



SPOTLIGHT ON LEXIE WICHMAN

Lexie has been working hard to bring the Beef to School program to Moore School. She assisted with creating a procurement policy for our school as well as donor applications. She was featured on the front of the News Argus and on KRTV this weekend. She is passionate about her project and has brought an amazing program into our school!

~Mandy Eike

FCCLA CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

The 77th annual Montana FCCLA State Leadership Conference was held March 14-15 in Bozeman on the MSU campus. Nearly 700 members, advisers, chaperones, and volunteers met to Experience the Ultimate Journey. Look for photos of some of the SLC moments throughout this newsletter and check out our social media accounts for even more!



CONNECT WITH US!



COMING UP!

Montana FCCLA Events:

April 10: Fundraising & NLC adviser webinar at 4:30

May 15: Final affiliation deadline & final deadline to submit service hours

National FCCLA Events:

March 31: TrypScore Safe Roads Challenge ends

April 1: Go For The Red application deadline

April 1: Adviser of the Year nomination deadline

April 24: NLC Fashion Show application due

May 3: Early registration for NLC ends; competitive event registration due; National Anthem singer application due

June 1: Regular NLC Registration ends

June 29-July 1: NLC in Seattle



NEWLY INSTALLED STATE OFFICERS

Meet your 2024-25 State Executive Council!

President: Jill Baumgardner, Harlowton

First Vice President: Kiarra Michalson, Gallatin

Vice President of Finance: Alden Kramer, Ennis

Vice President of Community Outreach: Ava Krings, Conrad

Vice President of Membership: Natalie Seitzinger, Powell County

Vice President of Programs: Triniti Anderson, Glasgow

Vice President of Public Relations: Jodi Gibson, Garfield Co.

Vice President of Parliamentary Law: Frankie Struck, Skyview

Vice President of Competitive Events: Maddy Johnston, Fergus





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ULTIMATE LEADERS



Annika Sorenson Forsyth

Luka Helvic Wibaux

Bailee Wirtzfeld Wibaux

Nikki Nau Sunburst

Lauren Plagenz Fergus

Allie Uecker Fergus

Olivia Reinbold Belgrade

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT SLC



Claire Bucklin Sunburst



Abby Begger Wibaux



Brookelynn Ruckman Fergus



Newly elected Board members Beth Evenhuis and Susie Francis



NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The annual meeting of the Montana FCCLA Board of Directors was held on March 15 at the State Leadership Conference in Bozeman. The group received updates on the organization's finances and activities, and Board President Cathe Felz shared the Strategic Plan 2029. The delegation voted to add Beth Evenhuis and Susie Francis as members of the board for three year terms. President Felz also shared the news that the Board has voted to hold a Fall Rally in Billings September 22-23, 2024

WELCOME TO OUR NEWLY AFFILIATED CHAPTERS!



Colstrip

MEMBER SURVEY REGARDING MSU PROGRAMS

Complete [this survey](#) to impact the development of degree programs in the College of Education, Health, and Human Development at MSU.



CHAPTER AWARDS

Membership Increase

Award: Three Forks

FCCLA

Largest Chapter Award:

Beaverhead FCCLA



SERVICE HALL OF FAME

29 Chapters Reporting
12,838 Hours

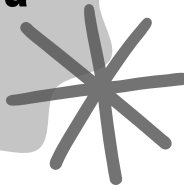
1st Place: Bridger FCCLA,
93.4 hours per member

2nd Place: White Sulphur,
52.24 hours per member

3rd Place: Fergus FCCLA,
52.12 hours per member

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW
CHAPTERS THIS YEAR!**

**GLACIER, MALTA &
SHERIDAN**



STAR CHAPTERS

Gold Star

Chapters:

Wibaux

Three Forks

Jefferson

Forsyth

Fergus

Beaverhead

Moore

Silver Star Chapters:

Conrad

Columbus

Manhattan

Bronze Star Chapters:

Ronan

White Sulphur

Stevensville



VISION ZERO AWARDS

1st Place: Three Forks FCCLA

2nd Place: Beaverhead FCCLA

3rd Place: Arlee FCCLA



STATE OUTREACH PROJECT FINANCIAL FITNESS



This year, these three chapters were named as the State Outreach project winners. Congratulations to the Moore, Forsyth, and Ronan FCCLA chapters for their Financial Fitness Outreach Projects!

