2023 | JANUARY

Hello Wisconsin BPA!!

WISCONSIN PAGES

Wisconsin Business Professionals of America





WISCONSIN REMINDERS

ARE YOU READY FOR THE 2023 WI STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE?!

We sure are! The WI BPA State Officers have been working hard to plan a fun experience for all attendees during the 2023 WI State Leadership Conference - Empower Your Passions. Congratulations to Emily Tauschek from Mid State Technical College for her winning design for the conference

logo.



Our State Officer team is excited to announce the theme for our 2023 Wisconsin State Leadership Conference... "Empower Your Passions!" Our vision is to help you empower your greatest passion and dreams at our leadership conference this February. We encourage you to take advantage of every opportunity you can from networking to perfecting your competition to participating in our leadership development and team building opportunities. We want to guide you and give the opportunity to keep perfecting your craft and get connected to like-minded business leaders who will help excel you to your greatest potential. We can't wait to see you there and grow alongside you!

Kate Meck Wisconsin Business Professionals of America | President

Register for live events: https://members.bpa.org/webinars Check bpa.org for details

Career & Technical **Education Month** February 2023

> **Webinar Wednesday** February 1, 2023

Mike Tokheim & WI Cares DUE February 17, 2023

BPA WEEK February 12-18, 2023

WI SLC Pre Submits DUE Friday, February 17, 2023

WI BPA State Leadership Conference February 23 & 24, 2023

National Award Deadlines See bpa.org for details and specific dates

National Leadership Conference April 26-30, 2023







WISCONSIN STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE PREPARATION

A WEBINAR ON THE
OPPORTUNITIES AT THE 2023
WISCONSIN SLC

Hosted by the Wisconsin State Officer Team:

Kate Meck, President
Katrina V. Willis, Vice President
Emily Tauschek, Secretary
Chad Huss, Marketing Officer
Nina Kizewski, Communications Officer
SonnYa Glinski, Parliamentarian
Tara Chapman, Membership Officer

Wednesday, February 1st 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Register is free but required.

https://ntc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsc6tqzMpHNNmrE6cJvOYvZ1sdZWSpRLw







REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Register your members for the 2023 Wisconsin BPA Hybrid State Leadership Conference!! Please click the link below to register your students for WI BPA SLC.

<u>Advisors</u>, use this link to register: https://www.registermychapter.com/bpa/WI-PS

The 2023 Wisconsin BPA Hybrid State Leadership Conference (SLC) will be held February 23-24, 2023. Testing for some competitions (i.e. excluding judged competitions) will be scheduled at each campus at the convenience of the advisors (or other proctors) during the week of February 12-20, 2023. See you at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau, WI



https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/cwafi-fairfield-inn-and-suites-wausau/overview/

Fairfield by Marriott Wausau | 7100 Stone Ridge Drive, Weston, WI 54476

\$90 - Single King | \$99 - Two Queen Beds

To Make Reservations: Call 715.241.8400 and ask for the **WI BPA Conference** room block.



#BPAWeek

February 12-18, 2023

FEB. 12 • Start Now Sunday

In what ways has BPA helped you Discover Your Purpose?

FEB. 13 • Marketing Monday

How have you shared the excitement and benefits of BPA?

FEB. 14 • Tell It Tuesday

Tell us why you love BPA.

FEB. 15 • Working Wednesday

Share a photo of work preparing for a BPA activity.

FEB. 16 • Trading Pin Thursday

Show us your BPA trading pin collection.

FEB. 17 • Friend Friday

Share a photo of friends you have made through BPA.

FEB. 18 • Success Saturday

Share a success you have had in BPA (does not have to be a competitive event).





WISCONSIN MIKE TOKHEIM SCHOLARSHIP



Take up the exciting opportunity of applying for the Mike Tokheim Scholarship by absolutely no later than February 17, 2023 at 11:59pm. There will be four receipts of this scholarship who will be awarded with a \$200 scholarship respectively. This scholarship is rooted through the Wisconsin BPA State Officer Team who want to recognize outstanding members of our organization who go above and beyond to exemplify the core values of our organization including leadership, service, and extraordinary involvement.

