

# THE Californian

## WHAT TO EXPECT IN THIS ISSUE

SLC Preview || **Preparing for SLC** || **March of Dimes** || **Section Conference Recaps** || **Public Relations Council** || **National Leadership Conference 2019** || **State Officer Farewell**

## SLC PREVIEW

The State Leadership Conference will be hosted in Sacramento, California. There are a lot of exciting activities in store for you all, so be sure to take advantage of all that we have to offer! During the conference, we will be hosting an entertainment session featuring a “Clash of the Sections” competition and a DJ. There will also be a March of Dimes Walk hosted following opening session at 1PM on Friday, so be sure to participate and support our national partners. If you’re a senior, definitely check out our senior social! You’ll have the opportunity to meet other seniors and network before heading off to college. If you have some free time in between your competitions, be sure to also check out our various workshop sessions! You’ll also have opportunities to explore the city, but be sure to stay safe and travel in groups. There are many restaurants located within the vicinity of the conference, so be sure to explore the options the city offers you!



In the mean time, make sure to scan the QR codes below and join our Remind 101 to see how you can prepare for the conference ahead of time.

CONFERENCE  
CHECKLIST



CONFERENCE  
DRESS CODE



Text  
@CASLC2019 to  
81010

## MARCH OF DIMES

For many years, FBLA has partnered with the March of Dimes to raise funds for the prevention of premature birth. At the State Leadership Conference, we will be going on a walk around the state capitol to show off our support for the March Of Dimes. By purchasing a wristband for \$2 you can be part of the solution and join us in putting an end to premature births.

This walk will take place Friday, April 27th at 1 PM. We hope to see you all there!

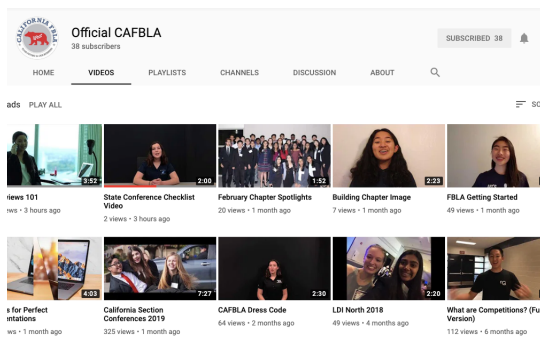


## PUBLIC RELATIONS COUNCIL

This year, our State Public Relations Officer, Lorna Louie, initiated the State Team's first ever council, inviting CAFBLA members of all grade and experience level to apply. Lorna created this council to allow members that may not want to run for a section of state officer to still get involved and gain insight into working with a state officer. Our PR Council members include Asna Tabassum, Abbie Linhares, Jun Wang, Patricia Sumang, Wensu Ng, Ishaan Nagpal, Grace Zhang, and Raymond Mo.

The council was very successful, as they were able to generate more buzz on social media and contributed to the State Program of Work goal of connecting members with the state officer team. Examples of some amazing work that the council members did, include the creation of the 6-section conference recap video and the state-wide section conference scavenger hunt. All members of the Public Relations Council will be present during the State Leadership Conference in Sacramento this year, and will be wearing a ribbon, so make sure to say hello, and you might just get featured on our social media.

### Council Members' YouTube Videos



## NLC PREVIEW

The 2019 National Leadership Conference will be held in San Antonio, Texas from June 29 to July 2. Members who have qualified by placing Top 4 during their respective State Leadership Conferences will be eligible to compete. At NLC, members can take part in a multitude of exciting workshops led by professionals, have the chance to meet members across the nation, and explore the city of San Antonio. The city offers many attractions: Six Flags Fiesta Texas, the Schlitterbahn Waterpark, discovery tours, etc. In addition, if you are interested in helping the National Leadership Team, you can have the opportunity to do so by applying to become a NLC Intern (visit fbla.org for more information). The California State Leadership Team wishes you the best of luck as you prepare for SLC. We hope to see you qualify for NLC and represent California on the national platform!



## SECTION CONFERENCE REVIEWS

### BAY SECTION

The 2019 Bay Section Leadership Conference was held at Westmoor High School in Daly City. With a total attendance of 1114 members, Bay Section members performed well in tough competition and also had a wonderful time networking with others. The conference offered many workshops held by local professionals and organizations, such as by Daly City Teens, and an entertainment session that drew over 80 participants, who engaged in friendly competition in various games like Kahoot. Overall, the conference was a major success, and Bay Section members are ready to continue pursuing excellence at the State Leadership Conference in April.



### CENTRAL SECTION

The Central section Leadership Conference was held on February 9th at Redwood High School. The day started with introductions from the officer team and expectations for the day. Afterwards, the principal from the host school welcomed everyone and we heard the campaign speeches for every candidate. When the opening session was over, members dispersed all across the campus to socialize, test, and participate in the activities. Even though it was a really rainy and cold day, students toughed it out to take part in the outside games like frisbee and spikeball. For those that wanted somewhere a little warmer to pass the day, we set up a movie in the gym. As for lunch, we had a local Quesadilla food truck cater and it was a big hit. Students enjoyed their food as they met new people and looked at the campaign booths. At the end of the day, awards were held where schools cheered loud for their members that made the stage with Redwood High School winning first in sweepstakes. Members of the Central Section are incredibly proud of their accomplishments at the section conference and cannot wait for state!