CHAPTER OUTREACH PROJECT GRANTS STILL AVAILABLE

Did you come back from SLC with amazing ideas for local projects that can make a positive impact in your community? Montana FCCLA is excited to support community outreach projects through chapter mini-grants. Grants are available for Financial Fitness projects, Week of Service Projects, and for FACTS projects through the Vision Zero partnership with the Montana Department of Transportation. Apply for funds to support your chapter's project [here](#)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD WINNERS!

FIRST YEAR ADVISER RECOGNITION

1

- Raven Ablard
- Cassandra Berry
- Katie Smith
- Terron Torix
- Kami Wellman
- Kelly Byerly
- Tami Engstrom
- Shayle Ehlers
- Tamara Fisher
- Heather Quenzer
- Heather Puckett

FIVE YEAR ADVISER RECOGNITION

5

- Melanie Young
- Mandy Eike

TEN YEAR ADVISER RECOGNITION

10

- Kim Konen

TWENTY YEAR ADVISER RECOGNITION

20

- Barb Clark



New FCCLA Adviser of the Year
Megan Vincent, Fergus



Adviser of the Year
Cassidy Parsons, Jefferson



Spirit of Advising
Mandy Eike, Moore



ProStart Educator of Excellence
Kortney Douma, Belgrade



Alumni Achievement Award
Shae Bruursema



MIRACLE MOMENT AT SLC

A Miracle Moment was held at the Opening General Session to benefit Farm in the Dell, generating \$693.43 to build community-based, self-supporting farming homes for the disabled in Montana.



Top left: Sandy Woldstad leads dance lessons at SLC. Top right: Conference attendees enjoy the MSU campus Bottom left: Brooklynn Gross returned to offer FCCLA 101, officer training and Spotlight on Service.

THANK YOU, CONFERENCE SPONSORS!

Gold level



ZWILLING
J.A.HENCKELS



State Outreach Partners



Silver level



Bronze level

STAR Events Sponsors



CULINARY CORNER

In conjunction with the State Leadership Conference, the Montana ProStart Invitational was held on March 14. Eight schools competed in the culinary competition, and five in the management competition. Congratulations to the teams placing in this year's competitions!



ProStart Culinary
1st Place: Belgrade
2nd Place: Fergus



ProStart Management
1st Place: Belgrade
2nd Place: Powell County



SPECIAL THANKS TO MR. ETHAN IGO FOR SHARING HIS 1485 CLOSING SESSION PHOTOS



200 SNACK PACKS ASSEMBLED FOR THE TUMBLEWEED RUNAWAY PROGRAM

23 BRONZE, 74 SILVER, AND 59 GOLD MEDALS



**467 MEMBERS
58 ADVISERS
37 CHAPERONES
343 STUDENT COMPETITORS
101 NATIONAL QUALIFIERS**

2024 SLC BY THE NUMBERS



20 EXHIBITORS AT THE COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS FAIR

3 STOPS ON THE INDUSTRY IMMERSION TOUR





ZWILLING
J.A.HENCKELS

*Thanks to our
Conference Exhibitors!*

**MARCH 14
LEIGH LOUNGE
11:30-3:00**

AT THE

CONFERENCE EXPO AND COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS FAIR



Center for Research
on Rural Education





SEC FAREWELLS



Hello Montana FCCLA, my journey as a state officer has been amazing!!! I have met amazing people and learned so many valuable skills. Any member that has a desire to help FCCLA to grow. "I implore you, try." Yes I did just quote Zootopia, but it was correct. Try and you might just succeed, this doesn't always mean you have to become a state officer, but it does help. Sharing you ideas and not being afraid to try will help Montana FCCLA to truly grow.
From your VP of Community Outreach, Brylee Stordahl



Hey! This is Alexis Phelps, your Vice President of Membership saying thank you all so much for this amazing year letting me serve as your VP of Membership. As I move on to life I will always remember this last year and be happy just from the thought. Thank you all so much for supporting me in this as well as cheering me on and inspiring me to do better! I am so thankful for all of the people I met this past year! Again, thank you.



