

Newsletter

DECA Today**Meet the Officers**

By: Ericka Veliz

Aaron Kinnari - President

Aaron Kinnari, President

Aaron, of Caesar Rodney, is entering his final year of high school. As re-elected Delaware DECA State President, Aaron hopes to expand the organization through recruitment, improved communication, and effective public relations. In doing so, he hopes that DECA becomes a household name. In addition to fulfilling these goals, Aaron will continue to perform his regular presidential respon-

sibilities including overseeing the State Officer Executive Committee meetings, drafting agendas for these meetings, reporting to the Advisory Board, and aiding in the planning of conferences. Aaron, on a personal note, hopes to attend New York University, become an entrepreneur, a movie producer, and if time allows, become President of the United States! Outside of DECA, Aaron's hobbies in-

clude Student Council, lacrosse, soccer, white water rafting, going to the beach, and hanging out with friends. His favorite quote comes from Tyler Durden in *Fight Club*, "It's only after we've lost everything that we're free to do anything." Feel free to contact Delaware DECA's State President, Aaron Kinnari at aaron@delawaredeca.org.

Ericka Veliz - Vice President

Ericka Veliz, Vice-President

Ericka Veliz, a Senior at Polytech High School is this year's Delaware DECA State Vice President. Ericka hopes to increase communication between the State Officer Executive Committee and the local chapters, increase awareness of the DECA organization throughout the state, and increase the recognition of DECA's contributions to other organizations. Some of her vice presidential responsibilities includes pre-

siding in the absence of the President and serve on all committees appointed by the President. On a personal note, Ericka hopes to graduate valedictorian of her class, attend a university in North Carolina, and major in Psychology and/or Criminology to gain a position as a detective for the State Police. Outside of DECA, some of her hobbies include participation in the National Honor Society, Student Council, shopping, and free

lance writing. Her favorite quote was stated by a man named Dag Hammarskjöld, "The more faithfully you listen, the better you hear what is sounding outside. And only he who listens can speak." Feel free to contact Delaware DECA's State Vice President, Ericka Veliz at Ericka@delawaredeca.org

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Meet the Officers continued.



Sharie Ryan, Secretary

Sharie Ryan - Secretary

Sharie Ryan, one of Polytech High School's graduating Seniors of 2006, is this year's Delaware DECA State Secretary. Sharie hopes to see Delaware DECA increase its membership size this year and also would like for all chapters to develop better communication among one another. Some of her secretarial responsibilities include taking minutes at

each meeting, distributing minutes from previous meetings, and making sure that the minutes are sent to each member of the Officer Executive Committee. On a personal note, Sharie plans to go to college and either study entrepreneurship or study to be a teacher. Outside of DECA, Sharie's hobbies include tennis, volleyball, participation in Business

Professionals of America (BPA), and simply just hanging out with friends. Her favorite quote is by the inspirational Helen Keller, "The best and most beautiful things in this world cannot be seen or heard, but felt with the heart." Feel free to contact Delaware DECA's State Secretary, Sharie Ryan, at Sharie@delawaredeca.org.



Koltyn Risser, Treasurer

Koltyn Risser—Treasurer

Koltyn Risser, a Junior at Middletown High School is this year's Delaware DECA State Treasurer. He hopes that this year DECA will increase its chapter and state communication, as well as its participation by members from across the state. Some of Koltyn's responsibilities include reviewing

financial records with the state advisors and keeping the Executive Committee current with the financial condition of the state organization. Koltyn, on a personal note, hopes to attend the University of Virginia or Virginia Tech to obtain a business degree and later enroll into law school. Outside of DECA,

some of his hobbies include fishing, hunting, jet skiing, and participating in various clubs. His favorite quote comes from an unknown source, but is a powerful one, "Success is a journey, not a destination." Feel free to contact Delaware DECA's State Treasurer, Koltyn Risser at KRisser@delawaredeca.org.

1st Annual DECA Summit

By: Koltyn Risser



In an attempt to increase communication as well as productivity throughout the state, your Delaware DECA leadership team has organized the "DECA Summit." The summit is a series of workshops and activities that will help all Delaware chapters to get started off on the right foot. The Summit will consist of various workshops,

with a focus on communication and participation.

