



Syracuse Convention & Visitors Bureau
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Skilled Students Compete in Syracuse

TOMORROW

SkillsUSA Championship April 9-11

***“The prosperity of this state and nation rests upon
the skills of our workers and citizens.”***

SYRACUSE, April 8, 2008—The New York Association of SkillsUSA will host the New York State Leadership Conference and Skills Championships, **April 9, 10, and 11 at the OnCenter Complex**. The state convention showcases the skills of our vocational students and their instructors. Over **1,700** students from 84 trade and technical schools in New York will be competing in 64 trade and leadership contests.

Skill contests include: Automotive Technology, Auto Collision Repair, Carpentry, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Electronics Repair, and Health Care. In addition, students will be competing in Public Speaking, Job Demonstrations, Job Interview, and other contests related to their course of study.

The Opening Session will take place at the **War Memorial Auditorium from 7:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, April 9th**. Nehemiah Payne, National Skills USA Parliamentarian from Ohio will be the Keynote Speaker. **On Thursday, April 10th, at 8 a.m., the contests will begin**. They will be located at the OnCenter Convention Center Exhibit Hall and Ballroom, the War Memorial, and the Liverpool Holiday Inn Convention Center.

Contest sites are open to the public at 10:30 a.m. and will continue to mid afternoon.

A quarter of a million dollars in scholarships and tools will be awarded to student winners at the awards ceremony at **9 a.m., April 11, 2008** at the War Memorial Auditorium.

The prosperity of this state and nation rests upon the skills of our workers and citizens. The SkillsUSA New York Association is helping students to become “Champions at Work”. This assures that our state and nation will

have highly skilled workers in the future. It is fitting that recognition is given to the young people in this organization who represent competent and forward thinking technical, trade, and health leaders in the future.

SkillsUSA is a national organization of over 280,000 members serving the students of career and technical education enrolled in public high school and post-secondary trade, technical and health occupations programs. More than 10,000 students are members of the New York Secondary SkillsUSA Association, a chartered affiliate of the national association organization. In the central New York area, there are active SkillsUSA chapters at OCM BOCES, Oswego BOCES, Cayuga Onondaga BOCES, Madison Oneida BOCES, Jefferson Lewis BOCES, and Central Technical High School, Syracuse.

The career and technical programs offered by schools and colleges in conjunction with the SkillsUSA program, teach academic, occupational and professional skills, which shape high school and post-secondary students into world-class workers and responsible citizens. Through SkillsUSA, students are introduced to the corporate quality culture, which emphasizes the dignity of work, high standards in trade ethics and workmanship, lifelong learning and job safety. Community service, patriotism, and an understanding of the free enterprise system are also core elements of SkillsUSA.

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