



MARYLAND FBLA

JANUARY 2018 EDITION

MDFBLA CHAPTER CONNECTIONS



INSIDE THIS — ISSUE —

- Competitive Events Season Has Begun
- For Your Information...FBLA Week and More!
- For Your Information... Outstanding Chapter Criteria and More!
- BAA & CSA Progression
- Middle Level FBLA Competitive Events Prep

KEY DATES

JANUARY

Maryland Regional Conferences

- 15** Region 1: Jan 15th (Snow date Jan 17th)
- 7** Region 2: Jan 7th (Snow date Jan 23rd)
- 9** Region 3: Jan 9th (Snow date Jan 16th)
- 9** Region 4: Jan 9th (Snow date Jan 16th)
- 5** Region 5: Jan 5th (Snow date Jan 9th)

Jan 1 - Mar 1 National FBLA Action Awareness

Jan 28 - Feb 22 LifeSmarts Spring Competition Begins

COMPETITIVE EVENTS SEASON HAS BEGUN

-Luke Mann, Region 5 VP

FBLA competitive event season has begun! Beginning with Regional Leadership Conferences, hundreds of Maryland FBLA members will begin competing in over seventy different competitive events, ranging from Accounting to Word Processing. The top competitors at regionals will have the opportunity to progress to the Maryland FBLA State Leadership Conference to showcase their skills. Top 5 in online tests and Top 3 in performance events move to the next round, SLC! Then, those who qualify from the SLC will move on to the National Leadership Conference to compete against FBLA members from across the world!



Some members are competing in testing events, meaning they will be doing the majority of their work outside of the conferences. Other, however, will be competing in performance events in front of judges at each of the conferences. If you are competing, it is important to remember how much work you, your teammates and even your competitors put into learning, studying, and creating to compete in FBLA competitive events!

Good Luck to everyone!

FOLLOW US ON 
SOCIAL MEDIA!



@MDFBLA



@MDFBLA



@MDFuture
BusinessLeaders



@Maryland FBLA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



ESMERALDA SAMUDIO

Dear FBLA Members and Advisors,

Another fresh new year is here, another year to succeed in FBLA! On behalf of the Maryland FBLA State Officer Team we hope you had a wonderful time with your family and friends during the holiday season. We also wanted to say Good Luck to all of the Regional Leadership Conference competitors, and hope we will see many of you at the State Leadership Conference!

At this point in the FBLA year, the State Officer Team has put in much work to aid your future success and have productively completed 14 out of our 33 goals in this year's program of work. Maryland FBLA's membership is currently at over 2,900 members with over 72 chapters! MDFBLA has a large network and offers multiple workshops, events, and conferences for its members to further business and leadership skills. By joining MDFBLA, you have access to all of these amazing opportunities!

If you or your chapter are interested in having one of the State Officers visit your school make sure to fill out the "Chapter Visit Request Form", which can be found on the MDFBLA website. The chapter visit includes an information session about FBLA, a presentation and you can ask any questions you may have. Personally, I would love to get to meet more of the members in Maryland FBLA.

Best of luck in the year ahead! I know you will "Create. Lead. Inspire." everyone around you!

All the Best,
Esmeralda Samudio, State President

WANT TO REQUEST
A CHAPTER VISIT?

[CLICK HERE](#)

CHECK OUT OUR
FIVE MINUTE FRIDAYS

[CLICK HERE](#)

MDFBLA OUTSTANDING CHAPTER CRITERIA

-Jamar Tolbert, Region 3 VP



Are you looking for a way to get your chapter more engaged in events? Are you wanting to find a way to be recognized on the state level? Then the NEW Maryland FBLA Outstanding chapter program may be for you. This program is broken into four tiers:

- Honorable mention which is for our chapters that have just been started or reactivated or have a new adviser of less than 2 years
- Bronze level has a requirement of 250 points
- Silver with 300 points
- Gold with 350 points

This allows for all of our chapters to be able to participate in our new version of this program.

For more information on this program check out the Maryland FBLA Competitive Events Guide (pages 13-17). There you will find all of the activities that your chapter can take part in, note that all chapters who plan on participating in this program **MUST** compete in Local Chapter Annual Business Report. Report and OCC submission is due February 22, 2019.

Do you think your chapter has been outstanding?

Then enter your chapter in next month's Chapter Spotlight!!