### GOLD COAST SECTION

The Gold Coast Section Leadership Conference was held at South Pasadena high School with 638 members and 45 advisers in attendance. The conference offered entertainment activities, such as a Shark Tank simulation and a Valentines for Veterans card making session. Some workshops that were offered covered topics, such as financial literacy and March of Dimes. Additionally, a March of Dimes Milk Tea Fundraiser was held at the conference and generated a profit of \$150.



## SECTION CONFERENCE PREVIEW

### INLAND SECTION



The Inland Section Leadership Conference was held on February 9, 2019, at Los Osos High School. It was a great experience for all members, new and returning. The section conference was the first competition of the year and it was one of the first networking experiences for new members. At the conference, members got the opportunity to meet members from chapters across the section. At the opening session, members heard several speeches from previous officers, inspirational business professionals, and future section officers. Throughout the conference, there were many opportunities for entertainment and personal development. Engaging workshops and lively entertainment sessions kept members involved all day. At the end of the night, chapters attended the awards event and we're excited to be cheering on their members and officers!

### NORTHERN SECTION

The Northern Section Leadership Conference took place on February 9th at Cosumnes Oaks High School in Elk Grove. It was a day full of fun and competition and there were nearly 400 members and advisers in attendance. We supported the March of Dimes by selling Northern Section T-shirts and donating the profits. Between competitions and the Awards of Excellence program, our members observed the hip-hop moves of the HYPE Dance Crew and were also entertained by the Poly Group, which practiced Polynesian style dance. We also encouraged members to take their best selfies and frame them with a special Northern Section Snapchat filter. It was an exciting day for all who attended.



### SOUTHERN SECTION



The Southern Section Leadership Conference was held on February 9th at Valencia High School. At this conference, 17 Chapters attended and really did succeed at the awards ceremony. There were many highlights: fundraisers and workshops. This year, our State Team decided to incorporate a fundraiser, a canned food drive. As a Section, we raised 71 cans! The cans we raised were all donated to Second Harvest in Orange County. Other than the canned food drive, the Section Officers put together 3 different workshops. Our goal was to get more members involved and aware of our plans for each upcoming event/conference because not many members knew about what is expected at State

Conference, so we did a workshop giving examples of previous State Conferences, what activities there are to do, which workshops to attend, etc. Besides workshops we did a fun activity, watched Incredibles 2! Watching the movie with some yummy snacks while raining outside was a great combination! Overall, our Southern Section Leadership Conference was a huge success and I am very glad of everyone who placed and will be attending State Conference! Besides workshops we did a fun activity, watched Incredibles 2! Watching the movie with some yummy snacks while raining outside was a great combination!

## STATE OFFICERS' FAVORITE FBLA MEMORY

AMBER AFZALI || STATE PRESIDENT

My favorite FBLA memory has to be the very first National Leadership Conference I attended. I was a freshmen competing in Introduction to Business Presentation with two sophomores in my group, Aman and Douglas. We were incredibly nervous, but we did our best. When we heard our names called to the stage, we were ecstatic! We waited on that stage as the numbers were called, and then we heard our names after 2nd place. We were jumping for joy; Aman and Douglas even did the “Running man” off stage! My local chapter and the entire state chapter was cheering us on. I think that was the moment when I realized the special place that FBLA will forever have in my heart.

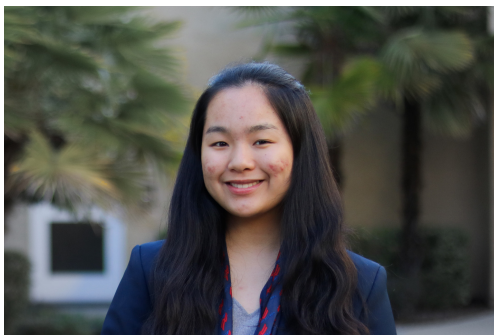


LAETICIA YANG || STATE SECRETARY

FBLA has been one crazy ride and I am so grateful for all of the incredible memories I have made through this organization. One of my favorite memories was getting the opportunity to lead a workshop at LDI North about creative problem solving. It was a lot of fun meeting so many new people and getting to hear their creative ideas about how to get people to stop pouring in milk before their cereal. I put a lot of work into preparing my workshop and it was such a rewarding experience in the end.

LORNA LOUIE || STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

Throughout my four years in FBLA, I have made so many unforgettable memories, that choosing one is nearly impossible. However, one event does strike as a little more memorable than the others, and that was LDI North 2018. Derrick Chau from the Central Section and I have known each other since the beginning of our FBLA journey, and ever since we both became section officer, we have been hoping to hold a workshop together at LDI. This past LDI North, we were finally given the opportunity to do so, thus we dedicated countless hours into making this the most perfect workshop we could make it; however, after one session of our Escape Room workshop it was unfortunately cancelled. We didn't really know what to do after this as there was still a few more sessions left of LDI, so we turned on our phone cameras and began vlogging our experience. We continued this vlog at our individual section conferences and hopefully we will finished the Chau x Lorna vlogs that we would love to share with everyone.



