Greetings Oklahoma HOSA! The year is shaping up to be an amazing experience for all involved with this outstanding organization! Your 2010-2011 State Officer Team has been hard at work planning events, publications, and schedules for the year. This newsletter is one such publication. Distributed bimonthly, it will be your go-to guide for everything going on with OK HOSA! This first issue serves as an introduction to the State Officer Team. Based at the Department of CareerTech in Stillwater, we meet regularly to propose, plan, and perfect everything that eventually ends up at a state conference or at nationals. The team has great ideas and we’re all very excited about what Oklahoma HOSA can do this year. I personally believe that we can make a difference in the field of medicine, and thus make a difference to the greater world. Whether your chapter is based at a CareerTech center or a high school, we look forward to working with you and your advisors to help you get the most out of HOSA. We want to serve as a resource to our members - following them even after they leave their chapter and pursue their goals. HOSA is the pipeline to the healthcare industry, and we feel that excelling in the workforce later requires professionalism in all we do now. By encouraging that professionalism, HOSA becomes an application for education, leading members onto exciting, innovative career paths. I’d like to welcome all of our new members this year into Oklahoma HOSA, and for those returning members, welcome back! We hope that you’ll get involved with your chapter, and that your chapter will get involved with us! Visit our website to learn more about our mission, goals, and activities. Once again, on behalf of the entire team, welcome to this year’s Oklahoma HOSA experience!

Sincerely,

David Kelly
President
Oklahoma HOSA Executive Council
My name is David Kelly, as well as serving as Oklahoma HOSA State President, I am a student at Edmond Memorial High School and at the Biosciences and Medicine Academy at Francis Tuttle Technology Center. Residing in Edmond, I plan to pursue a medical degree. I love HOSA most because of the applied education it encourages through competition. I am currently 17 years old and a junior in high school. I enjoy hanging out with friends when not busy with school and HOSA. My favorite sport is snow-skiing. As president, I am excited about leading the State Officer Team to success through encouraging communication and innovation. I believe that this year will greatly inspire me as a team member. As the year moves forward, I hope to have fun being a part of Oklahoma HOSA!

Hello Oklahoma HOSA Members! My name is Matthew Wright and I am currently serving as your HOSA Vice-President. I attend Mustang High School, and Canadian Valley Technology Center. Currently, I am enrolled in the 'Health Careers' program, in which I serve as the President of my HOSA chapter, as well as being an Ambassador for my technology center. HOSA has provided me with the skills, knowledge, determination, and perseverance in order to achieve all of the goals I set forth for myself as well as my peers. I am interested in not only health care but law, politics, and debate. Those 4 things are the platform for what makes me who I am. I promise to stay as transparent as possible, so I can serve each and every one of you in a better way, as well as to stay a great leader in order to make this year in Oklahoma HOSA a phenomenal one!
Hi! My name is Elizabeth Ebach, I am from Newalla, Oklahoma. I am a post secondary student attending Gordon Cooper Technology Center, Licensed Practical Nursing (PN) Program in Shawnee Oklahoma where I currently serve as Sentinel for 2010-2011 in our local HOSA PN Chapter. I have just become your New Treasurer for the Oklahoma State HOSA Executive Council 2010-2011. I am married and have a 13 year old son. I am looking forward to starting a new career in the healthcare field. I am also looking forward to traveling to new places, meeting new people, and the skills I will acquire from this experience. It is very exciting to be a part of this HOSA organization. It will be a great year working with the executive council. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

