosa.org/node/122. HOSA Week is also a great time to promote and raise awareness for our HOSA Service Project, the National Pediatric Cancer Foundation. I look forward to seeing your involvement and creativity, Florida HOSA!

Shane Alexander
State Parliamentarian
Suncoast Region West, formally known as Region 4 West, kicked-off the 2018-2019 HOSA year by hosting their Fall Leadership Conference (FLC) at the Rusty Pelican Restaurant in Tampa. Members from all around the Suncoast area came together for brunch as they elected new Regional Officers and participated in a HOSA Bowl competitive event. Members had the opportunity to unite and network with chapters across the region. Members bonded over brunch while our guest speaker, Carleigh DeLuca from the National Pediatric Cancer Foundation which is 2018 - 2020 HOSA Service Project, informed the members of ways to support and change the lives of children battling cancer. They were also advised on how to become an ambassador to donate to cancer research and ways to connect members to their future career if it pertained to pediatric cancer.

HOSA Bowl is a widely known competitive teamwork event and the mock HOSA Bowl competition hosted at this FLC helped prepare members for future competition at our Winter Leadership Conference. Teams from each school challenged each other in friendly rivalry, where the final top three were presented with accolades. Regional Officer inductions followed soon after and the new Regional Officer Team was introduced to Suncoast West by our very own State President-Elect, Sricharan Pusala, and State Parliamentarian, Shane Alexander. We humbly congratulate all our new officers and wish them luck!

We are all very excited to see where this year will take us and eager to help our region grow and succeed together!
Do you think you have one of the best Career and Technical Education programs in the nation? Apply for the 2019 Excellence in Action Award to showcase the amazing work of your students, instructors, faculty and partners at the national level. In its 6th year, this award honors innovative and high impact programs across the 16 Career Clusters that prepare students for the real world.

Not only will your program be featured in the media and an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. in the spring, you’ll also be contributing to a positive image of CTE programs, and letting policymakers, employers and education leaders know that CTE really is for all students, and prepares them for a lifetime of college and career success. Applications are open to secondary and postsecondary schools/institutions. Apply today!