

Business Professionals of America Montana Association

In This Issue

Middle School Welcome	Page 1
FLC Recap.....	Page 2
Torch Awards & Highlights.....	Page 3
Special Dots.....	Page 4
BPA Cares.....	Page 5
Certifications	Page 6
BPA Leads.....	Page 7
Contact Info & Social Media	Page 8

Winter Newsletter | Unlock Your Ambition | 2021



Welcome Middle Level!

By Dalton Sand

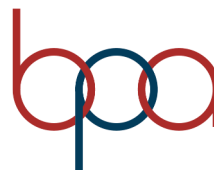
I strongly encourage all middle-level members to participate in the various middle-level events. They are a great way to prepare the students for future high school events.

Listed here are the events the middle-level can participate in:

- 900 - Financial Literacy (ML)
- 915 - Administrative Support Team (ML)
- 920 - Digital Citizenship (ML)
- 925 - Introduction to Word Processing (ML)
- 930 - Spreadsheet Applications (ML)
- 940 - Digital Game Design Team (ML)
- 945 - Graphic Design Promotion (ML)
- 950 - Introduction to Video Production Team (ML)
- 955 - Website Design Team (ML)
- 970 - Entrepreneurship Exploration (ML)
- 975 - Extemporaneous Speech (ML)
- 980 - Prepared Speech (ML)
- 985 - Presentation Management Team (ML)
- 990 - Human Resource Exploration (ML) - Pilot
- 995 - Business Communication Skills Concepts - Open Event (ML)
- 996 - Business Fundamentals Concepts - Open Event (ML)
- 997 - Business Math Concepts - Open Event (ML)
- 998 - Computer Literacy Concepts - Open Event (ML)

We encourage you to invite new chapters and continue to grow our middle-level program.

Thank you for joining BPA, and see you at SLC!



MONTANA
**BUSINESS
PROFESSIONALS**
of AMERICA

Giving Purpose to Potential

2021 Fall Leadership Conference Recap

by Macy Hill

This year we had an amazing Fall Leadership Conference!

If you attended Fall Leadership you will remember it was an event filled conference finding our **“Keys to Success”** through the many workshops and events such as; Biz Bowl, Shark Tank, interacting with Special Olympic athletes, learning about scholarship opportunities with Reach Higher, hearing from our keynote Michael Beers, meeting new people through Keagan Ward’s presentation, and learning how to connect, communicate, and work as a team with your state officers.



On behalf of the state officer team we would like to say thank you to all schools who participated in FLC. We had so much fun getting to know each chapter a little more and we can’t wait to meet even more of you through regional competitions and at SLC.

Shout out to:

- ◇ Glasgow High School for winning the Biz Bowl
- ◇ To Mya Stenson, Tylar Clarly and Ashley Olson of Butte High School for their first place in the Shark Tank competition
- ◇ To Region 3 for winning our “Region that Rocks” award.



Throughout the next couple months we encourage each and everyone of you to use your keys to success to make your dreams become your reality. Connect with other chapters, communicate with your chapter officers, and work as a team through your competitions.

Get ready to **“Unlock Your Ambition”** this year at State Leadership Conference. We can’t wait to see you all there.





Promoting Professionalism and Leadership

by Breanna Blain

The Torch Awards Program is designed to promote professionalism and leadership in both career development and personal growth.

There are four levels of achievement within the Torch Awards Program:

Executive ~ Diplomat ~ Statesman ~ Ambassador

Each level represents a level of recognition towards BPA members' achievements.

The Torch Awards are broken into categories below the levels of achievements. These include:

- ♦ *Leadership*
- ♦ *Service*
- ♦ *Cooperation*
- ♦ *Knowledge*
- ♦ *Friendship*
- ♦ *Patriotism*
- ♦ *Love, Hope, and Faith.*

Each category requires different points in order for the member to receive recognition. Each activity within the categories can be anything from being a coach in the Special Olympics to teaching someone how to fold the American flag correctly.

Once your resume has been filled out, it will be submitted and reviewed in order for you to be deemed a recipient of whatever level of recognition you have been applying. You may access your Torch Award resume by logging into your BPA account and clicking the Torch Awards tab. Once finished, you will click the submit button and wait for results.

