



For Immediate Release

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Career Tech Film & New Media, Graphic Arts, Power Equipment Students Earn Top Honors at SkillsUSA Michigan Competition

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. – Students at Northwest Education Services (North Ed) Career Tech put their skills to the test at the [SkillsUSA Michigan](#) State Conference and it paid off, with several earning first, second and third-place finishes in their contests.

Students in the Film & New Media, Graphic Arts and Power Equipment programs at Career Tech took home top honors at the state-level competition, which took place April 12-14 at the Amway Grand Plaza and DeVos Convention Center in Grand Rapids. The three Career Tech students who earned gold have the opportunity to advance to the [SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference](#) to be held June 24-28 in Atlanta, Georgia.

“We are delighted with all of our students’ performances at SkillsUSA because no matter where they place, it is a chance for them to showcase all they’ve learned through their Career Tech programs, work experiences, mentorships and more,” said Patrick Lamb, assistant superintendent of Career and Technical Education at North Ed. “I’m proud of their demonstrations of knowledge, work ethic and poise.”

Career Tech students in the Film & New Media, Graphic Arts and Power Equipment programs who earned top honors at the state-level competition are:

Film & New Media

Career Tech Film & New Media students made significant contributions in the **Digital Cinema Production** contest, which is designed to evaluate and recognize high school students for excellence and professionalism with their filmmaking skills in the writing, producing, directing and editing of a short film. A total of four students on two teams won gold and bronze awards.

Gold Team:

Zoe Kline, Elk Rapids High School and Katarina Schoenow, Schooled at Home
[See Zoe and Katarina's Film “The Art of Financing”](#)

Bronze Team:

Aja Kuhlman and Luella Killian Welch, both of Traverse City Central High School
[See Aja and Luella's Film “Agents for Hire”](#)

Graphic Arts

Career Tech Graphic Arts students took top spots in the Pin Design contest which calls on competitors to design a Michigan trading pin concept using original artwork. They then presented their designs to judges in a professional manner, showcasing design inspiration and how it delivers on the objective.

- **Gold:** Amelia Clair, Kingsley High School
- **Silver:** Alyson Boven, Traverse City Christian School

Power Equipment

Three Career Tech Power Equipment program students placed in the Marine Service Technology, Motorcycle Service Technology and Power Equipment Technology contests. The Marine Service Technology competition measured students' skills in marine electrical/ignition, fuel, cooling, lubrication and drive systems.

- **Bronze:** Sawyer Couturier, Leland High School

The Motorcycle Service Technology contest evaluated technical skills in electrical diagnosis, precision measurement, brake and suspension service, and fuel, transmission and drive systems.

- **Silver:** Callie Reneaud, Traverse City Central High School

The Power Equipment Technology competition involved engine theory, diagnosis and repair, electrical testing, and preventative maintenance. Students disassembled and reassembled engine systems in the process.

- **Bronze:** Noah Frank, Traverse City Central High School

[North Ed Career Tech](#), located at 880 Parsons Road in Traverse City, offers more than 20 [programs](#) to high school juniors and seniors from North Ed's five-county service area: Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Leelanau.

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**See photos below*



Career Tech Film and New Media students who won awards at the SkillsUSA Digital Cinema Production contest, from left: Zoe Kline (gold), Aja Kuhlman (bronze) and Luella Killian Welch (bronze). Not present is Katarina Schoenow (gold).



The Career Tech Film and New Media program sent several teams of students to compete in SkillsUSA Digital Cinema Production contest. They are pictured in downtown Grand Rapids near the competition site.



Career Tech Graphic Arts students who won awards at SkillsUSA Pin Design contest, left to right: Mia Clair (gold) and Ally Boven (silver).



Career Tech Graphic Arts students who won in the SkillsUSA Pin Design contest take the stage to accept their awards. Pictured in white shirts, from left, Mia Clair (gold) and Ally Boven (silver).



Career Tech Power Equipment students who won awards at SkillsUSA in Power Equipment categories, from left: Noah Frank (power equipment technology, bronze), Callie Reneaud (motorcycle service technology, silver) and Sawyer Couturier (marine service technology, bronze).