

WISCONSIN PAGES



Welcome, students, advisors and alumni! It's been a trying 18+ months! The challenges of COVID-19, catastrophic weather, and world military events have proven one thing—students, instructors, advisors, educational institutions, and yes, Business Professionals of America are all resilient! As we reflect on how we were able to manage stress and prepare for a new school year know that “this too shall pass.” Remember the tough times make you stronger!

The WI BPA State Officers are planning the Wisconsin CTSO Fall Leadership Conference, which will be held virtually this year on October 28, 2021. We are also preparing diligently to bring you another membership year filled with exciting opportunities to be your best self yet for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Please watch for more information to come regarding the next State Leadership Conference to be held February 24–25, 2022. Just as a heads up, the National Leadership Conference will be held in Dallas, Texas May 4–8, 2022. Please take advantage of the value-added professional development opportunities that are available to you through the National Office.

Best wishes for a successful academic year!

Katrina V Willis
WI BPA State President
kwillis@madisoncollege.edu



NATIONAL OFFICER TEAM UPDATE

JOHN LUCAS GUIMARAES | NATIONAL PRESIDENT



My name is John Lucas Guimaraes and I'm so excited to be serving as the National Officer Buddy to Wisconsin BPA! This year, I'm really looking forward to getting to know each of you. I'm able and very eager to help your state with any projects/tasks you have, attend your meetings, offer advice, and give you updates. Please let me know if you have any questions anytime throughout the year!

This year the National Officer Team wants to really focus on the Torch Awards Program and get more participation from our members. We're constructing a Torch Award Vlog Series to raise awareness about the vast importance of the program! Each month we're going to post a vlog including footage of a member completing a Torch Award Activity. Each month will focus on a different Torch Award Category and we're launching in September.

September 1st marks the launch of several programs including the Torch Award and BPA Cares handbooks! Make sure to be on the lookout for those and many exciting updates. And scholarships! Even though we are very early in the year, I ask that all of you take FULL advantage of the scholarships we offer. Read the requirements are on our website; plan your year accordingly so you can qualify! <https://bpa.org/students/scholarships-and-awards/>

It's a pleasure to be partnered with Wisconsin again as your National Officer Buddy and I look forward to working with you all!

NATIONAL OFFICER TEAM TORCH AWARD VLOG SERIES



ABOUT THE SERIES:

To raise awareness about the Torch Awards Program and ease members through filling out activities on the Torch Portal, The National Officer Team is creating the Torch Award Vlog Series! The series will feature footage of our members completing a Torch Award Activity and show how easy it is to build your Torch Resume! We are launching the series in September and will upload one vlog every month until the National Leadership Conference!

HOW MEMBERS CAN PARTICIPATE:

Members are asked to record themselves, and or their chapters, completing one of the Torch Awards activities.

In the recording, make sure to include:

- An introduction of yourself and any members participating
- What chapter and state you are members of
- The full completion of the Torch Award activity

TORCH ACTIVITIES:

The full list of Torch Award activities can be found at: <https://bpa.org/torch-awards/>
Upload the Footage Submit the footage of you and any members participating completing the Torch Activity at this link.

If you have problems uploading the footage to the above link, please share it to John Lucas Guimaraes at jguimaraes@bpa.org. If you have any questions about the Torch Awards Vlog Series, please feel free to reach out to John Lucas Guimaraes at jguimaraes@bpa.org

THE BENEFITS OF BPA

Written by: Katrina Willis, State President

There are numerous reasons to join Business Professionals of America (BPA). The first reason most members join is the **competitions**. Personally, I look at the competitions as an opportunity to prove that I know what I think I know. There is a sense of pride placing in the Top Five at the State Leadership Competition because you receive state recognition and the chance to represent Wisconsin at the National Leadership Competition in May. Placing in the Top Ten at the National Leadership Competition gets you national recognition.

The second reason to join BPA is for **leadership development**. Serving in a leadership role in your chapter can lead to a State Officer and/or National Officer opportunity. There are also opportunities to collaborate with the other Career & Technical Student Organizations to plan the annual fall leadership conference with your peers across the state.

The third reason to join BPA is for **professional development** opportunities that are included with your BPA membership. Levels 1 and 2 of the Certification Series are examples of a national certifications. You can also receive a Certiport certification through competitive events, or by taking the certification exam for a small fee, an opportunity that is exclusive to BPA members. There are also professional development opportunities, such as attending SLC and NLC. Both leadership conferences provide opportunities to network, receive recognition and to compete against your peers.

The fourth reason to join BPA is for **networking** with peers, alumni, and advisors, all of whom are passionate about promoting and continuing the legacy of BPA. Many BPA members overlook the opportunities available to them beyond competitions. The main reason we are students is to prepare for a career. BPA has many resources that can help you be career-ready when you complete your program.

The best reason of all, joining BPA can lead to **lifelong friendships** and a **national professional network**! While we are students for a short time, the fun does not have to end at graduation. Please join the Wisconsin BPA Alumni Association to help students achieve success through Business Professionals of America!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

TONYA SCHUMACHER | STATE ALUMNI PRESIDENT



Tonya is the Wisconsin Alumni State President. She joined BPA at NWTC in Green Bay in 2009 and served as chapter treasurer, president, and state president. Since joining the Wisconsin Alumni Division, she has been a contest judge, session speaker, and more.