These resumes may seem daunting, but if they are filled out throughout the year it becomes easier to track your activities and accomplishments and makes submitting the resume easier. Any questions about the Torch Awards Program can be directed towards your advisor or any one of the State Officer Team.



Chapter Highlights

by Dalton Sand

Recently we asked all the chapters in Montana for a few of their highlights. Here is what we received:

- ⇒ A few chapters have hit all-time highs in recruitment and membership, trying to achieve the state goal of 1,500 members... and we recently reached our goal!
- ⇒ Others attended informational sessions and Fall Leadership to improve their business skills.
- ⇒ A lot of chapters have been fundraising with new creative ideas, like Lollipop and Krispy Kreme sales in an attempt to raise money to travel to Nationals in Texas.
- ⇒ A few chapters have been cleaning their streets and volunteering for community clean-up projects.

It seems like every chapter has been working hard on their events; excited to compete in person this year. We thank you all for your hard work and positive attitudes heading into regionals!

BPA MONTANA ASSOCIATION PRESENTS...

SPECIAL DOTS

****This project replaces the Chain of Love**The State Officer's goal is to raise \$8,000!****

Special Olympics is an amazing program that has a mission:

"to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community."

The Montana BPA Association has been raising funds to donate to the Special Olympics to continue living their mission for years, and this year is no different. The state officer team has a goal of \$8,000 to donate to this amazing organization to be used to continue to do whatever it takes to keep giving back to communities throughout Montana and the nation.



**Special
Olympics**

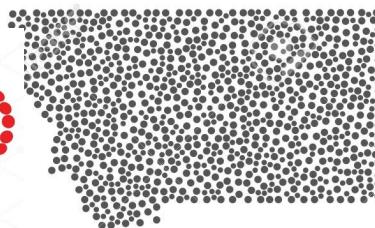
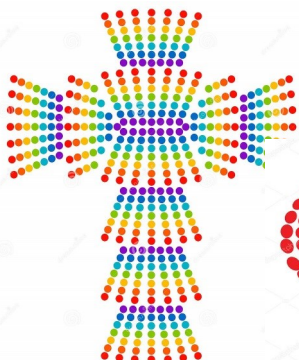
*What better way to give back to such a special organization than with **Special Dots**?*

For every dollar, ten dollars, even hundreds of dollars your chapter raises to donate to Special Olympics, take a sticker dot of your color choice on a board, possibly creating a picture, or just one large blob to show off at State Leadership Conference. This is a great way to give Special Olympics a voice in your community and encourage others to get involved.

To help you all out on your fundraising here are some ideas:

- Hat Days- once a month have a hat day for Special Olympics, pay one dollar and wear a hat all day all proceeds go to your dot boards
- Sell donuts before school- all proceeds go to Special Olympics
- Fun Run- organize a 5k with a small entry fee with all proceeds going to Special Olympics
- Raffle- raffle off an item from a local business, or a basket of some sort
- 50/50 tickets- sell 50/50 tickets at home sporting events
-
- Holiday Cookie Auction- make cookie platters to be auctioned off

by Breanna Blain



BPA CARES

by Macy Hill

BPA Cares is a program organized through Business Professionals of America to help chapters become more active and involved with their community and surrounding supporters.

It is designed for any and all chapters and offers something for everyone. To participate in this program members and students need to engage in a worthwhile project that in turn may give them National recognition and influence public relations in their home and community.

In the BPA cares program there are 3 branches:

Service Learning program ~ Special Recognition Program ~ Professional Awards Program



The *Service Learning Program's* purpose is to encourage individuals and chapters to be involved in their community. While being involved with your community with different service learning techniques you can earn a variety of awards. You can earn awards in Community service, Environmental Action/Awareness, Safety Awareness, Service Learning, Special Olympics, and Social Media.



The purpose of the *Special Recognition Program* is to encourage individuals and chapters to support and promote their organizations. By supporting your communities organizations you can earn awards in BPA Marketing and Public Relations, BPA Merit Scholar Award, Chapter Activities Award of Excellence and Member Recruiter Award.