My name is Kaylan Dickey and I am currently serving as your HOSA state secretary. I currently am enrolled in a nursing options program at ICTC Muskogee. Last year i received my CNA through the health careers education program at my current career technology center. This is my second year to serve on the Oklahoma State Executive Council. I have never been in another career focused organization such as this. I thank God everyday for this wonderful opportunity. I love being a part of HOSA because I have meet so many amazing members which have each influenced me. Along with my state officer duties I also serve as my local FFA Vice-president, and a very evolved high school senior. Upon graduation I will transfer to a different technology center to finish my LPN program. My ultimate goal in life is to become a physicians assistant. I strive to live by my late grandmothers words "no regrets". I have an awesome feeling about our team this year and can't wait to get started!
My name is Phillip Ngo and I go to Bishop Kelley High School for my home school and TulsaTech (Health Science Center) for my tech classes. I am a 16 year old junior serving as the OK HOSA Parliamentarian. I enjoy being in HOSA because it lets me be a part of an organization that further prepares me for an occupation in the health field and helps me develop leadership traits as well. I hope to someday become a doctor of some sort when I grow up. I would possibly like to be Pediatrician. I am involved in many activities. I am very involved in Student Council at my home school. I also play soccer. I am a Comet Ambassador and in Link Crew, both of these organizations help mentor incoming freshmen at my home school. I am in Youth Leadership Forum, and involved in Quest youth group at Christ the King Church.

I am Melany Wright, your 2010-2011 Oklahoma HOSA Historian! I am currently enrolled in the Practical Nursing program at Chisholm Trail Technology Center. I have been a member of HOSA for 4 great years! HOSA has made me grow as a person and has taught me great leadership skills. As an officer this year I want to help and watch others grow as I have through HOSA. Thank you again for voting me, Melany Wright, as your 2010-2011 Oklahoma Hosa Historian! I can't wait to see you all at the SLC!!!
Hello, my name is Amanda Plunkett and I go to ICTC in Muskogee. I am serving as your Chaplin for Oklahoma HOSA. I play softball for my home school and my current position is right field. I am a junior and 17 years old. I got involved in HOSA because I want to see the health careers grow more and see what HOSA contributes to the health careers by being personally involved. I also chose to be involved because I am passionate about what HOSA does and how much they give to our people. I encourage each person who is reading this to check HOSA out.

“Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships.”

-Michael Jordan
Hello! My name is Elizabeth Medrick, I am currently serving as your Oklahoma HOSA reporter. Thank you so much for this opportunity! I am really looking forward to the upcoming year in HOSA and think it will be a great one. I am currently attending Tulsa Tech (Health Science Center) and am enrolled in Nursing Options, I am also homeschooled. After graduating this year I will be attending TCC where I will earn my associates in nursing, then transfer and earn my masters in psychology. I am hoping to attend OSU. Last year I was an active member of HOSA, competing and placing second in extemporaneous speaking at the state level. I am excited for the competitions again this year and I want encourage all of you to participate, it’s very fun and also rewarding. I hope to see you there! Happy holidays to you all!

My name is Chance Perry and I am currently serving as your Social and Service Chair. I am 17 years old and attend Northeast Technology Center and a senior at Claremore High School. I have been a HOSA member for four years now. For the first two years I placed first at State in Forensic Medicine and went to Nationals in Dallas, TX, and Nashville, TN. The third year, which was last year; I placed 3rd in Epidemiology and went to Orlando, FL for Nationals. I have one sibling named Trevor. He is thirteen years old. I plan to attend RSU in Claremore for a year and then transfer to either OU, or OSU for the rest of my basics and then attend medical school.
Why should you join HOSA?

Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) was officially organized in Arlington, Texas, November of 1976. HOSA, at the time, was comprised of only six charter states with about 6000 student members. HOSA, has since then become a ever expanding organization with more than 121,000 active members in 48 states (as well as Puerto Rico), with approximately 1.2 million alumni.

HOSA's basic mission is to "promote career opportunities in health care and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people". HOSA is an organization for anyone interested in health care, that can shape and mold future leaders and health care professionals.

We have about 5000 active members all around the state of Oklahoma comprised of our 165 affiliate chapters. But, here in Oklahoma, we know there are the potential thousands of untapped members all around the state that are un-knowledgeable about our organization, as well as unaware of the benefits of being a part of HOSA. HOSA, is not just an organization that is here for you when you are a student, but you can compete in leadership conferences all around the U.S. that give students the means to tap into their talents as health care individuals with a plethora of competitive events, to the smaller affiliations whose students just see the learning and sense of welcome aspect to the organization, HOSA can do it all! There are many benefits to HOSA that can show substantial gain to any individual who is apart or has interest in becoming affiliated. Some of those reasons include: Leadership skills, personal skills, soft skills, networking within the health care field, learning and interactive learning symposiums, competitive event options, state level leadership conferences, as well as national leadership conferences, and so on. So you see, the list of personal benefits of affiliating with HOSA is consequential beyond doubt.

