



# Focus on FCCLA

Winter 2020

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### 2019-2020 State Executive Council

**Nicholas Mitchell**  
Pickford High School  
State President

**Emily Willerick**  
Romulus High School  
First Vice President

**Edyn Nettleton**  
Pickford High School  
Vice President of Membership

**Brett Sherwood**  
Romulus High School  
Vice President of Community Service & Public Relations

### Editorial Correspondence

Cindy Rodrigues  
Michigan FCCLA  
Eastern Michigan University  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
(734) 487-8657 • Fax: (734) 487-4329  
www.mifccla.org • c Rodrigues@mifccla.org

### Articles & Letters Welcome for Publication

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## Hop on the Bus with Me to NLC!

Brett Sherwood, Vice President of Community Service & Public Relations

Do you want to go on the adventure of a lifetime to take part in the ultimate leadership experience? Then look no further; FCCLA has the conference for you. The FCCLA National Leadership Conference is an annual event that allows you to connect with other members and advisers around the country. You will be given the opportunity to sharpen your leadership skills, harness your talents, explore career pathways, and compete at the highest level through STAR events. I want you to have the best experience possible, so I'm going to talk about my past experiences and guide you so you can utilize your time effectively.

In 2018, I was a freshman in high school. I had received a gold medal at the State Leadership Conference for an Illustrated Talk STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) event about the importance of being involved in extracurricular activities. We had the highest score in the state, so we received the opportunity to advance to the National Leadership Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. This was my first year in FCCLA, so I was still learning new things about the organization and different ways to get involved. This would end up

being one of the best trips of my entire life, hands down. I met state presidents of FCCLA from all around the country. I met inspiring individuals that encouraged me to lead by example. Some of the amazing keynote speakers throughout the conference were Johnny "Cupcakes" Earle, Shane Feldman, and Dan Cathy. Johnny Cupcakes told us to think outside the box and that experimenting is how we grow as leaders, even if we aren't successful the first time. Shane Feldman taught us that being a leader doesn't begin with thinking; it begins with listening. Leadership isn't something only a select few have, it's something anyone can practice every day. Finally, Dan Cathy closed out the session with a powerful message. Success will come if you stay true to your own personal morals and character. These inspirational messages would change my life forever and would inspire me to run for state office.

This spring, I received a gold medal at the State Leadership Conference once again for a Chapter Service Project Display STAR event. I was able to host a "WonderBox Drive" with 3 local churches, collect and donate over \$1,000 worth of clothes and toys to the Methodist Children's Home Society in Redford, Michi-

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# CELEBRATE LEADERSHIP



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# Hop on the Bus to the State Leadership Conference!

Edyn Nettleton, Vice President of Membership

Hey, Michigan FCCLA! Who's ready to hop on the bus March 18th through the 20th and head to this year's State Leadership Conference? This conference is sure to be action packed and full of fun activities to focus on developing both you and your chapter.

The State Leadership Conference will begin with our opening session on Wednesday night. We have an amazing keynote speaker who is sure to grab your attention. During this session, we will hear from each chapter as they tell us what their favorite activity has been this year, so be prepared to tell us all about the wonderful work you have all done! This is also a big night for our 2019-2020 State Officer Candidates. They will be giving their nomination speeches, so make sure to lend an ear to these brave individuals! Our annual Miracle Minute, where we will be collecting spare change and bills to be donated to a local food bank, will also be taking place during this session, so be sure to bring your spare change to donate to a great cause!

The following morning will be for showing off all the hard work you've put into your STAR Events! After the STAR Events have finished, you will have the oppor-

tunity to attend many fun, informative, and insightful workshops. Make sure you attend as many as possible to grow your leadership skills. After the workshops end, it's time to put on your boogie shoes and get ready for the FCCLA banquet! The banquet is a great way to celebrate the hard work you've put into this FCCLA year. At the banquet, you will receive many awards, scholarships, and find out who won the chapter challenge!

You will also be recognized for participating in Power of One and find out who your newly elected State Officers are! Then, you get to eat a nice dinner and head to the dance floor to show us all your best moves!

Friday is the day our conference comes to an end. It's often sad to depart from new friends, but it's also a very exciting day. Our Grand Award's Ceremony will take place this day! Here you will get the recognition you deserve and find out if you qualify for this year's National Leadership Conference in Washington D.C.! There is also a time for the current State Officers to say their farewells, and for the installation ceremony for the new members of the State Executive Council!