In order to be eligible for this scholarship, applicants must have at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale, be in good standing as a member of BPA, and complete the application prior to the deadline. Please be advised that advisors and alumni aren't eligible for this scholarship.

Please take the time to complete the application form by February 17, 2023 at:

Mike Tokheim Scholarship Application: https://forms.gle/YiynHkL5xdBuHTKa9

We look forward to announcing the scholarship winners during the 2023 Wisconsin State Leadership

Awards Ceremony on February 24, 2023.

NATIONAL BPA

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY



Do you have an amazing BPA Chapter Advisor you BPA like to recognize?

WISCONSIN BPA ADVISOR OF THE YEAR

We all know that ALL of our BPA Chapter advisors are awesome!

We wouldn't be here without them.

Has your advisor gone above and beyond to help your chapter be successful? Would you like to see your advisor get recognized for all of their hard work? Nominate them for Advisor of the Year! Submit nominations by February 17, 2023.

WI Advisor of the Year Nomination Form: https://forms.gle/4J5szgruBGCCT6WK9

Advisor of the Year will be announced during the 2023 WI State Leadership Conference

WISCONSIN BPA CARES

Wisconsin BPA is excited to announce an award program that allows you the opportunity to get recognized at the state level! The BPA Cares award is divided into three categories:

- o Service Learning Awards Program
- o Special Recognition Awards Program
- o Professional Awards Program

The applications for WI BPA Cares are due by Sunday, February 17, 2023 at 11:59pm. Click <u>HERE</u> to access the form or copy & paste this link: https://forms.gle/R6FU8FjW6ESaGgiN6

Within the Service Learning Awards Program category, there are four awards you can apply for: WI BPA Marketing and Public Relations Award, WI Community Service Award, WI Environmental Action/Awareness Award, and the WI Special Olympics Award. Each of these awards are eligible and awarded to whole chapters, rather than individual members.

Under the Special Recognition Awards Program, you can apply for the Wisconsin Member Recruiter of the Year Award, which will be awarded on an individual-basis to the person who put the great effort into increasing their chapter size and recruiting more members into BPA.

Our last category of the BPA Cares Awards is the Professional Awards Program which hosts the WI Advisor of the Year Award, which is an award that advisors are eligible to receive for putting in the greatest effort into increasing and improving their chapter by giving their members the tools, resources, and encouragement necessary to get the most they can out of our organization. The WI Advisor of the Year Award application must be sent in by students, who will nominate their advisor. Advisors are not eligible to apply for this award and nominate themselves.

Please note: You can (and should) also submit for the National BPA Cares Awards.

National Website Link: https://bpa.org/students/bpa-cares/



BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS OF AMERICA (BPA)

PADORAM

TORCH AWARD PROGRAM - PARTICIPATION & RECOGNITION

By Katrina V Willis, State Vice President, WI BPA

We are all busy and actively involved students at our colleges, in the community, houses of worship, and at work. Why not log your activities and submit for up to four Torch Awards to get recognition at your chapter, the State Leadership Conference and/or the National Leadership Conference? This is mutually beneficial for you and it will assist the Wisconsin Association of Business Professionals of America's (BPA) retaining the Professional Cup for another year.

What is the Torch Award Program?

Business Professionals of America's (BPA) Torch Awards Program promotes professionalism, leadership, and service in both career development and personal growth. The Torch Awards Program is open to all BPA members. There are seven Torch categories—Leadership; Service; Cooperation; Knowledge; Friendship; Love, Hope, Faith; and Patriotism. Students log their completed activities in an online Torch Résumé.

How does the Torch Award Program work?

