



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 4, 2023

Kent Storm

Executive Director

515-657-8260

kent@iowafblla.org

**Iowa Brings Home a National Officer, Two Outstanding Chapters, and Seven National Placements**

(CHARITON, IOWA) – Iowa Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) collegiate students made their mark at the 2023 FBLA National Leadership Conference, the nation's largest Career and Technical Student Organization focused solely on business. Members showcased their exceptional skills and professionalism, earning top placements and recognition among talented students nationwide. The event, held in Atlanta, Georgia, June 22-25, attracted more than 800 college students and educators from across the country.

FBLA's National Leadership Conference brings together students to compete for cash prizes in dozens of competitive events over four days each year. Students also had the opportunity to engage in learning workshops, network with alumni, meet with potential employers, and hear from CliftonLarsonAllen LLP (CLA) CEO Jen Leary and Chief Culture Officer Cathy Clarke in a featured presentation during the opening ceremony.

20+ attendees from community colleges and universities across Iowa attended the conference and achieved outstanding results, securing several top placements and prestigious honors. Iowa FBLA takes immense pride in recognizing Benjamin Pellizzari for his election as Vice President of Communication on the national officer team. Benjamin's leadership skills and commitment to excellence make him an outstanding representative for Iowa FBLA at the national level.

The following students finished the 2023 national conference with outstanding accomplishments:

- Paige Mentzer - 7th in Strategic Analysis & Decision Making
- Paige Mentzer & Maria King - 6th in Sales Presentation
- Maria King - 9th in Future Business Executive
- Emily Junker - 8th in Fundamentals of Accounting
- Emily Junker and Lexi McLain-Goddard - 5th in Desktop Publishing
- Raoda Ahmat - 4th in Global Analysis & Decision Making
- Vic Christie - 10th in Entrepreneurial Concepts

Moreover, Iowa FBLA congratulates the University of Northern Iowa for their achievement in placing 1st in the nation for Outstanding Chapter and DMACC for a 10th place finish.

Finally, Iowa FBLA extends its heartfelt congratulations and deepest gratitude to Madison Kraemer as she concludes her exceptional tenure as the FBLA Collegiate National President. Throughout her term, Madison has exhibited exemplary leadership, dedication, and unwavering commitment to advancing the mission of FBLA Collegiate. Her vision, passion, and tireless efforts have impacted our organization and its members. Madison's ability to inspire and empower others has fostered a culture of excellence and growth within FBLA Collegiate. We thank her for her outstanding service and wish her continued success as she begins her new position as the State Officer Coach for Iowa FBLA.



“We are so proud of our student members, who have been working diligently for months to prepare for the National Leadership Conference,” FBLA President & CEO Alexander T. Graham said. “They impressed industry leaders with their mastery of competitive event subjects, made powerful new connections with employers and alumni, and demonstrated their readiness to enter the workforce.”

#### **About FBLA**

Future Business Leaders of America, Inc. is a nonprofit 501[c][3] education association with active middle school, high school, and college chapters worldwide. FBLA inspires and prepares students to become community-minded business leaders in a global society through relevant career preparation and leadership experiences. The association is headquartered in Reston, Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C. For more information, visit [fbla.org](http://fbla.org).

###