I look forward to seeing all of you at the 2020 State Leadership Conference. Get going on those STAR Events!





## 2019 Fall Leadership Conference

Nicholas Mitchell, State President

Take a glance back at the month of November... What was your favorite thing you did? Was it going out into the woods to hunt? Was it spending time with family for Thanksgiving festivities? Was it preparing for the holidays? An estimated 220 people could say they had a grand time at the Michigan FCCLA Fall Leadership Conference. Michigan FCCLA members that attended this conference were able to attend workshops, receive FOCUS training, meet new friends, and learn a little about another CTSO, Skills USA! Members at this conference developed skills they can bring back to their local FCCLA chapters to help them prepare for State Leadership Conference in March, and they developed skills that could help them “take the lead” in their schools. FCCLA members had the opportunity to attend as many workshops as time permitted. We had workshop topics, such as safe driving, the planning process, dressing properly, fundraising for your chapters, FCCLA projects, conflict resolution, the ambassador program, and becoming a state officer. There were also workshops where students were able to network with other members or, if they were a chapter officer, we had a chapter officer networking workshop. These workshops provided insightful skills that members could take back to improve themselves, their community, or even their chapter!

Michigan FCCLA members were able to check out numerous expos such as an AT&T table where, they could learn more about affordable home internet opportunities. We also had an FCCLA pop-up shop! Ms. Schneider, an adviser from Lake Orion High School, had an array of different and awesome items, like Michigan FCCLA t-shirts, buttons, bags, and pop sockets!

Members also received a FOCUS training from Todd Gehrman! FOCUS training is an interactive leadership development company that has been helping people achieve excellence through understanding and action for over 25 years. Todd’s training empowered our Michigan FCCLA members to go and take the lead in their schools and communities! Todd had students mingle with other Michigan chapters to encourage us to break out of our comfort zones. We had to “milk our friends”

and then go around the room to break into groups to create a new invention that’s never been heard of before!

With that being said, I ask you, what was your favorite memory of the 2019 Fall Leadership Conference? Was it networking with other chapters? Was it attending the workshops, or was it just attending the 2019 Michigan FCCLA Fall leadership Conference in general? I would say my favorite memory was being at the Fall Leadership Conference and experiencing it all! It was great to see all this year’s members! I would also like to thank all the workshop presenters who volunteered to come to give their presentations! They surely made a difference! I hope to see each and every one of you at the 2020 Michigan FCCLA State Leadership conference March 18-20, 2020 at the Great Hall Banquet and Convention Center in Midland, MI!



**Michigan FCCLA**

**STATE  
LEADERSHIP  
CONFERENCE**

**March 18-20, 2020  
Valley Plaza Resort  
Midland, Michigan**



**facebook.com/mifccla**



# Members & Chapters of the Month

Emily Willerick, First Vice President

This year, Michigan FCCLA has introduced a new program to help recognize our members and chapters for all of the hard work they do. Both members and chapters can fill out a poll each month to nominate

themselves or someone else to become the Chapter of the Month or Member of the Month. Winners of each month are rewarded by having their picture posted on Michigan FCCLA social media as well as being announced at the State Leadership Conference. So far, we have had chapter and member winners of September and November that we are very excited to share!

The September Member of the Month was **Emma Wallis!** She is an eighth grader at Pickford High School and is a second year member. Emma is said to have shown great progress since last year. She has hit the ground running to start this year out by working hard to recruit new members. She has helped with decorating a float for local community days, and has led the charge in hosting a middle school extra-curricular fair to gain new members for her chapter and let students know about the other activities that students may join. She helped plan the Back to School Bash that is held to kick off the school year with FCCLA. She has been actively recruiting new members through different activities that they do. She is getting a jump start to her project for this year. She has been very proactive in contacting the appropriate people to help. Emma has promoted FCCLA through the extra-curricular fair, everyday conversations with her classmates, and with contacts she has met for her project. She is always talking about the great things that FCCLA can do and the events her chapter has hosted and attended.