Students can earn an award in up to all four levels annually through the BPA's Torch Awards Program. Each level earns the recipient a certificate and pin commemorating the achievement. Students who submit their résumés by February 10, 2023, will receive priority review for the Ambassador Award. Any students who submit résumés after the priority review date is not guaranteed review and the opportunity to make any corrections by the posted deadline of March 15, 2023, by 10:59 pm CST (11:59 PM ET) to receive the Ambassador Torch Award at the National Leadership Conference to be held April 26–30, 2023 in Anaheim, CA.

The deadline to submit for the Statesman Award is February 17, 2023, at 11:59 PM CST for recognition at the Wisconsin State Leadership Conference to be held February 23–24,2023.

Students who earn an award through BPA's Torch Awards Program will be presented with a certificate and pin commemorating their achievement. Please find a chart at the end of the article with some activities you may have already completed.

What are the Four Levels of the Torch Award Program?

The four levels of the Torch Award Program are:

Executive Torch Award: Requires 10 points in each Torch category. An Executive is defined as "a person having administrative or managerial authority in an organization."

Diplomat Torch Award: Requires 30 points in each Torch category. A Diplomat is defined as "one skilled with tact in dealing with people."

Statesman Torch Award: The Statesman Torch Award requires 50 points in each Torch category and is recognized at the State Leadership Conference. A Statesman is defined as "one who is a leader in the promotion of the public good and in national affairs."

Ambassador Torch Award: The Ambassador Torch Award requires 70 points in each Torch Category and is recognized at the National Leadership Conference. An Ambassador is defined as "a diplomatic official of the highest rank

appointed."

Here's a chart from the Torch Award Handbook

Award	Organization Level	Points Required in Each Category	Submission Deadline	Recognition
Executive:	Local Chapter	10	Veries.	Fin and certificate
Diplomat.	Vories by State	30	Varies	Pro and certificate
Statesman	State	50	Vories	Pin and certificate (otherwise varies by state)
Ambasiador	National	70	March 15, 2023	Pin and certificate, Tarch Ceremony at the National Leadership Conference



BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS OF AMERICA (BPA)

TORCH AWARD PROGRAM - PARTICIPATION & RECOGNITION By Katrina V Willis, State Vice President, WI BPA ~Continued~



Where do I start?

Important: All students must watch the Torch introduction video before starting their résumé. This activity may be logged as Knowledge: 442. All activities may be completed virtually or in-person.

Where do you log your activities for approval?

Please log your activities in the Torch Résumé which can be found on the www.bpa.org website after you log into the Member Gateway. Next, click on the Student tab then select Torch Awards. You can find information on each of the seven Torch categories by scrolling down the screen until you see the text on the screen. There is also a hyperlink to the Torch Award Handbook that completely covers all the entire process and options by category. Then you can click the link to Visit online our Torch Award portal, log into the portal with your member Id number and password. After you have entered your activities, submit them so your advisor, me (as your Wisconsin State Vice President) and/or the National Office can review and approve your submission.

What are the deadlines to submit your Torch Résumé?

Please consult with your advisor for the deadline to submit your Torch Résumé for the Executive and Diplomat Awards. The deadline to submit for the Statesman Award is February 17, 2023, at 11:59 PM. The deadline to submit for the Ambassador Torch Award is March 15, 2023. Please be advised that your advisor must review and submit your resume for the Statesman Award and/or the Ambassador Award by the deadlines.

Who do I contact if I have questions or require assistance?

Please feel free to contact Katrina V Willis, State Vice President, WI BPA at kwillis2@madisoncollege.edu if you have any questions or require additional information.



Tara Chapman, Mid State **Technical College created the** winning design for the WI Pin Contest. This design will be put onto pins to be traded during the 2023 National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, CA.

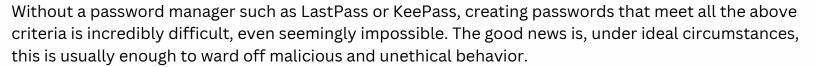
Congratulations Tara!