The *Professional Awards Program* was designed for individuals to acknowledge the dedication and service of our supporters. By giving recognition to your supporters through various ways you can help your amazing role models earn awards such as the Advisor of the Year Award, Emerging Advisor Award, Hall of Fame Award, Outstanding Service Award, and the Professional Cup award.



BPA Cares acts as an outlet to chapters all around Montana. It is an excellent way to get members involved in new and exciting projects all while obtaining national recognition for their chapter.

Keep in mind that all BPA Cares programs will be due on **March 1, 2022** for Professional Awards, and **April 1, 2022** for all others.

Overall BPA Cares is a great outlet for students and chapters that can help them develop leadership skills, and relationships with their community. To learn more about BPA Cares or to access the BPA Cares Program Handbook please go to www.bpa.org for more information.



Ronan BPA officers baking 10 pumpkin pies for community Thanksgiving dinner.

Left to right - Alyssa Pretty On Top, secretary; Tyler Corum, VP; Leina Ulutoa, President

Did You Know?...

Business Professionals of America is the nation's leading CTSO (*Career and Technical Student Organization*) for students pursuing careers in business management, information technology, finance, accounting, office administration, and other business-related career fields.



What did the hat say to the sock?
"I'll go on ahead, you go on foot"

Above cap and socks are available for purchase at bpa.org/mall/

Prepare For Success With BPA

Local Advisor Certification Series

The National Local Advisor Certification Series is designed to prepare local chapter advisors for success in the BPA classroom through online training, peer-to-peer engagement and national program resources.

REQUIREMENTS: Attend or view five (5) weekly training webinars of one (1) hour in length and complete online self-check assessments.

GOALS:

- Prepare new advisors for success in the BPA Classroom.
- Retain existing advisors through supportive training materials resulting in success in the BPA Classroom.
- Provide a training source for new and existing advisors which results in a Trained Pin & Certificate of Completion for Local School Administration.



Student Certification Series

The National Organization offers an enhanced certification series for all of students to make sure they get the most out of their experience with Business Professionals of America. A unique student certification series of two levels has been provided to student members with information and resources to help them become successful.

GOALS:

- Prepare new members for success in their BPA membership.
- Retain existing members through supportive training materials resulting in success in their BPA membership.
- Provide a training source for new and existing members which results in a Trained Pin and a Certificate of Completion.

RECOGNITION:

- Students completing the course will be recognized at the National Leadership Conference with a ribbon and pin.
- Students completing the course will receive a Certificate of Completion.

CERTIFICATION DETAILS:

- The Student Certification Series is self-paced.
- Each lesson consists of four components
- Recorded Video Presentation
- Resource links for additional information





The goal of this academy is for participants to acquire important skills that will mold them into strong leaders. These skills they will use now and in the future. They will learn to know themselves, work with a team, create a vision and believe in their ability to reach that future vision.

They will embark on a journey that not only has the potential to make big things happen in their community and the world, but also in their very own life!

Goals & Objectives:

The Leadership Course will provide online lessons to build skills in critical thinking, problem-solving, teamwork, communication, collaboration, and more.

There will be opportunity to:

- Understand, develop and demonstrate personal leadership qualities and life habits that will make you an effective leader.
- Learn how to lead and work in a team by taking people with you and build on individual team member strengths.
- Understand the importance of service and how you can make an impact by developing a community action plan.
- Learn how these leadership skills transfer to career life skills.

COURSE CONTENT:

**Student participants take a Pre-Survey to gauge where their individual leadership skills are.*

Week 1: Introduction Course Orientation

Week 2: Lesson 1—Be Your Best Self

Week 3: Lesson2—Build a Team of Avid Listeners

Week 4: Lesson 3— Create a Team Structure and Culture

Week 5: Lesson 4— YOU have to BELIEVE it can be done

Week 6: Lesson 5— Market and Be the Change

Week 7: Lesson 6— Share the Story, The Change is Never Over

Week 8: Lesson 7—Virtual Leadership Academy Wrap-up / Post-Survey





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2022 NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
DALLAS, TX

Wednesday, May 4 - Sunday, May 8