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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## *Media Release*

# **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 5, 2017)** – Maryland’s SkillsUSA delegation brought home 22 medals from the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC), held in Louisville, KY, last week. In addition, former SkillsUSA Maryland State President, Laila Mirza, a rising senior at Worcester Technical High School, was elected to the SkillsUSA National Officer Team and her chapter’s advisor Rick Stephens, was honored as the SkillsUSA National Region One Advisor of the Year.

A team of the state’s most talented Career and Technology Education (CTE) high school students showcased their skills in 92 career and technical competitions. Demonstrating exemplary CTE training, Maryland students challenged 6,500 other student champions from all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

Maryland students competing in Early Childhood Education, Electronics Technology, Graphic Communications (PS), Humanoid Robotics, Interactive Application and Video Game Development and Team Engineering Challenge (MS) are officially among the best in the nation, returning with gold medals. Silver medals were awarded to students in Nail Care Design and students competing in Additive Manufacturing, Automotive Refinishing Technology, Basic Health Care Skills, Commercial Baking, Diesel Equipment Technology, Graphic Communications (HS), Internetworking, Medical Terminology and Television (Video) Production earned bronze medals.

SkillsUSA Maryland has a statewide membership of 5,000 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.

Maryland CTE students representing 23 counties and Baltimore City competed at the 2017 SkillsUSA State Championships held at Anne Arundel Community Television, Anne Arundel County Fire

Training Academy, Center of Applied Technology North, CCBC Catonsville, Conference Center at the Maritime Institute of Technology, North County High School, Plumbers and Steamfitter Local 486, Printing Specialist Corporation, Soller's Point Technical High School and Stratford University.

The following students finished the national challenge with outstanding accomplishments:

**SkillsUSA Maryland National Top Ten – 2017 NLSC**

**Gold Medal – Early Childhood Education**

Maria Miller, North Point High School for Science, Technology and Industry – Charles County

**Gold Medal – Electronics Technology**

Joshua McKelvey, Parkside High School / CTE – Wicomico County

**Gold Medal – Graphic Communications (PS)**

Brittney Whitestone, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

**Gold Medal – Humanoid Robotics**

August Shrader, Layke Martin, Frederick County Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

**Gold Medal – Interactive Application and Video Game Development**

Alexis Woodard, Clara Terschuur, Applications and Research Laboratory – Howard County

**Gold Medal – Team Engineering Challenge (MS)**

Dylan Arnold, Judah Morningstar, Noah Selt, Worcester Technical High School - Worcester County

**Silver Medal – Nail Care**

Wendy Chavez-Ramos, Thomas Edison High School of Technology – Montgomery County

**Bronze Medal – Additive Manufacturing**

Andrew Daddone, Austin Lemere, Trevor Wheelock, Frederick County Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

**Bronze Medal – Automotive Refinishing Technology**

Taylor Hill, Center of Applied Technology North – Anne Arundel County

**Bronze Medal – Basic Health Care Skills**

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

**Bronze Medal – Commercial Baking**

Kayla Clingan, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

**Bronze Medal – Diesel Equipment Technology**

Frankie Forman, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

**Bronze Medal – Graphic Communications (HS)**

Brittany Whitestone, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

**Bronze Medal – Graphic Communications (PS)**

Lexi Hengeveld, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

**Bronze Medal – Internetworking**

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

**Bronze Medal – Television (Video) Production**

Levi Trumbull, Michael Manning, Frederick County Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

**Bronze Medal – Medical Terminology**

Carl Wachowski, North Point High School for Science, Technology and Industry – Charles County

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

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

**4<sup>th</sup> Place – Broadcast News Production**

Cheyenne Scobie, Jade Lopez, Jayla Pollock, Nicholas Gregorio, Frederick County Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

**4<sup>th</sup> Place – Cabinetmaking**

Payton Dixon, Southern Garrett High School – Garrett County

**4<sup>th</sup> Place – Graphic Imaging - Sublimation**

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

**4<sup>th</sup> Place – Health Knowledge Bowl**

Amita McDonald, Cherrymae Alvarez, Katarina Buckley, Mya Rivenburg, North Point High School for Science, Technology and Industry – Charles County

