



# IFL & NLC

## 2017 Anaheim, California



At the end of June, in Anaheim, California over 200 of Oregon's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students and advisers attended the Institute for Leaders (IFL) and the National Leadership Conference (NLC). Over 11,000 worldwide delegates (the largest NLC conference) participated in business and leadership training, workshops, corporate tours, election of National Officers, and competed in the events programs.

I was fortunate to participate in the two-day workshop at IFL for advisers. The IFL training proved **again** to be the most positive experience. During the two days, advisers were able to collaborate with each other and hear from dynamic speakers. Jeff Kaylor and Ryan Underwood lead the adviser sessions and spoke about creating "Magical Moments" in the classroom. During NLC, I assisted each of the groups prior to competition. I was excited to find out that **five** groups qualified to compete during the final round of competition. Even more exciting **all five** groups placed at the national level. Tenth place; Business Plan, 6<sup>th</sup> place; Business Financial Plan, 5<sup>th</sup> place; Partnership with Business, 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Word Processing, and **1<sup>st</sup> place and National Champions in Community Service Project**. Without the support from our community members, this experience would not have been possible. I am thankful for your willingness to invest in these students' futures. Your continued support of this program is greatly appreciated. ~Adriann Hardin, Adviser



Centennial FBLA Chapter at Universal Studios

On Monday, June 26, 2017 my journey to the National Leadership Conference (NLC) began. My FBLA chapter and I flew from PDX to LAX and eventually arrived in Anaheim, California. During my first full day in California, my chapter had the opportunity to visit Universal Studios and bond with other members of Oregon FBLA. Wednesday marked the start of the Institute for Leaders (IFL), which offers several educational workshops for attendees. I learned helpful tips in regards to being a chapter officer that will benefit my chapter, as I am the CEO next year. That night after IFL, we visited the California Adventure where the entire chapter rode the new Guardians of the Galaxy ride together.

Once again, my partner and I competed and were eager to see the results of all of our hard work and dedication. Sunday morning we had the opportunity to have breakfast with the characters at Disneyland. That same evening was closing session and the Awards of Excellence ceremony, where Centennial High School's Community Service Project was announced as a **NATIONAL CHAMPIONS**. It was so rewarding to have our months of hard work come together and be recognized as first in the nation! I would like to thank my parents, my sponsors, my partner Makaila, and my adviser Mrs. Hardin. Without any one of them, I would not have been able to attend the NLC or been recognized at the national level. ~Katee Early, Junior

Starting Thursday, it was all business. We started the day with more IFL workshops about fundraising, leadership hacks, presentation tips, and even some fun Disney secrets. Many of these workshops were about being prepared and being ready for whatever comes your way, which I will try my hardest to bring to my chapter at the start of this school year. That evening was the official start of NLC as we attended opening session, over 11,000 students and advisers attended opening session, which was a real visual for me on how massive FBLA truly is. Friday was the big day, the reason we came to NLC: competition. I competed in the Community Service Project early that morning and was proud of the presentation. For the first time all week, we had free time after competition. Then, we attended the Western Region meeting where we learned about the accomplishments of western states over the last year. After the Western Region meeting, my chapter was able to spend more time at Disneyland. I enjoyed the firework show. At 5:00am on Saturday, the list of finalists in each event was announced, and Centennial High School Community Service Project made it on the list.



Katee Early and Makaila Susi  
Community Service Project  
1<sup>st</sup> place – National Champions



This year, Centennial High School's (CHS) Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) chapter once again competed at the annual National Leadership Conference (NLC)! The fantastic trip started on June 26<sup>th</sup> with 16 bright high school students departing from Portland to Anaheim, California. On June 27<sup>th</sup> the chapter had the opportunity to visit Universal Studios. While touring, members were able to see multiple production studios as well as experiencing various other attractions. This chapter bonding activity allowed chapter members to experience six hours of incredible fun together.