The September Chapter of the Month was **Holly High School,** with 15 members! The officers have been very busy already this year, they had a summer planning meeting and set up one community service project for each month. They also ran a successful “Rush Week” and informational meeting for new/interested members. RUSH week was for all school clubs/organizations and was sponsored by Holly High School FCCLA! Also, they did a Halloween Costume Drive, and members obtained donations for a Halloween Shop or Swap!

The November Member of the Month was **Jaedynn Galarowic!** She is a freshman at Pickford High School and is a first year member. She has gone above and beyond this year to increase membership in her chapter. She is helping out at every event she is able to attend. Emma has started her STAR Event this year where she will be volunteering at a local assisted living facility next to her school. She has been able to start helping others that are in her class, and has helped at the events that her chapter sponsored last month. She has also been speaking and recruiting her friends to help.

The November Chapter of the Month was **Branch Area Careers Center,** with 53 members! So far this year, they have done many things in their chapter. Recently, they inducted their officers in a formal ceremony. These officers will lead the chapter during this year with community service projects, STAR events, and Power of One. They also attended the FCCLA Fall Leadership Conference to improve their leadership skills. Additionally, they volunteered at the Branch County professional development event. This was held on a non-school day for students. They were able to help in many ways and also were able to attend some of the professional development sessions. They promoted this in their local paper to make sure their community was aware of the great things they are doing. This month, they volunteered on a Saturday to pack food baskets for those in need in the community. The food baskets help these families have meals for the holidays.

Congratulations to all of the winners! We are so impressed with the hard work that both members and chapters are putting in to make Michigan FCCLA even better! If you would like to nominate a member or your chapter to be the winner of the month, you can find the applications on the Michigan FCCLA website under the Membership/Awards.

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# Chapters and Members of the Month

## Judging Criteria:

### Chapter of the Month:

- Reasons why you believe your Chapter deserves the award
- Impact your chapter has made on your school and or community
- If your chapter has promoted FCCLA, and how?

### Member of the Month:

- Reasons why you (or someone else) deserves the award
- Impact made on their school and or community
- If you/they have promoted FCCLA, and how?

For each submission received, you will receive one point towards the Chapter Challenge. The winners of the month will receive 5 points towards the Chapter Challenge. These points will help you become eligible to enjoy an activity with the State Executive Council at the State Leadership Conference. Winners will also be recognized at Michigan FCCLA Conferences and on our social media.

If your chapter is named Chapter of the Month, you will not be able to submit during a different month. If one of your chapter members wins Member of the Month, they are not allowed to be submitted again during a different month.

## Application Deadlines:

January – due February 1st  
February – due March 1st

## Apply at:

[mifccla.org/membership/awards.html](http://mifccla.org/membership/awards.html)



*November Member of the Month  
Jaedynn Galarowic  
Pickford High School*

# National Leadership Conference

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gan, and sponsor a child's Christmas. I was granted the opportunity to journey to the National Leadership Conference once again in Anaheim, California. This time, I received the honor of judging the Chapter Service Project Portfolio STAR event in my region. Seeing the great things everyone else was accomplishing in their community motivated me to continue making a difference. I was also able to attend the "State Officer Networking" workshop alongside our first Vice President Emily Willerick where we connected with leaders around the country to share ideas and make ourselves better. Kyle Scheele delivered the best keynote I've ever heard up until that point. His entire speech felt so genuine, like we were having a one-on-one conversation. He told us that we need to let go of the past, and stay on track. It only takes one person to bring somebody up or inspire others, and it only takes one moment to decide you want to change your life for the better. Don't let things you did in the past weigh down your ability to keep moving forward. He's building a Viking ship filled with regrets people write on cards that people send to him from all over the world, and it's all going up in flames, Viking funeral style. That's so awesome!

All of these words inspire me to be the best possible version of myself each and every day, and I hope my recollection of my adventures at the National Leadership Conference inspires you to attend this year's session, and to also be the best version of yourself.

This year's National Leadership Conference marks the 75th anniversary of FCCLA! Come celebrate FCCLA being established for 75 amazing years at Washington D.C. It will take place July 5th-9th, 2020. I can't wait to see you there and hear about "Your Story!" The past two National Leadership Conferences have changed my life for the better, and I want all of you to be a part of this amazing experience too. Hope to see you there!



*September Member of the Month  
Emma Wallis  
Pickford High School*



*November 2019 Chapter of the Month  
Branch Area Careers Center*