So, if you are one of the 5000 active members of HOSA in Oklahoma, I strongly encourage each and every one of you, to tell a friend, relative, or anyone of significance with a yearn or small interest in health care about HOSA. The benefits outweigh the complications of talking about this organization. And remember, HOSA is a student-led organization with all of the power onto the students and advisors who make up with HOSA stands for. "The hands of HOSA mold the health of tomorrow". We as HOSA members, will create the health of tomorrow, so stay informed, share your knowledge, and watch as HOSA continues to be a fore-front in the world of health care!
Why should you compete?

A lot of people have never heard or realized what SLC stands for, or why they should compete at the SLC. Well, the SLC is a State Leadership Conference where all HOSA members are encouraged to compete in different events related to a health career. There are many events to choose from and the cool part is, YOU can choose to compete in the event which interests you. It will give you a chance to show off the skills you have obtained throughout your school year. The SLC is a great way to gain hands-on experience against others that have been trained in the same field as you. It will also give you a life experience by realizing that you will need to do your best in order to come out on top, and that there will also be others who are going to give their all to win.

The SLC is a great way to make more friends that have a passion similar to yours and possibly different views about other workforces in the health field. Also, if you win 1st as an individual or as a group, then you advance to nationals and have an amazing experience with other people from around the country. This may be your first year as a HOSA member and you are new to the whole competitive events thing. Maybe you don't think you can compete for one reason or another, Well there you are wrong. Anyone who is a member can compete and your HOSA chapter will discuss with you the in and outs of what to do. So don't let fear or doubt keep you from trying something that can give you a completely new view of what HOSA and the health careers have to offer.

“...Attitude to me is more important than facts, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than success, than what other people think, say or do. It is more important than appearance, gift, or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home...friendship...a leadership. The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day...I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you...we are in charge of our attitudes.”

-Charles Swindoll
Season’s Greetings!

Your HOSA National Executive Council would like to wish you a safe and happy holiday season. We are excited about the many great things that are going on with HOSA members across the nation. November is National Diabetes Awareness month and the kick-off of events with our National Service Project Partner, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, are in full swing and have been a huge success. Thanks to the efforts of HOSA members, people living with Type I diabetes will have access to better treatment and therapy. With the number of people being diagnosed with diabetes increasing at an alarming rate we can be sure that we are making a difference. Mr. Jeffrey Brewer, CEO of JDRF says, "As we all participate in a variety of activities that will raise awareness about the urgency of diabetes this November, let's remember to keep in mind that it is through progress in research, such as those funded by JDRF and the Special Diabetes Program, that we can continue to make improvements in the lives of people living with type 1 diabetes today and in the future."

The hands of HOSA can be seen molding the health of tomorrow in many aspects of life. HOSA members virtually everywhere have teamed up with various agencies to ensure that members of our communities have coats, blankets, food, and even the much needed resource of blood. This is a great time of year to reflect on our commitment to HOSA and the health of our communities. Where can we make a difference? What do we need to learn/teach? How can we serve? Being a member of HOSA is not about being part of a “club” – it is a way of life. In order to be effective leaders and members of the health care team we must BELIEVE (in HOSA, the health care profession, in ourselves). We must have PASSION. This type of commitment doesn't switch off and on like a light bulb. It is simply who we are.

Until next time,
LEAD by example, WALK by faith, LIVE with passion.
Newman
Have A Happy Holiday HOSA Members!

GET READY!
State and National Competition is right around the corner. Have you chosen your event?
Your State and National Executive Councils look forward to seeing you in sunny Anaheim, CA.

Get Connected!
Connect with your State HOSA Officers on Facebook!
Connect with National HOSA on Facebook and Twitter!

http://www.okcareertech.org/health/hosa/
http://www.hosa.org/