[CLICK HERE](#)

Maryland FBLA has so many outstanding members who do great things for this organization and local chapters.

If you know of an outstanding member, let us know in the link below!

[CLICK HERE](#)

CHAPTER PLAN OF ACTION



HOW SHOULD YOU LEAD YOUR CHAPTER? TIPS FROM YOUR STATE OFFICERS:

- 1 Attend Regional Conferences for perspective region and celebrate winners
- 2 Create and assemble a large scale fundraiser to cut members cost to be able to attend the SLC
- 3 Hold Chapter meetings throughout the month (Invite local businesses, or a local government official)
- 4 Continue holding chapter meetings to achieve chapter program of work goals

TIPS AND TRICKS

1. Prepare for and stay focused at your Regional Leadership Conference
2. Manage your time and workload to keep from becoming stress
3. Continue to work hard, we're almost halfway to the end of the school year
4. Continue to promote business like principles in your chapter
5. ALWAYS bring your energy and passion to all meetings and events!

FUNDRAISER IDEAS



DUCK TANK

Pay for an attempt to dunk someone!

BINGO

Play for prizes

OBSTACLE COURSE

Get your exercise on and have fun

SCAVENGER HUNT

Keep your eyes open



FBLA FUN FACT

The first high school chapter was chartered in Tennessee in 1942

FOR YOUR INFORMATION....

FBLA WEEK AND MORE!



ISABELLE ZHAN
STATE VP

Action Awareness is the third and final part of the National Chapter Challenge program. Similar to Super Sweeps and Nonstop November, the first two parts of the Challenge, Action Awareness encourages chapters to participate in FBLA-PBL week, CTE month, and FBLA programs. The tasks range from planning activities each day of FBLA-PBL week to inviting a guest speaker to recording an audio podcast or video blog. Two are required, and the other eight are optional. The competition runs from January 1st through March 1st. For more information on Action Awareness, you can visit this page on the National FBLA website.

February is CTE month! Career and Technology Education has become an important part of the American education system, providing high school students with tech-based and career-oriented skills. CTE covers 16 different career clusters, from business to agriculture to government. During February, teachers and students from schools across the country celebrate. Even the United States Department of Education participates by visiting schools with outstanding CTE programs. The Association for Career & Technical Education (ACTE) invented the holiday in the first place, and continues to advocate for progress in CTE funding, legislation, and national awareness. Your school can celebrate CTE month this February by inviting field experts in the community as guest speakers, promoting CTE facts with posters and flyers, or hosting an event through FBLA.

Highlighted during the second week of February is an FBLA "holiday," FBLA-PBL Week. Each day of the week is dedicated to a different task showcasing the chapter's activities:

Sunday- share your FBLA-PBL story, favorite memory, or takeaways on social media with the hashtag, #FBLAPBLWeek

Monday- all three national division presidents (FBLA, PBL, and Professional Division) host a live Internet broadcast

Tuesday- talk to peers and community members about the benefits of joining FBLA-PBL

Wednesday- dress for success and show your appreciation for chapter adviser(s)

Thursday- connect with Professional Division members in your community

Friday- post a group photo the FBLA-PBL Facebook page and use the hashtag #FBLAPBLWeek on Instagram and Twitter

Saturday- participate in a community service project

Entry for Maryland FBLA's FBLA-PBL Week competitive event is a multimedia presentation showcasing activities from Monday through Friday. The video can include narration, music, and/or a slideshow that is no more than 3 minutes in length. Each day's focus is slightly different from National FBLA's recommendations, so be sure to read the guidelines before completing activities. For more information, check out the Competitive Events Guide on our state website.

*ACTION AWARENESS
PAGE*

CLICK HERE

CHAPTER OF THE MONTH

NORTH CAROLINE FBLA



North Caroline High School hosted Haunted Hallways, which involved other organizations in the school. Each organization decorated the hallways of the school so children in the community could have fun and trick or treat in a friendly environment. The number of parents and children in attendance was 850.



The North Caroline FBLA chapter is located on the Eastern Shore, and this year they have 30 members. Haunted Hallways was an idea that started last year with the goal of giving back to the community and providing a place for children to trick or treat in a warm, friendly environment. They invited a few other organizations, such as the Student Government Association, Leo Club, and Art Club, to decorate a section of hallway and distribute candy. After sending over 2000 fliers inviting the elementary feeder schools to attend, Haunted Hallways took place with 630 people (parents and children) attending.