The morning of June 28<sup>th</sup> started with members attending the Institute for Leaders (IFL). During these training sessions members learned from business professionals including famous magician Jeff Kaylor, entrepreneurs Jason Lucash, Jay Hollowell, and others. These professionals taught members a variety of skills during their workshops, as well as hosting a competition based on the television show "Shark Tank." The activity known as "Minnow Tank" allowed members to form groups and create a product to pitch to a panel of judges. After a day of learning, members spent time at California Adventure! Maintaining tradition, the first ride that the entire chapter attended was the "Guardians of the Galaxy." After finishing the ride, chapter members were encouraged to explore the rest of the park.

Finally, the day had come chapter members began the most exciting part of the conference, competing in performance events and objective tests. Every member was to demonstrate their knowledge and hard work throughout the year while representing their states and chapters. Following the competitions, members were able to watch other competitive events to learn from the other competitors before leaving the hotel to enjoy all that Disneyland had to offer. Using each of the skills taught to me during workshops, by other FBLA members and chapter advisers, hopefully I can teach those within my chapter the keys to success. Among these are valuable lessons including one taught by Jason Lucash. During a workshop, he stated that many Americans have difficulties finding a job. "Finding a job here in America can be hard...so why waste time looking for someone else's when you can make your own?"

Opening sessions began with the usual upbeat atmosphere, other members from across the nation networking and meeting other extraordinary students. While each event was called, my partner and I sat excitedly waiting for our event chapter name and we rushed over to the stage, hearts racing and full of hope. Quickly afterwards we were standing on a stage, chapters were called one by one and we heard "...In fifth place, Centennial High School!" It was the most surreal feeling as we walked across the stage to receive the trophy, I congratulated my partner and met with my chapter adviser to celebrate our success. Attending the 2017 NLC was an unforgettable experience, between the competition, workshops, and amazing chapter activities, NLC has given CHS FBLA a truly amazing experience. ~Brian Koll, Senior

The 2017 National Leadership Conference began when my chapter first arrived at Los Angeles, California. As a first year attendee at the National Leadership Conference, I was filled with gratitude and excitement throughout the conference and was very eager to compete in our Community Service Project. On our first day in California, we spent the day at Universal Studios where we were able to alleviate stress and bond with our fellow chapter members before the conference fully began.



Guardians of the Galaxy Ride at California Adventure

Our second day quickly began with the introduction to the Institute for Leaders. During this, I was able to meet and connect with different members from across the nation who shared the same passion. I also gained new leadership skills and ideas as I attended the officer-training workshops. The next day began with the conclusion of Institute for Leaders through an entrepreneurship activity where different FBLA members pitched ideas to judges mimicking the famous television show "Shark Tank." Competition day quickly approached with all of us eager and excited. Our Community Service Project presentation went smoothly and flawlessly with both my partner and I pleased with our performance. The next morning, our chapter gathered in Mrs. Hardin's room, I was humbled and grateful to find out that our Community Service Project made it to the final round.

Throughout the whole week, I learned how to communicate more effectively and I learned new ideas from FBLA state and chapter officers to help better shape my leadership role next year. As closing session started, my partner and I were excited to see if we placed in the top ten. Our event was called and the next thing we knew there were only two groups remaining and as soon as we heard 2<sup>nd</sup> place...we realized that **WE WERE NATIONAL CHAMPIONS AND 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE** in our event. I would like to express my gratitude to my sponsors, my parents, my adviser, and my partner because I would have not been given such an unforgettable experience and opportunity without any of you. Thank you again for the continual support and I hope you continue to support me throughout my FBLA journey. ~Makaila Susi, Junior



Centennial chapter before the first day of IFL

Throughout the week at NLC in Anaheim, I can say that I've made many amazing memories and learned so much about business. For one, going to Universal Studios for the Oregon FBLA trip was amazing. I was able to experience the famous Studio Tour and numerous rides in the park. Of course, Disneyland was one of the highlights of my trip. It's truly one of my favorite places ever, and I was so blessed to be able to visit with my chapter and experience the joy of the "Happiest Place on Earth."

Even though we had a lot of fun, competition and participating in the Institute for Leaders session had a huge impact on me. Throughout the past eight months, I have dedicated time and energy into three projects, and competed in two of them. Being able to present in front of judges is so challenging, but this experience pushed me to be confident in my public speaking skills, which have been improved by FBLA.

