

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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[New Mexico, August 3, 2011] – Forty-six New Mexico students received Skill Point Certificates at the SkillsUSA national championship. Skills Point Certificates are awarded to those students whose score in the competition meets the cut score of proficiency standard set by industry representatives of their respective career areas.

The SkillsUSA Championships, held in Kansas City, Mo., took place June 20-24, 2011, as part of the SkillsUSA 47th annual National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC), a showcase of career and technical education students. During the week, more than 5,800 outstanding career and technical education students from across the nation—all state contest winners competed hands-on in 96 different trade, technical and leadership fields.

During the national competition, students worked against the clock and each other, proving their expertise in occupations areas. All contests are run with the help of industry, trade associations, and labor organizations.

New Mexico Skill Point Proficiency Certificates were awarded to:

- Manuel Alvarado and Matthew Griste from Digital Arts & Technology Academy (DATA) in Albuquerque for 3-D Visualization and Animation

- Sharie Begay, Nahnbah Ciccarello, Kami Morgan, Justine Pete, Sarah Sandoval, Amber Turner, and Shalli White from Navajo Technical College (NTC) for Quiz Bowl
- Melodie Brown from New Mexico Junior College (NMJC) for Nurse Assisting
- Trevence Bruno from Central New Mexico Community College (CNM) for Job Skill Demonstration
- Tawnie Cave and Sheylin Shavers from San Juan College for Esthetics
- Jimena Chavez and Destiny Porras from Deming High School for Outstanding Chapter
- Brennen Clelland, Joshua Ellrod, and Jarad Martinez from Farmington Municipal Schools, CATE center for Welding Fabrication
- Alejandro Coss and Miriam Rodarte from Hobbs High School for Promotional Bulletin Board
- Shaun Dolley from CNM for Residential Wiring
- Roxanne Garcia and Crystal Rae Martinez from Luna Community College for Nail Care
- Lawrence Gomez from Luna Community College for Collision Repair Technology
- Lorenzo Goodluck, Kevin Snow, and Damian Stone from Central New Mexico Community College for Welding Fabrication
- Terri Hall, Shelby Hamilton, Victor Hernandez, and JD McAdams from Hobbs High School for Entrepreneurship
- David Harris from Central New Mexico Community College for Criminal Justice
- Jamie Henio from Navajo Technical College for Prepared Speech

- Gregory Kenneth from Central New Mexico Community College for Job Skill Demonstration
- Ivan Lunsford from Carlsbad High School for Automotive Service Technology
- Raina Marianito from Navajo Technical College for Food and Beverage Service
- Michael Melendrez from Carlsbad High School for Automotive Refinishing Technology
- Yadhira Ortiz and Kassandra Perez from Hobbs High School for American Spirit
- Rebecca Ross from San Juan College for Cosmetology
- Erin Thomas from Taos High School for Commercial Baking
- Alvina Tom and Zandra Trujillo from Navajo Technical College for Sustainability Solutions
- Earl Varela from Luna Community College for Automotive Refinishing Technology
- Ben Weiss from Central New Mexico Community College for Extemporaneous Speaking

SkillsUSA is a national partnership of students, teachers and industry, working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA chapters help students who are preparing for careers in technical, skilled and service occupations excel. SkillsUSA has more than 300,000 students and instructors as members.

For more information, visit [www.SkillsUSA.org](http://www.SkillsUSA.org).