NINA'S CYBER CHAT - ALL ABOUT PASSWORDS

One of the most basic cybersecurity premises is passwords. The phrase, "create a strong password" is commonly used, but what exactly does that mean? Are these base guidelines enough to keep your accounts safe? Are passwords alone enough to keep threat actors out? The short answer is no – strong passwords are no longer enough. But let's define what a strong password is first before explaining why it is not enough.

Microsoft defines a strong password as having the following characteristics:

- 12 or more characters (though preferably 14 or more)
- Upper- and lowercase characters
- Numbers and symbols
- Not containing any of the following:
 - o A person's name, either fictional or real
 - A product name
 - An organization or entity name
- Significantly different from other passwords currently and previously used
- Easily remembered by you but difficult for another to guess (Microsoft, 2022)



Unfortunately, we don't live in a world of ideal circumstances. Even if all the above criteria is upheld, it doesn't guarantee safety. For instance, if a company has a data breach that involves unencrypted user credentials (or encrypted data that is later decrypted by breaking the weak encryption algorithm) being stolen, your account is considered compromised. The only way to resolve the issue is changing your password. Another risk is phishing emails – malicious emails that appear safe but are designed to obtain information such as victim credentials and money. One wrong click on a phishing email and your account is compromised. These are just two out of unlimited possible examples.

If passwords aren't enough anymore, then what is? There are multiple answers, but the most available and affordable answer is two-factor and multi-factor authentication.

Two-factor authentication (2FA) means there are only two steps to access an account; for example, a password and a verification code. Multi-factor authentication (MFA) means there are at least two authentication steps active but additional authentication options are available. For example, a password, face ID, and a verification code.

Having a 2FA or MFA enabled on accounts is the best to ensure that, even if a threat actor were to obtain your credentials, they could not access your account without also breaching your 2FA or MFA option. Some 2FA and MFA options are more secure than others, but generally speaking, randomized verification codes delivered by an app is a relatively secure method, as text messages (SMS) can be intercepted and thereby compromising the verification code. The most secure method is a physical token (Yubikey), while the most insecure method is SMS (Hildenbrand, 2022).



Nina's Cyber Chat - All About Passwords (Continued)

Security is a flexible, everchanging topic that only becomes more complex with time. Eventually, passwords will become obsolete as other forms of verification will take its place. Until that time, create strong passwords by using four out of the six criteria listed above (with emphasis on upholding the fifth bullet) and enabling 2FA or MFA.

Works Cited

Hildenbrand, J. (2022, August 3). The definitive ranking of two-factor authentication methods. Retrieved from Android Central: https://www.androidcentral.com/definitive-ranking-two-factor-authentication-methods

Microsoft. (2022). Create and use strong passwords. Retrieved from Microsoft Support: https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/create-and-use-strong-passwords-c5cebb49-8c53-4f5e-2bc4-fe357ca048eb#:~:text=A%20strong%20password%20is%3A,character%2C%20product%2C%20or%20organization.





ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - BRIANNA SPRAGUE

I first joined BPA as part of the Lakeshore Technical College chapter

in 2013. The following year I served as the state secretary as well as our local chapter president. During that time I earned my National Merit Scholar, was an ambassador torch recipient, a national scholarship winner, and placed first nationally in Advanced Interview Skills. I realized that much of my success came from the support and knowledge I received from the advisors and mentors in the organization, and I wanted to stick around and give back after graduation.

I am currently serving as the alumni president, as well as the assistant state director. I love the fact that Wisconsin is the only state to have their own alumni association and we are actively involved with the national alumni, too. We get to help out pretty much wherever we want, whether it be grading, judging, volunteering, etc. and most of our alumni participate in these activities on the state and national level, which means we get to travel with our student members to nationals.

I am currently working as an Executive Assistant for Burger Boat Company. We build custom luxury yachts that travel and are known throughout the world. Part of the reason that I was selected for this role was due to my involvement with BPA. The examples I was able to give and the experiences I have had within the organization has grown my skills and have helped me stand out in interviews.