**4<sup>th</sup> Place – Nurse Assisting**

Caitlin Forschen, Calvert Career and Technology Academy – Calvert County

**4<sup>th</sup> Place – Prepared Speech**

Laila Mirza, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

**4<sup>th</sup> Place – Principles of Engineering and Technology**

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

**6<sup>th</sup> Place – Career Pathways – Health Services**

Ivy Stearn, Makayla Zajdel, Samantha Stephen, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

**6<sup>th</sup> Place – Career Pathways – Industrial and Engineering Technology**

Alexander Repass, Anthony Romagnoli, Brooklyn Poff, Frederick Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

**6<sup>th</sup> Place – Crime Scene Investigation**

Daniel Tyndall, Devin Mewborn, Julia Morris, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

**6<sup>th</sup> Place** – Engineering Technology-Design

John Podsednik, Kyra Pratley, William Voorhees, Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary’s County

**6<sup>th</sup> Place** – Major Appliance and Refrigeration Technology

Shawn Mitchell, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

**6<sup>th</sup> Place** – Plumbing

Joseph Schlick, Western School of Technology and Environmental Science – Baltimore County

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

Callie DiGiacomantonio, Liv Christopher, Mary Clark, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

**6<sup>th</sup> Place** – Robotics: Urban Search and Rescue

August Shrader, Layke Martin, Frederick County Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

**7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Advertising Design

Michelle Young, North Point High School for STI – Charles County

**7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Audio-Radio Production

Danielle Brooks, Kameron Hailey-Matthews, Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary’s County

**7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Career Pathways – Arts and Communication

Joseph Kincaid, Joshua Klein, Robert Wilson, Frederick County Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

**7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Electrical Construction Wiring

Michael Dickens, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County

**7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Entrepreneurship

Connor Huyck, Darion Haile, Hannah Miller, Kyle Bankey, Frederick Career and Technology Center – Frederick County

**7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Employment Application Process

Adam Snyder, Thomas Edison High School of Technology – Montgomery County

**7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Health Occupations Professional Portfolio

Jordan Janschek, Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary’s County

**7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Industrial Motor Control

Jakob Campbell, Cecil County School of Technology – Cecil County

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

Sabrina Dugans, Center of Applied Technology South – Anne Arundel County

**7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Mobile Robotics Technology

Andrew Miller, Kaleb Schmucki, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County

- 7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Related Technical Math  
Joseph Sheely, Eastern Technical High School – Baltimore County
- 7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Sheet Metal  
Zachery Smith, Center for Career and Technical Education – Allegany County
- 7<sup>th</sup> Place** – Telecommunications Cabling  
Bailey St. Clair, Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County
- 8<sup>th</sup> Place** – Building Maintenance  
Trevor Moats, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester County
- 8<sup>th</sup> Place** – Dental Assisting  
Aspen Toler, Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County
- 8<sup>th</sup> Place** – Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration  
Spencer Koenig - Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County
- 8<sup>th</sup> Place** – Job Skill Demonstration A  
Nikkie Navarro, Center of Applied Technology North – Anne Arundel County
- 8<sup>th</sup> Place** – T-Shirt Design  
Lauren Brock, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County
- 9<sup>th</sup> Place** – Career Pathways – Business, Management and Technology  
Derrick Hannah, Jacob Key, Karla Tellez, Washington County Technical High School – Washington County
- 9<sup>th</sup> Place** – Career Pathways – Human Services  
Brandon Hammett, Kaya Jackson, Robert Thompson III, Washington County Technical High School – Washington County
- 9<sup>th</sup> Place** – First Aid / CPR  
Briona Stauffer, Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County
- 10<sup>th</sup> Place** – CNC Turning Specialist  
Jeff Green, Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County
- 10<sup>th</sup> Place** – Cosmetology  
Alexandra Jacobs - Carroll County Career and Technology Center – Carroll County
- 10<sup>th</sup> Place** – Medical Math  
Sierra Payne, Worcester Technical High School – Worcester 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.mdcteprogams.org/> or visit the official SkillsUSA Maryland website at [www.mdskillsusa.org](http://www.mdskillsusa.org).