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## WHAT IS FBLA?

California FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) student organization committed to preparing today's students for success in business leadership. Our mission is to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs. The Californian is California FBLA's official seasonal newsletter.

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: GREGORY GUNADI

*Bhushan Balagar, State Secretary-Treasurer,  
and Yousuf Husain, State Vice President*

Not many have contributed as much to the growth of California FBLA as Gregory Gunadi has. Gregory, a graduate of Diamond Bar High School in the Inland Section, recalls his involvement in FBLA as the definitive experience of his high school years. He joined the organization his freshman year, intrigued by the different opportunities that FBLA had to offer. He quickly accelerated his participation in FBLA by running for section office and successfully being elected as Secretary-Treasurer. However, Gregory didn't stop there; he then focused on his participation at the state level. Indeed, he concluded his



Gregory Gunadi

FBLA journey by serving on the state leadership team, one of the greatest achievements a member can attain. Not only did Gregory serve as a two-term California FBLA Secretary-Treasurer, but he also attended numerous national conferences and ultimately established himself as a distinguished future business leader. Throughout all of these experiences, Gregory also developed an incredible skillset: networking, public speaking, time-management, communication ethics, and much more.

However, FBLA wasn't just a catalyst for his growth as a leader. It was also an opportunity to meet people across the state and nation and create long-lasting friendships. Gregory met some of his best friends in FBLA, with whom he often stays in touch with, looking back on some of their fondest memories. Today, as he pursues a double major in Data Science and Business Administration at UC Berkeley, Gregory takes part in several extracurricular activities that reflect his interest in business education: Planet Arboreum, Berkeley Finance Club, Berkeley Investment Group, Associated Students of the University of California, and Alpha Deutsch Boys. With his experiences in FBLA and at UC Berkeley, Gregory looks forward to a bright future in the business world. •

## SUMMER OFFICER SUMMIT

*Sidharth Satya, State Vice President*

On Friday June 24th, over 60 section officers and advisers from all across California gathered in the staff lounge of Los Osos High School for the start of the annual California FBLA Section Officer Summit. Designed to introduce the new 2016-2017 section officer teams, the goal for this year's Summit was to enhance communication and to promote and represent CAFBLA in a proper manner.

During the two day conference, section officers developed their promotional skills by practicing and perfecting 30 second pitches about FBLA and 2-3 minute presentations about its importance as a CTSO in small groups. Furthermore, planning for the upcoming Leadership Development Institute Conference (LDI) and Officer and Adviser Training Day (OAT Day) Conferences was held by each respective section officer team. Section officers attended workshops that were focused around CAFBLA's CTSO and CDE Policies, the State Program of Work, how to be an effective section officer, and online ambassadorship and etiquette

Throughout the 2016 Summit, officers and advisers were able to network and share ideas regarding section improvement and member and chapter opportunities. Moreover, they learned more about their duties and responsibilities as section officers and what they can do in order to effectively lead their sections. As the summer comes to a close, members and chapters all across the state can look towards their new, strong section officer teams for guidance and leadership during the upcoming 2016-2017 school year.



The State and Section Officer Teams at Summit.

# STATE PROGRAM OF WORK

*Daniel Cho and Harmon Gill, State Vice Presidents*

On behalf of the California State Leadership team, we look forward to another exciting, productive year! This year's state leadership team has crafted its Program of Work around 3 goals: Outreach Improvement, Resource Revitalization, and Strengthening Lines of Communication.

The California FBLA State Leadership Team will be redoubling efforts to incorporate PBL into FBLA events, strengthen our relationships with civic organizations, and reach out to new resources from the likes of parents, professionals, and even a real life parliamentarian!

In addition to improving our outreach efforts, the California FBLA State Leadership Team will be adding and improving resources available on the California FBLA website, ensuring that the information chapters and members receive is relevant

and useful. This begins with overhauling the "How to Start a Chapter" guide, and replacing it with a more comprehensive "Beginning of the Year" guide, which features chapter size and chapter experience-based advice, tailoring the guide to fit any chapter's specific needs.

Furthermore, other featured guides include a revised chapter fundraising guide, and a chapter promotion guide, with innovative ideas to raise money and publicize your chapter. The resource revitalization goal also features new website video tutorials, and a plethora of FAQ pages, with topics ranging from Section/State Office qualifications, clarification regarding how CTE policies will affect California FBLA chapters, and information for parents.

The California FBLA State Leadership Team also seeks to strengthen its lines of

communication. We will be launching an improved social media campaign, developing innovative methods to attain member feedback from FBLA events, launching an initiative for section and state officers to visit local chapters, and continuing to better section to chapter communication through the use of video calls and the liaison system. Additionally, we will be introducing the publication of "Progress Reports" on the California FBLA website, which tracks the state team's progress towards achieving the goals of the Program of Work and ensures our members that campaign promises will be fulfilled.

Interested in contributing to our Program of Work? Contact your Section Leadership Team to find out more information about how you can help California FBLA achieve another successful year. •

## 2016 NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE RECAP

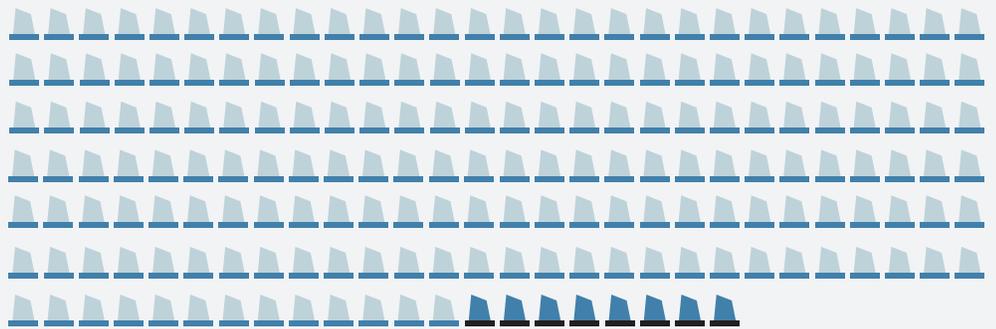
*Sanika Mahajan, State President*

California delivered a stellar performance at this year's National Leadership Conference (NLC) in Atlanta, Georgia. With an impressive 400 delegates in attendance, the Golden State brought home 181 top 10 awards in 49 competitive events. Competitive success was compounded with political success when Myra Cheng from Lynbrook High School was elected as the 2016-2017 National Parliamentarian. She will also be joining the State Leadership Team for the upcoming year.

The conference was also an opportunity for all of California's talented competitors to convene for the first time since the State Leadership Conference. At the California State Meeting, members received the NLC 2016 Bear pin and rallied together in a resounding California cheer, to be performed at general sessions. The State Leadership Team also introduced its new program of work and discussed goals for the upcoming year.

Congratulations to all who attended NLC and took part in the experience of a lifetime. The State Leadership Team looks forward to working with the talented and driven members that continue to surpass expectations at every level. •

### AWARDS EARNED



= 181 CA FBLA members placed in the top 10

= 8 CA FBLA chapters placed in the top 10 for chapter projects



**1:** CA FBLA State President Sanika Mahajan presents at the California State Meeting.

**2:** Members from Homestead High School proudly display their hard-earned trophies after the awards ceremony.

**3:** The California NLC 2016 Bear Pin.

**4:** Myra Cheng from Lynbrook High School will serve as the 2016-17 National FBLA Parliamentarian.

5 - CA FBLA Instagram

4 - National FBLA