JESSIE CHENG, STATE VICE PRESIDENT (BAY)

My favorite memory was exploring Disney Downtown during the 2017 National Leadership Conference in Anaheim. The other chapter members and I walked around at night, and I remember buying pretzel bites from Auntie Anne's as well as a delicious Oreo Shake from Haagen Daaz. Later, we watched the fireworks and took so many pictures. I felt at that a moment a sense of peace and comfort, knowing that the people around me were people I could call a second family.

## STATE OFFICERS' FAVORITE FBLA MEMORY

TANIA JIROUDI, STATE VICE PRESIDENT (CENTRAL)

These past four years in FBLA have been an incredible experience for me. From meeting new friends all over California to spending time with my local FBLA family, I have had the opportunity to have some incredible moments at conferences and competitions. Out of all of these moments, my favorite has definitely been my junior year at SLC, where I got to witness my incredible chapter and section adviser, Mr. Avila, win adviser of the year. Mr. Avila has been there for me in every step of my FBLA journey and has helped me out in so many ways. Watching him get this award was such an exciting moment for my entire chapter. We were all going crazy cheering for him and filming his big moment. It was definitely a memory that I will always remember and I can't wait to watch him give the introduction to the new recipient this year!



MUSKAAN ABDUL SATTAR, STATE VICE PRESIDENT (INLAND)

The best memory I have from my four years in FBLA was attending my first National Leadership Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. It was at this conference that I truly developed my passion for the organization. Surrounded by like-minded students from across the nation, I was able to explore FBLA on a whole new level. I can genuinely accredit my love for this organization to the opportunity I had to attend NLC 2016!

CHLOE FERRAIUOLO, STATE VICE PRESIDENT (NORTHERN)

FBLA has provided me with so many wonderful experiences and it is hard to choose just one as my favorite. I will always remember the friendships I've gained and the great times I've had with my chapter, section, and state teams. Some of my favorite memories have been the moments spent with friends and fellow officers preparing for conferences and trainings. I loved getting to know so many amazing and inspiring young leaders from all over California and I know the future is bright for each and every one of you. Thanks for everything California FBLA, I'm sure going to miss you!



EMILY REMER, STATE VICE PRESIDENT (SOUTHERN)

My favorite memory of FBLA was actually everything! To the first ever FBLA meeting as a Freshman, to meeting new people, to being on Section and State Board, and now to attend my very last State Conference. Growing with my Chapter at Yorba Linda High School and expanding my knowledge to the Section and State level has expanded me to really jump out of my comfort zone and overall do so much for the people around me. The members and advisors made all of my experiences memorable. Especially, on this year's on State Board, it was such an honor to work with passionate and dedicated officers. We have grown so much as individuals and business leaders. Everyone who is apart of this organization made my 4 years the best it could be. I could have never accomplished anything if it weren't for you.



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER AMBER AFZALI || STATE PRESIDENT

Dear California Future Business Leaders of America:

On behalf of California FBLA, we hope you had a successful and memorable Section leadership Conference in February. We appreciate your continued dedication and commitment to create, lead, and inspire within FBLA. To all of those who competed and to all of those who will be competing at the upcoming State Leadership Conference, the State Leadership Team extends a huge congratulations and warm wishes.

Your state officers have been working diligently to prepare for the 2019 California FBLA State Leadership Conference. This year, the conference will be held at the Sacramento Convention Center from April 25th to 28th. I am eager to see many of you competing, attending workshops, and creating life-long memories with members from chapters across the state. From interactive workshops to the California FBLA's first Senior Social, SLC will have something for all of our members to maximize their experience aside from the competitive events.

As you make the necessary preparations for SLC, be sure to study, pack clothes within the dress code, and bring your ID. Resources such as practice tests and sample questions for your competitive events can be found on the California FBLA website. The National FBLA Dress Code will be heavily implemented this year. If you have any questions regarding the dress code, please don't hesitate to contact your state or section officers. I wish you the best of luck in your competitive events!

It has been a true honor to serve you as your California FBLA State President for the 2018-2019 year. Without the support of the members, the successes and advances CA FBLA has made this year would not have been possible. You have all contributed to expanding community outreach, improving communication, and enhancing resources. On behalf of the California FBLA State Team, thank you for your continued passion and support throughout the year. This farewell will be a bittersweet one, for while I am sad to be leaving, I cannot wait to see what the future will hold for this outstanding organization. Thank you for all of the memories and the unforgettable experiences!

I look forward to yet another wonderful State Leadership Conference, and I hope to see California FBLA well-represented at the National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas. As always, feel free to reach out to me at a conference, through social media, or through my email, [amber.afzali@cafbla.org](mailto:amber.afzali@cafbla.org), if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions.

Warm Regards,



**Amber Afzali**

California FBLA State President

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