This year a few more student organizations joined them in decorating a section of hall, again over 2000 fliers were sent to elementary schools, but this time a total of 850 people (parents and children) attended. FBLA students stayed after school one day and carved pumpkins for a display. The goal for next year is to continue inviting student organizations to participate, but also to possibly invite local businesses as well. If this takes place, they will be able to expand their "hallways" to include more friendly Halloween attractions.

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

UZAIR AHMED - *Mt. Hebron High School*



Uzair Ahmed is serving as the FBLA President of Mt. Hebron High School's chapter. Committed and enthusiastic, Uzair frequently devotes large chunks of his time and effort towards improving Mt. Hebron's FBLA activities and events. Legend says that Uzair is friends with everyone. At school, Uzair goes by his iconic nickname, "Uzi," referencing his tendency to rapidfire novel ideas for yet another social gathering or FBLA related initiative. In fact, last year, Uzair was notably the driving force behind the Fallstival, a successful festival organized by Mt. Hebron's FBLA chapter. To the core, Uzair is a thorough, measured, and passionate individual,

and there has never been a time when Uzi has failed to deliver. Uzair is a perfect example of a people's person.

Thank you Uzair for your extraordinary and exceptional devotion towards FBLA. Keep up the hard work!



BAA & CSA PROGRESSION



JOEY WEILAND
SECRETARY - TREASURER

M A R Y L A N D F B L A

Maryland FBLA strongly encourages all members to pursue a Business Achievement Award (BAA) and a Community Service Award (CSA). The BAA and CSA programs are great ways to enrich your FBLA experience and we suggest that all members participate. Your chapter can participate in the MDFBLA BAA Rockstar Challenge and the Pay It Forward CSA Challenge.

The Business Achievement Awards are a great way to enhance leadership skills, expand knowledge and serve your community in a variety of ways. There are four levels of BAAs in order from least difficult to most difficult: Future, Business, Leader, and America. Through each level, you work at your own pace to complete a variety of leadership and business related tasks. To get started on a BAA all you need to do is ask your advisor to register you and they will provide you with login information. From there all you need to do is get to work. Once you are completed a level, let your advisor know, and he or she will submit the award.

The Future, Business, and Leader levels must be submitted by March 1st. Winners will be recognized with pins at the State Leadership Conference. The America level must be submitted by April 25th. Winner will be recognized with pins at the National Leadership Conference. Maryland FBLA recommends that you get started with your awards immediately!



The Community Service Awards program is designed to reward you for your community service throughout your FBLA career. The three levels of the award and corresponding service hour requirements are as follows: Community - 50 Hours, Service - 200 Hours, and Achievement - 500 Hours.

All you need to do to obtain an award is have your advisor register you and then log your service hours in the online form. Like the BAA once you are completed with a level, let your advisor know, and he or she will submit the award.

The Community and Service levels must be submitted by March 1st. Winners will receive a certificate of recognition. The Achievement level must be submitted by April 25th. Winners will receive a certificate of recognition. Maryland FBLA suggests that you start logging your hours as soon as possible.

MIDDLE LEVEL CORNER

As regionals are approaching, I hope that you all have all already started preparing for your competitive events. Here are just some more tips to place well and have a successful regionals. First of all, make sure to go on the national website and read through all the information about your event. Read through the rating sheet and make sure you know what you are going to get tested on. Second, make sure to have a solid foundation on the main topic of your event. Research and learn to familiarize yourself with the topics so you can succeed at regionals. If taking a test, I recommend finding sample practice tests/material online to practice. Know what way works best when you study, whether its creating flashcards, taking notes, or watching videos, try to find your best way to study. For performance events, remember to practice your presentation and know it inside out. It is a good idea to practice with your parents or peers, so that they can give you some feedback to improve your presentation.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your advisor.

Best,
Kathy Yao, Parliamentarian

CHAPTER CHALLENGES



HELPFUL LINKS

[MDFBLA](#)

[FBLA](#)

[BAAs](#)

[CSAs](#)

[Key Dates](#)

[Competitive Events](#)

Pay It
Forward

DUE: 2/22 FOR MDFBLA - 3/1/19 FOR NATIONAL

The national FBLA Community Service Awards Program (CSAs) Recognizes members with extraordinary commitment to community service. A member who acquires 50 hours of community service to complete the first level, CSA community of the National FBLA CSAs will receive a ribbon at the SLC.