Throughout the next school year, I will apply my new knowledge in my leadership positions at school. I will actively become more engaged in networking, communicating with my fellow student body, and overall being more confident in my skills as a high school student, and student leader.

Finally, I would like to thank the people who sponsored me. I have learned so much about how to improve my leadership, management, college selection, communication, and networking skills. Thank you for believing in me and contributing to this experience. I greatly appreciate you and could not thank you enough. ~ **Sheila Trnjanin, Senior**



Centennial chapter before opening session at NLC

At the end of June 2017, in Anaheim, California, over 200 members of Oregon's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students attended the National Leadership conference (NLC) and the Institute for Leaders (IFL) in order to compete and learn about important business techniques. On June 27, the Oregon chapter was able to visit Universal Studios for a "State day."

The Centennial chapter spent the next two days attending IFL, where I was able to learn about entrepreneurship from Jason Lucash, co-founder of Origaudio, an electronics company featured on ABC's Shark Tank television show. Lucash taught about the basics of a sales pitch to the 53 members attending his presentations. He told us the beauty of what being an entrepreneur was "That's the beauty of the system we live in! Can't find a job? Just create your own, become an entrepreneur and be your own

boss, set your own rules. My two rules are that I can take my dog into work and wear shorts all the time. That's the secret to success, don't wear pants."- Jason Lucash, Co-founder of Origaudio.

On June 29, only hours after completing IFL, the Centennial chapter attended NLC opening session, where the national officer team greeted attendees at the Anaheim Convention Center. Opening sessions began by recognizing previous leaders and national level officers of FBLA. Keynote speaker Steven Shallenberger, an successful businessperson and leader, said to the attendees "I look around this room, at this entire organization and I see the future leaders of this world. The person who finds a cure for cancer, brings humanity to speeds that will take us outside our solar system, and future presidents, leaders of countries, they are all here, among the best in our nation." Opening session was a great experience, and got me excited about being more involved and invested than I already am, the day before presenting in my competitive event

On June 30, my partner Brian Koll and I arrived to our competition room to present our Partnership with Business Project. The presentation went smoothly, and the next morning we found out that we had made final round. At closing session, we were even more thrilled when they called Centennial High School as one of the top ten teams. As we stood on stage, our team was awarded 5<sup>th</sup> place. It was an unbelievable feeling to know that after months of hard work, we were recognized.

I have learned a number of new skills at the 2017 NLC, and opened myself up to my future by meeting new people, connecting with successful business leaders, and learning about entrepreneurship. NLC was a wonderful experience and was able to provide many learning opportunities and chances to have fun and meet new people in Anaheim, California. I would like to thank my sponsors, as I would not be able to attend without your tremendous support of my FBLA career, Thank You! ~ **Sean Cochran, Sophomore**



Josue Silva & Selvyn Larios  
9<sup>th</sup> Place Business Plan



Sean Cochran & Brian Koll  
5<sup>th</sup> Place Partnership with Business



Alondra Barrera, Sarah Ali & Leticia Navarro  
6<sup>th</sup> Place Business Financial Plan



Phetmany Pitsnukanh  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Word Processing

Thank you for supporting the 2016-2017 Centennial High School Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) organization. The young person you sponsored has become a leader of a dynamic, hardworking, State and National Championship team.

Again, I would like to express my gratitude. Your support has helped this organization grow and change the lives of many young people. Your contribution ensures a strong and viable academic program at Centennial High School. As I begin to plan for next year, I hope you would consider sponsoring the program in 2017-2018.

For more information on Centennial FBLA, please refer  
to our website:  
[www.centennialfbla.com](http://www.centennialfbla.com)

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Due to limited space the following members stories were not included in this newsletter, however they too would like to thank their sponsors and family for supporting them: Sarah Ali, Olivia Harms, Josue Silva, Alondra Barrera, Phetmany Pitsnukanh, Leticia Navarro, Selvyn Larios, Madison Higgins, David Pham, Diane Lobato, and Jerry Vuong.

Your generosity helped these young adults attend the Institute for Leaders (IFL) and the National Leadership Conference (NLC) in Anaheim, California. The enclosed newsletter summarizes each student's personal journey. We hope you enjoy learning about their experiences.



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