Our alumni are here to help you succeed during your time in BPA and beyond. Besides having graduates in a large variety of career fields, they also know tips and tricks for your competitions and award submissions. Please reach out if you are interested in working with our alumni. You can contact me via email at *BriannalSprague@gmail.com*.



Professional Learning Series in BPA

Business Professionals of America frequently hosts webinars on professional learning opportunities that can expand the trajectory of your career. These webinars are available for both students and advisors who want to expand their professional skills. Although these webinars take place live, recordings are always posted on the National BPA webpage at:

https://members.bpa.org/webinars/.

Cultural Competence:

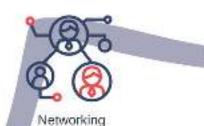
This two-part, hour and a half webinar is relevant to any post-secondary career and technical education BPA student. This webinar teaches students how they can contribute towards forming an inclusive chapter where all members are included and welcome. It's important that we continually assess our thought processes through continual education and development to make sure we are being fair and considerate to all individuals inside and outside of our organization. A diverse culture is an enriched culture to the array of opinions, beliefs, and ideas within the group. Watch this webinar to improve your leadership skills through practicing cultural competence.

Membership Recruitment, Retention, and Planning:

This two-part, hour long webinar revolves around the impact you can hold in BPA with current chapter members, prospects, business connections, and community members. Our organization has so much to offer that you've experienced as a member, so why not branch out and expand your chapter to include more upcoming professionals and get your current members more involved? This webinar will teach you various techniques you need to get there such as including management, marketing, and advertising strategies. Watch this webinar to bring back strong ideas to your chapter to start recruiting and strengthening your chapter today!

MoneySKILL in the Classroom:

This one-part thirty minute webinar will teach students the fundamental concepts of finance and money. These personal finance concepts are critical for students to understand as they approach the complex financial and banking industry as adults. There is a lot of information out there on personal finance, but this webinar is focused on helping young adults succeed financially to build their future for success. Watch this quick webinar on the fundamentals you need to get on track to succeed with your money.



WHY BPA?

















DISCOVER YOUR PASSION. CHANGE THE WORLD.

Join BPA and Start Building Your Future!







- Attend regional, state, or national conferences
- Gain leadership skills
- Apply for awards and scholarships
- · Help others through community service
- Make friends in other chapters

Gain career skills through competitive events.





& Design





Health Administration



Management Information Systems



HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY IN WISCONSIN

Face The Facts:

The state of Wisconsin is facing a food insecurity crisis. One in fourteen Wisconsin residents is facing food insecurity, according to Feeding America. These families have their backs against the wall as they're forced to accept food stamps, visit food pantries, and obtain additional state assistance to feed their families. Devastatingly, one in eight Wisconsin children face hunger, according to Feeding America. These children are still able to receive free breakfast and lunch from their school, but they're usually missing dinner and other supplemental snacks kids usually enjoy. Parents are struggling to make ends meet, which causes their children to be impacted and go without meals that are critical to their growth and development.

Impact on You:

According to Feeding America, Wisconsin residents need an additional \$205,161,000 per year to satisfy their hunger. Roughly 90% of the Wisconsin population is above the poverty line, which is about 5,300,000 people. The statistics show that if every Wisconsin resident above the poverty line contributed just one dollar, we could completely eliminate this crisis. If you consider that a dollar would help, imagine the impact you could have on families in need by donating pantry staples you haven't used or picking up fresh produce at the market and dropping it off at the food shelter. There are so many ways you can help and it's your civic duty to help your fellow residents. These people in need aren't a statistic. They are people who desperately need our help.

