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Ohio FCCLA Excels at National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California

Anaheim, CA. – More than 6,300 nationwide members, advisers, alumni, and guests of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), gathered in Anaheim, CA July 10-14 for the 2011 National Leadership Conference. Ohio FCCLA had the second largest delegation with over 325 delegates. Ohio was represented by 170 STAR Events competitors of which 95 received Gold, 67 Silver and 8 Bronze. Ohio had the next to largest number of participants in STAR Events but had the largest number of gold medals in STAR Events.

Ohio FCCLA won third place in the prestigious National FCCLA State Achievement Award. The award is based on participation at the national level in programming, events and membership. Ohio ranks third among the fifty states. Victoria Bruns accepted the award during the Recognition Session.

Miami Valley CTC Senior Early Childhood FCCLA Parliamentary Procedure Team members were presented special gold medals from the National Parliamentarian Association for having the highest score of all occupational(workforce) chapters nationwide. Three teams received perfect scores- Victoria Bruns and Emily Watercutter from Anna High School in Chapter Showcase Display event, Devon Alexander from Anna High School in Job Interview and Eric Frazee and Jessica Futral from East Knox High School in Focus on Children.

Northwestern Middle School was recognized for the 1st place middle school program in the area Financial Fitness and Ripley Middle School was recognized for 1st place middle school program in the area of Student Body.

Victoria Bruns, Ohio FCCLA State President was selected to serve as a member of the National STAR Events Advisory Team for a two year term. Paulette Farago, Ohio

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FCCLA State Adviser was recognized for serving on the National STAR Events Adviser Team for the past three years. She also currently serves on the four member State Adviser Leadership Team representing Central Region and was elected secretary. Brenda Wuebker presented workshops as a member of the National Adviser Consultant Team.

Ohio FCCLA also received the award for greatest increase in membership by a state for Central Region. Lakota West/Butler Tech was recognized as the largest chapter nationwide with over 500 members.

This year's student-originated theme for the annual national meeting was "Imagination in Action." Throughout the five-day convention, participants examined and discussed several critical issues, including family, school and community violence prevention, physical as well as financial fitness, future career exploration and countless community service projects.

A number of relevant youth issues, such as the changing roles of men and women in the home and workplace, leadership, and obesity prevention were also explored at the meeting through presentations, workshops, and youth sessions.

Ohio will continue to work with other FCCLA members and advisers in Ohio to encourage others to discover their strengths, motivate members to target career goals, and initiate a plan to ignite youth leadership in the community.

Other meeting highlights included:

- Over 3,500 students competed in STAR Events (Students Taking Action with Recognition) which are competitive events that build proficiency and achievement in leadership and job-related skills.
- A donation of \$258,046 was presented to Children's Miracle Network from National FCCLA.
- Spotlight on Projects where representatives from states share successful national, state, or chapter projects

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education. FCCLA has over 190,000 members and over 6,500 chapters from 50 state associations, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The organization has involved more than ten million youth since its founding in 1945.

FCCLA: The Ultimate Leadership Experience is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members. It is the only career and technical in-school student organization with the family as its central focus. Participation in national programs and chapter activities helps members become strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities. Out of 87,994 students from across the country, 55% of students believe that FCCLA has a positive impact on their academic performance.

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