

# FBLA ARIZONA

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY ALAN SERRANO

Hello FBLA Members and Advisers,

2020 is over and 2021 is here! While we are not sure how this year will be, if you want it to be extraordinary, it all starts with you! 2020 was a year where we faced lots of adversity that we weren't prepared for. Constant changes and unfortunate events led many to believe 2020 was the worst year yet. We, students, think adversity brings you down and discourages you from doing what you want to achieve, but what it does is strengthens your mindset, courage, and aspiration! Use the beginning of this year to reflect what you wish you could've accomplished last year and make it your goal to reach it this year. Remember, it all starts with you!

It is the second semester in Arizona FBLA and that means it's competition time! Our spring competitions are right around the corner and I wish all of you the best of luck! If you're looking for tips and tricks on your presentation skills, certain competitive event information, tune in to our social media as we will be posting informational videos from the State Councils and other resources! You can also visit our website @azfbla.org under the resources tab where you can find our many toolkits that you can use to your advantage! Team 59 will also be leading live workshops throughout the days of your competition, so stay tuned on our social media to find out more about it!

On behalf of Team 59, we thank all the members who have been very immersed in FBLA this year so far. You've inspired us to help provide more success in education for all! Continue being involved when you can and aid others who may be facing adversity and continue to overcome those obstacles! Thank you and we will see you virtually in our workshops at spring competitions!

Sincerely,

*Alan Serrano*

FBLA Arizona State President

# SPRING COMPETITION IS HERE!

Everyone in FBLA understands how hectic the springtime can be with competitions, due dates, and now having to tackle this all in a virtual setting. To begin, it is important to remind everyone that the competitions this year will be held virtually. Furthermore, pre-submissions were due on January 14. Please note that many events did not have any pre-submissions to go along with them. If you believe that you missed this deadline or are wondering if your event had a pre-submission, then please contact your adviser or find information on your event on the FBLA website. Your FBLA regional chapter should've already enrolled in one of the three spring competition dates (January 23, January 30, or February 6). This is the date that many performance events will be judged – so bring your A-Game! Online Testing began on January 15 and will close on January 22 at 6:00 p.m. The testing site will be open from 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, and it will be open on Friday from 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. If you have any questions or concerns about the information provided above, please contact your adviser – they're here to help!

Additionally, here are some tips to be better prepared for Spring Competition:

- The best way to lower your stress and anxiety is to practice breathing exercises for a few minutes before your competition and possibly the night before.
- It is important to take some time out of your day to study your presentation. If you are going to make note cards to read from while presenting, then be sure to only glance at them occasionally with your main focus being at the judges (or your laptop during your virtual conference).
- Moreover, a full night's rest before a competition will be the best way to remain focused during your events.
- It is critical to note that you must dress in business attire while presenting.

That being said, remain confident! Believe in yourself and trust the studying and preparing you have done beforehand to guide you through your event! We wish you the best of luck!



## HOW DO I KNOW IF I SHOULD APPLY TO BE A STATE OFFICER?

Running for State Office is a great responsibility that requires hard work and dedication. It is a great opportunity for you to grow as a leader and be selfless. It is an important and significant decision that will require the support of others. However, you must first consider these questions if you are unsure about applying:

- Are you ready to take your leadership in FBLA to the next step?
- Will you strive to be a good role model to our 6,000 members?
- Is FBLA one of your priorities?
- Are you willing to reach out to sponsors, visit chapters all over the state, attend all our conferences, lead State Councils, etc.?
- Do you have a support system that could help you on this journey?

If you answered yes to any of these questions you are on the right path. It shows that you have the qualities of someone who could take FBLA Arizona to the next level. So, what are you waiting for? Take the initiative and apply!



## I WANT TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE, WHAT IS MY NEXT STEP?

As a high school student and an FBLA Arizona member, you can take initiative. By applying to become a state officer you'll be an example to over 6,000 members statewide. You'll be able to network with others by planning and leading conferences throughout your term. Taking this initiative will help you gather leadership experiences as well as help you grow as a person and get out of your comfort zone, especially if you resonated with the previous questions asked that you should consider. To find the application go to [azfbla.org](http://azfbla.org), the "Resources" tab, and it is under "Students." Look over the application and keep in mind the Application Checklist as it requires many different factors. You must also keep in mind that applying could mean you qualify for campaigning at SLC and a candidate screening interview. We cannot wait to receive your applications!

# NEW SOCIAL MEDIA SERIES

Feedback Friday is a new series on our Instagram page that our Public Relations Council put together. Every Friday we will post a tip, quote, or even fun game on our Instagram story. If you would like to be a part of Feedback Friday, be sure to tune into our Instagram story every Friday @fbla\_arizona. Some days we will do polls where you can either ask questions, play games, and even take fun quizzes. We would love to see interaction from all of you! If there is anything you would like to see on our Feedback Friday, email our VP of Media Relations Kianna Bungard at [kianna.bungard@azfbla.org](mailto:kianna.bungard@azfbla.org) or direct message us on Instagram. We can't wait to connect with all of you through our new series!



Are you interested to know more about finance? Do you feel like you are not prepared to take care of your own finances? If you said yes, make sure to tune in to our Finance Friday. It is a great opportunity for you all to inform yourselves on financial literacy. Finances are critical and you should start learning about its significance as soon as you can. If you have any ideas on what topics you would like to see discussed on Finance Friday, email our VP of Finance Logan Goulette at [logan.goulette@azfbla.org](mailto:logan.goulette@azfbla.org) or direct message us on Instagram. We are excited to see you all prosper!

# ALUMNI MEETING

The monthly alumni meeting will be on February 16 from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The link below is for alumni so they may get involved with FBLA Arizona. If you would like any more information regarding those meetings or you know a former FBLA Arizona member who is also interested in being featured in our FBLA Arizona Alumni Newsletter, please contact our VP of Alumni at [Patrick.Bontrager@azfbla.org](mailto:Patrick.Bontrager@azfbla.org)

<https://fblaarizona.wufoo.com/forms/wneln2x0wsqbdu/>



**Patrick Bontrager, VP of Alumni**