Your Involvement:

You can play a role and better the state of Wisconsin with your involvement of donating and/or volunteering with Feeding America, Ruby's Pantry, or local food shelf pantries. You can drop off unexpired items sitting unused in your pantry, pick up fresh groceries from the market, or even drop off a gift card to local grocery stores. At the Wisconsin State Leadership Conference, we will be collecting donations for the local food pantry in Wausau, WI. Please bring any unexpired non-perishable food to SLC such as:

- Canned Goods (i.e. soups or sauces)
- Peanut Butter
- Dried Fruit
- Pasta (i.e. macaroni, spaghetti noodles, egg noodles, etc.)
- Cereal
- Granola Bars and/or Protein Bars
- Baking Mixes (i.e. cake or brownie mix)
- Crackers (i.e. Ritz, Saltines, etc.)







Professional Awards Due March 1

Advisor of the Year

Recognizes a chapter advisor who has made significant contributions to BPA

Emerging Advisor of the Year

Recognizes a chapter advisor with five or fewer years of service who has made significant contributions

Emerging Professional of the Year

Recognizes an alumni member who has had professional achievements and contributed to BPA within their first five years of service

Hall of Fame

Recognizes individuals for significant contributions to BPA at the local, state, and national levels for 10 or more years

Outstanding Service

Recognizes individuals for outstanding service to BPA at the national level

Student of the Year

Recognizes members who have made significant contributions to BPA and participated in BPA activities

Service Learning Awards Due March 15

Community Service

Recognizes chapter involvement in service activities such as blood drives, clothing drives, food drives, disaster relief, or community shelters

Environmental Action/Awareness

Recognizes chapters for environmental stewardship activities or events such as recycling, composting, or promoting conservation

Safety Awareness

Recognizes chapters for involvement in safety programs such as workplace safety, traffic safety, seat belt use, personal safety, drug awareness, and anti-violence awareness

Service Learning Individual

Recognizes members with a minimum of 500 hours of service learning to the community and who have earned the President's Volunteer Service Award in the same membership year

Special Olympics

Recognizes chapters for support for the Special Olympics, BPA's national service project

Special Recognition Awards Due March 15

BPA Marketing and Public Relations

Recognizes chapters that have promoted BPA in the school or community through newsletters, outreach to local media, a website, or in other ways

BPA Merit Scholar Award

Recognizes members and advisors for knowledge of BPA's history, traditions, programs, and activities; test administered at the National Leadership Conference

Chapter Activities Award of Excellence

Recognizes chapters for outstanding achievements in activity participation and chapter management

Membership Explosion Award

Recognizes chapters that had at least 15 members in 2021–2022 and experienced at least a 30 percent increase in 2022–2023; no application required

Recruiter of the Year

Recognizes members who have achieved success in recruiting new BPA members and chapters

Social Media

Recognizes chapters that have achieved success in promoting chapter activities and events using social media

The Professional Cup

Recognizes BPA state associations for outstanding chapter participation in the BPA Cares Awards; no application required

Other Awards

President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA)

BPA is a Certifying Organization for the PVSA, which recognizes the important role of volunteers in America's strength and national identity (Due March 1)

Quality Chapter Distinction

Recognizes chapters for active involvement, including electing officers, conducting monthly meetings, providing leadership development, and participating in other BPA programs (Due March 15)

More information

Complete award guidelines and application instructions are available at members.BPA.org.

TORCH AWARD PROGRAM

Why Participate?

- Demonstrate the qualities of leadership and professionalism
- Interact with business leaders, civic organizations and communities
- Learn positive ways to impact the areas where you live
- Grow through the nine pillars of the program

Hope | Faith | Love | Cooperation Knowledge | Service | Leadership Friendship | Patriotism



LEVELS OF TORCH









bpa.org/torch-awards

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wisconsin BPA State Leadership Conference:

February 23 - February 24, 2023 | In-Person & Virtual

National BPA Leadership Conference:

April 26 - 30, 2023 | Anaheim, CA

CONTACT US!

WI State Director Dianne Carroll:

carroll@ntc.edu



briannalsprague@gmail.com

FOLLOW US!

Website:

https://bpa.org/wisconsin/

Facebook:

facebook.com/wisconsinbpa

LinkedIn:

linkedin.com/company/bpawi





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.