Montana FCCLA, as my term as your State President comes to an end, I would like to thank you all who supported me along the way. As a graduating senior this year, I am excited for what this next chapter of my life will bring. The lifelong relationships I have built through FCCLA will have a forever impact on my life, and I could not be more grateful for an organization that shaped me into who I am today. I am confident that the last stretch of my FCCLA journey will bring me pure happiness and fulfillment. I cannot wait to see all of you at the State Leadership Conference! As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to me via my email [@lauren.president@mtfccla.org](mailto:lauren.president@mtfccla.org) and for the last time, this is your State President, Lauren Plagenz, saying goodbye to the Montana Marker.



I can't believe I am here writing this farewell, just one short year later from where my State Officer journey started. This past year has been so busy, fun, exciting, inspiring, and SO beyond fulfilling! Getting to serve as District 4 President gave me a new responsibility I wasn't quite sure I was ready for, but boy am I glad I took on the challenge. My eyes have been opened to so much and I couldn't be more thankful. Along with all the experience and responsibilities I have been able to make some forever besties :) SEC team, you are some of the best people I have ever met and I will cherish our time together forever!! [Annika Sorenson](#), VP Finance



Thank you for a wonderful year of experiences. I feel so blessed to have the opportunity to serve on the State Executive Council this year. A district president/state officer position provides an opportunity that is truly once in a lifetime, but being a state officer is not the only way to experience everything amazing about FCCLA. This organization provides many awesome opportunities that you need to check out. Through FCCLA I have improved my leadership, communication, public speaking, writing, and organizational skills. I have had the opportunity to visit places in the United States like Nashville, San Diego, and Denver. I have been able to explore careers, take part in national competitions and make lifelong friends. I will always be thankful to FCCLA for the amazing opportunities it has provided for me and the personal growth and confidence it has fostered in me. ~ Emma Harrison

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CONNECT WITH US!



SEC FAREWELLS



Montana FCCLA, I cannot begin to express what this past year has meant to me. I truly can't thank you enough for this amazing JOURNEY you all have led me on. FCCLA has permanently impacted my life all for the better. I have become a more confident and outgoing person, all because I got elected as a State Officer. As I am only a junior this year, I can't wait to involve myself in FCCLA for one more year. I hope to take these amazing experiences with me and inspire others to become the amazing leaders that they were destined to be. Being one of Montana's State Officers has been one of the greatest experiences ever, and I wouldn't change it for the world. This is your Vice President of Programs, Maddie Schrecengost, signing off.



Hey everyone! It is Zoey Ator, your Vice President of Parliamentary Law, saying my last words as a Montana State Officer! This year has been nothing short of amazing and it is all because of YOU! I encourage each and every one of you to run for an officer position whether it is in FCCLA, BPA, FFA, 4-H, Student Council, or Key Club. Do it! You will learn so much and become an even better person! Thank you Montana FCCLA for choosing me to be a part of your Ultimate Journey!



This past year has been truly incredible and I am so thankful for all the memories I have made and getting to serve you. I am so excited to have the opportunity to be on the SEC another year. It has been amazing to see how all of your chapters have grown and just been awesome this year. Thank you all for being the best members and thank you to my team this past year for being the most genuine people I know. I am so excited to see how Montana FCCLA grows next year!

Jill Baumgardner 23-24 First VP



Thank you, Montana FCCLA, for encouraging and supporting me through my year as a state officer. This experience has allowed me to expand on my leadership and communication skills, and has presented me with awesome friends that I'm grateful to know. I strongly encourage you all to step out of your comfort zone, and try something new in your school or community. You never know what you'll learn, or who you'll meet! I can't wait to see you all soon as our experience of the Ultimate Journey comes to an end at SLC in March! Thank you again for a great year, this is your Vice President of Public Relations, Jacob Harvey, signing off.

CONNECT WITH US!