The summit is scheduled for October 17, and four members from each school are permitted to attend. The DECA Summit will be an event for fellow DECA members to meet with their state officers as well as other DECA members throughout the state. The information presented

will be used to run a more effective DECA chapter, as well as increase productivity throughout the state.

The four members selected should be four responsible individuals that will effectively be able to relay all presented information back to the other chapter members. So contact your advisor if you're interested in attending!

Sneak Peak to Fall Leadership

By: Aaron Kinnari

This year's Fall Leadership Conference is quickly approaching. The conference is a perfect opportunity to meet with other DECA members while learning important entrepreneurial fundamentals from today's business professionals. Past guest speakers have ranged from various business owners to marketing representatives

from the Baltimore Orioles. Many of the region's top colleges will also be in attendance giving members the chance to learn a little about the educational prospects available to them in the area. Finally, the conference is a perfect chance for members to learn more about DECA and the many possibilities available to them, espe-

cially the opportunity of holding a state officer position. So mark your calendars now. This year's conference takes place on November 4th at the exceptional Clayton Hall on the University of Delaware campus. See you there!



05-06 DECA State Officer Team left to right, Aaron Kinnari, Ericka Veliz, Sharie Ryan, and Koltyn Risser

Live to Give

By: Aaron Kinnari

Delaware DECA is pleased to announce that this year; it will once again take part in the "Coins for Kids" charity drive to help support the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). The organization, which is most widely known for its Labor Day Jerry Lewis Telethon,

helps to raise money nationwide to help find a cure for Muscular Dystrophy. Delaware DECA's "Coins for Kids" charity drive will kick off on October 10th and continue until December 12th. Individual chapters are strongly encouraged to participate and have the

flexibility to determine how they want to raise the money.

The chapter that raises the most donations for MDA will be recognized at the State Conference in early Spring 2006 and will also be recognized in the next newsletter.

*Mark your Calendar
for the
DECA State Career
Development
Conference
February 9-10, 2006*

Katrina Disaster Outreach

Shocked and saddened by the devastation wrought by the recent hurricane, DECA is currently working on a plan of assistance, which will be implemented in the days and weeks to come. Please check the DECA National Web site frequently for updates on how you can help be part of DECA's outreach to the victims of this catastrophe. Meanwhile, the following organizations are collecting contributions for immediate aid and relief. DECA urges you to consider making a donation:

American Red Cross
P.O. Box 37243
Washington, D.C.
www.redcross.org

The Humane Society
2100 L Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20037
www.hsus.org

Catholic Charities USA
2005 Hurricane Relief Fund
P.O. Box 25168
Alexandria, VA 22313-9788
800-919-9338
www.catholiccharitiesusa.com

Salvation Army
P.O. Box 4857
Jackson, MS 39296-4857
800-SAL-ARMY
www.salvationarmyusa.org



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Aaron Kinnari

Vice-President
Ericka Veliz

Secretary
Sharie Ryan

Treasurer
Koltyn Risser

DECA State Advisor
Frank Ingram

DECA Assistant
State Advisor
Matt Biggs

Why Haven't You Gone National?

By: Sharie Ryan

So, you are a Delaware DECA member. You and your fellow members are organized around one ambitious goal: "To improve educational and career opportunities in marketing, management, and entrepreneurship." But, why haven't you taken the next step; why not become a part of DECA on a national level? By becoming a national member, you will see the other opportunities that are available to you.

You already know that DECA brings its members valuable skills, but when you go national, you can tap into \$250,000 of awards and

scholarships. Now, try getting that at states! As of right now, Delaware DECA has helped you learn to communicate effectively and has taught you to be a successful team player. When you go to the DECA International Career Development Conference, you network and compete with 15,000 other individuals just like you, which can only provide you with a more satisfying experience.

"Professional success is often a result of the development of leadership skills early in life," so gain more usable skills that DECA has to offer and go national!



You're invited to join us at the First Annual DECA Summit. Get a jump start on National Membership! The chapter with the highest percentage growth increase in national members wins special recognition and a plaque at the annual Career Development Conference!

