

COLUMBIA AREA CAREER CENTER
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEADLINE: Local SkillsUSA members dominate state conference and competitions

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, April 11, 2016 — Columbia Public Schools’ Columbia Area Career Center

SkillsUSA members recently participated in the SkillsUSA Missouri’s 50th State Leadership and Skills Conference. This conference was held in multiple locations across the state March 31-April 2, 2016. The first-place winners of each contest category will compete at the national level. SkillsUSA national competitions will be held in Louisville, Ky., June 20-24, 2016. More than 16,000 people—including students, teachers and business partners—are expected to participate in the week-long event.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. They provide educational programs, events and competitions that support career and technical education in classrooms across the nation, including Missouri. The members listed below are the CACC secondary students who placed in the top three spots of a state contest.

SkillsUSA Member(s)	Contest Category	Placement
Dzung Nguyen and Joanna Yu	Team Event: 3-D Visualization and Animation	First*
Nicholas Gray, Pranavkumar Patel and John Seina	Team Event: American Spirit	First*
Embrashia Mathies	Commercial Baking	Third
Devish Kumar, Arlie Nole and Matthew Vincent	Team Event: CPS-Science, Technology & Math	First*
Jasmine Foly	Culinary Arts	Third
Giovanni Bartolacci	Culinary Arts	First*
Thomas Jurczyk	Internetworking	Third
Justin Hanks	Job Skill Demonstration Open	Third
Siddhant Chaurasia	T-Shirt Design	Third

Thumbnail contest descriptions available at: www.skillsusa.org/competitions/skillsusa-championships/contest-descriptions/

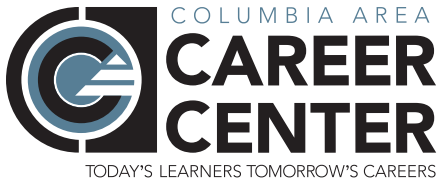
*Members competing in the SkillsUSA National Championships

“I cannot speak highly enough about the students and the advisors of SkillsUSA,” said Dr. Brandon Russell, assistant director of CACC. “The Missouri state conference and competition represented a team effort and everyone’s



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hard work paid off. CACC was well represented and we are proud of our leadership at a local, state and national level. I wish the best of luck to the students and advisors continuing onto nationals.”

CACC is a part of the Columbia Public School District and serves the community by providing the following education programs to a variety of ages including, but not limited to: career and technical education, personal enrichment, literacy advancement, workforce development and summer camps. For more information, visit www.career-center.org.

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