Tonya holds bachelor's degree in Accounting and Business Management and just started her LLC. She is a Life Coach, helping people in all areas of life through coaching, motivational speaking, and more. Tonya has also written a book, "Grab Hold of Your Life to a Brighter Future", which will be self-published later this year. Tonya has been working games days and large special events since November of 2002.

If you attend a Packers home game this season, stop by the Oneida Gate ADA elevator she operates on game days and say hello!

FAVORITE QUOTE:

"Success is on the other side of your comfort zone."
- Orrin Woodward

WHY I JOINED:

"I joined the alumni division to give back to an organization that has done more than I could ever have imagined it would. As my business grows, I will be able to give student members advice on what employers look for. I will also be able to give advice on the dos and don'ts of employees and prospective employees."

WHAT I HAVE GAINED:

- Joy as I help others grow by sharing the knowledge I gained through my personal/professional growth.
- New friendships/connections through networking.
- Continued growth. As a leader and alumni, I get more out of my comfort zone doing things I haven't done before to help out members, advisors + alumni.
- Learning and listening to the experiences/knowledge of alumni, advisors, and speakers, and putting that knowledge into action in my own life.

ALUMNI TIP:

Listen to what your gut and heart tell you. I have found when I do what my heart and gut are telling me to do, I succeed. When you get that burning feeling to do something, don't second guess it or be shy, do it now. Even if it means getting out of your comfort zone. This goes for anything in your life.

Want to learn more

about the Wisconsin BPA Alumni Division?



*Send Tonya an email
for more information!*

tonya.schumacher@gmail.com

ADOPT AN ALUM PROGRAM



WISCONSIN BPA CHAPTERS:

The Alumni are here to help! Take advantage of their professional experience and Business Professionals of America knowledge! We will give your chapter your very own alumni to answer all of your questions!

Get helpful feedback with:

- WSAP Contests (Preparation/What to Expect)
- BPA Cares
- Merit Scholar Review
- Networking
- Club Management
- Student Mentoring
- Workforce Preparation
- Questions About the Alumni



Contact Brianna Sprague for more information: briannalsprague@gmail.com.

STATE OFFICER ELECTIONS



Join Us

WISCONSIN BPA IS SEEKING CANDIDATES FOR THE 2021-2022 STATE OFFICER TEAM!

Elections for these positions will be held at the 2021 WI CTSO Fall Leadership Conference. Your skills and talents are needed as we plan a most memorable 2022 State Leadership Conference.

A summary of each position and their duties can be found here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iv5Cegpe-NtEN5VmcvfpOeG-KAtsJoeb>

Candidates are required to work hard, be eager to learn, be receptive to constructive criticism, and have a positive attitude. Diversity, equity and inclusion are encouraged.

Please contact a member of the State Officer Team for additional information or if you have questions. Applications are located at the link listed below and are due on Friday, October 22nd by 11:59 p.m., CST.

<https://forms.gle/2YmndojKcQJ3U4ov7>

Good luck to all our candidates and best wishes for a successful campaign!

VOTING DELEGATE INFORMATION



We will have a voting session at this year's Fall Leadership Conference (FLC) to determine who will be our next State Officer Team!

Students who are not running for office are needed as delegates. Each chapter is allowed a maximum of four delegates at FLC. The delegates from each chapter must be selected at the start of the afternoon session to determine our quorum.

Select one of the four delegates to serve as the head voting delegate for your chapter. When your chapter is called upon during the voting portion of the business meeting, this member will represent the delegates from your local chapter.

This is a great and easy way to earn Torch Award points for being a voting delegate. You will also select who will represent you as a member of Wisconsin BPA.

If you have any questions regarding running for state office, being a voting delegate, or the Fall Leadership Conference, please feel free to contact any member of the Wisconsin Business Professionals of America Leadership Team.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wisconsin CTSO Virtual Fall Leadership Conference:

October 28, 2021 | More information coming soon!

Multi-State BPA Virtual Conference:

November 12-13, 2021 | More information coming soon!

Wisconsin BPA State Leadership Conference:

February 24 - February 25, 2022 | More information coming soon!

National BPA Leadership Conference:

May 4 - 8, 2022 | Dallas, TX | More information coming soon!

CONTACT US!



President Katrina Willis:

kwillis@madisoncollege.edu

Website:

bpa.org/wisconsin

Vice President Lisa Kleman:

lisakvet18@gmail.com

Facebook:

facebook.com/wisconsinbpa

State Director Dianne Carroll:

carroll@ntc.edu

LinkedIn:

linkedin.com/company/bpawi



WISCONSIN
**BUSINESS
PROFESSIONALS**
of **AMERICA**

Giving Purpose to Potential

Mission

The Mission of Business Professionals of America is: To develop and empower student leaders to discover their passion and change the world by creating unmatched opportunities in learning, professional growth and service.

Vision

The Vision of Business Professionals of America is: To be an innovator in Career and Technical Education, providing our members with opportunities for growth through education, competition, community service, and personal development.

Pledge

We are met in a spirit of friendship and goodwill as we prepare for careers in a world-class workforce. We work together to develop professionalism and leadership through Business Professionals of America and pledge our loyalty to our nation.