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## **TMCC and Dual-enrolled Students Top Finishers at Nevada SkillsUSA**

### **Competitors from the region win 21 medals at Leadership and Skills Conference**

**Reno, Nev.** –Truckee Meadows Community College students have been awarded 21 medals at the 2017 Nevada SkillsUSA Leadership and Skills Conference, which took place April 4-7 at the TMCC William N. Pennington Applied Technology Center (ATC), and at Circus Circus Reno Hotel & Casino.

TMCC culinary arts students won every medal of the six possible awards in two categories for the state-wide contest; Culinary Arts and Commercial Baking. Technical science students, including college majors and dual-enrolled ACE Charter High School students won 15 medals in seven total categories.

“This competition showed me what I do well in my field of study and what I need to work on,” said Jestin Ogle, silver finisher in CNC Turning Technology. “It also gave me a taste of what to expect when I enter the work force.”

TMCC culinary arts students winning medals at SkillsUSA Nevada are:

- Shannon Sanchez: Culinary Arts, Gold
- Jonathan Munoz-Valdez: Culinary Arts, Silver
- Karla Cuadra: Culinary Arts, Bronze
- Shelby Decker: Commercial Baking, Gold
- Andrea Wyatt: Commercial Baking, Silver
- Michelle Yates: Commercial Baking, Bronze

TMCC students winning in technical science categories are:

- Chance Powning: Automotive Service Technology, Gold
- Stevan Diaz: Automotive Service Technology, Silver
- Nicholas Teeters: Diesel Equipment Technology, Gold
- Nathaniel Leslie: Welding, Gold
- Daniel Olson: Welding, Bronze

“It will really help to have an accomplishment like that on my resume for the future,” said Nathan La Cruze, silver medal winner in Precision Machining Technology. “It feels really good, and I think employers will look at that and give you that leg up ahead of other people.”

ACE Charter High School students who are dual-enrolled at TMCC, and won in the high school technical science categories are:

- Jared Larson: Precision Machining Technology, Gold
- Nathan La Cruze: Precision Machining Technology, Silver
- Jack Den Hartog: Precision Machining Technology, Bronze
- Joseph Stevens: CNC Turning Technology, Gold
- Jestin Ogle: CNC Turning Technology, Silver

- Michael Rodriguez: CNC Turning Technology, Bronze
- Peter Savini: Diesel Equipment Technology, Gold
- Gatlin Featham: Diesel Equipment Technology, Silver
- Bryson Vandermyden: Diesel Equipment Technology, Bronze
- Theodore Bobo: Automotive Service Technology, Silver

#### **About the National SkillsUSA organization**

The SkillsUSA organization is comprised of students, teachers and industry representatives, focused on preparing students for careers in technical, service, and skilled occupations, including the health field. Local, state and national competitions are centered on career proficiencies and leadership abilities.

For more information about studying culinary arts at TMCC, please call 775-674-7917. For technical sciences such as CNC, automotive technology, precision machining technology or welding, the phone number is 775-856-5300.

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#### **About TMCC**

Truckee Meadows Community College is a comprehensive community college located in Reno, Nev., and is part of the Nevada System of Higher Education. With five college sites and more than 20 community locations, TMCC serves more than 16,000 students each year in state-supported programs and another 9,600 students in non-credit workforce development classes. For more information, please go to [www.tmcc.edu](http://www.tmcc.edu).

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