

Greetings BPA Members and Advisors,

Wishing you all a joyous holiday season filled with warmth, laughter, and cherished moments with loved ones! The officers and I are so lucky to belong to such a strong state association, and we extend our gratitude to all the amazing members and advisors that make up Iowa BPA!

The holiday season is the perfect time to give back, and because service is a key mission of our organization, I deeply encourage you all to participate in philanthropy this season. Whether donating goods, supporting local charities, or hosting service events through your chapter, by giving back, you can connect with your community and make a true difference. I encourage you all to share photos of you and your chapter participating in service this season with our Instagram and Facebook pages (@iowabpa), where we will feature several chapter philanthropy highlights! Of course, if you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to reach out to the officers via our social media.

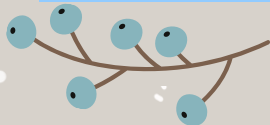
Warmest wishes,
Layan Ahmed
Iowa BPA Vice President of Marketing



NLC PREVIEW

A quick reminder that NLC will host a pin design contest for all members. The submission deadline is January 5th, 2024. Submissions can be made through the member gateway on the BPA website. The winning member will receive free registration to the 2024 National Leadership Conference!

Fun Fact about Chicago: Not one single industry accounts for more than 12% of the city's workforce, meaning business in Chicago is some of the most diversified in the US.



TIPS & TRICKS

Organize & host a winter gear drive in your chapter to spread the love during the holiday season... plus, you'll earn Torch Award points!

Write a thank-you note to show appreciation for your advisor!

As BPA season begins to pick up, make sure to stay ahead of deadlines! The presubmit deadline is quickly approaching, & SLC is a mere 2 months away!



CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

We are excited to recognize Prairie BPA as our December Chapter of the Month. Prairie has always been an exemplary chapter and this year is no different as they have TWO State Officers: Corryn Rausch (Reporter) and Kelsey Taylor (Vice President). One tip and piece of advice they gave for anyone wanting to run for office is just to go for it! Prairie's advisor, Mrs. Hynek, also mentioned the importance of talking to others about how you can help this organization if you are running for office.

"Our chapter is large and full of extremely devoted members. Chapter members are very committed and make time to work on projects. I have the luxury of simply checking in from time to time to see if they need additional help," Mrs. Hynek reports. The Prairie BPA chapter always brings the heat to SLC due to their love for competing. "Our members are in it to win it!"



Iowa BPA would like to congratulate Prairie for all their hard work over the years and wish them luck in all future endeavors!



BPA MEMBER TIMELINE

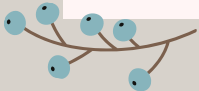


Right now members should...

- plan and begin Torch Award activities
- have a foundation for their competitive events
- start studying for their tests

Winter break is a great time to work on BPA! If you have questions about Torch Awards or events, let us know.

We are always happy to help you out!



OFFICER UPDATE



Your Officer Team has really connected over the past couple of months! We have met together each month, bonding as well as meeting with the National Officers over zoom. The National Team always has great insights on how to better the Iowa BPA organization as a whole, and we cannot wait to share them all with you! We have also begun planning for the Spring Leadership Conference. We cannot wait to see you all there in February! Have a great Holiday season!
-Your Officer Team



UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 1st:

State Officer Candidate Packets are released! Contact our Iowa State Officer Coordinator, Diane Fickel with any questions.

January 5th:

Submission deadline for National pin design contest!

After Winter Break, State Registration will be due!

January 15th:

Deadline for pre-submit Virtual events.

January 26th:

State Officer Candidate packets must be emailed to fickel.diane@iowacityschoools.org by 4:00 pm for candidacy.