



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MARYLAND STUDENTS RECOGNIZED WITH TOP HONORS AT
 FBLA NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

Baltimore, MD – June 30, 2009 – Nearly 200 students and advisors from Maryland attended the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California June 25-28, 2009. The conference brought together more than 7,800 students and advisors from throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Department of Defense Dependent Schools Europe.

The attendees participated in leadership workshops, campaign rallies, regional meetings, and competitive events. The following students and chapters from Maryland received national recognition at the FBLA Awards of Excellence Program on June 28:

<i>Student Name(s)</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>City/County</i>
Steven Klupt	Business Law	10 th	Carver Center for Arts and Technology	Towson, MD Baltimore County
Jillian Aranda, Julie Benish, and Rachel Davidson	Community Service Project	4 th	Northern High School	Owings, MD Calvert County
Chase Montgomery	Cyber Security	10 th	Catonsville High School	Baltimore, MD Baltimore County
Karthik Krishnan	FBLA Principles and Procedures	9 th	River Hill High School	Clarksville, MD Howard County
Bethany Hart, Justin Nicholson, and Courtney Wathen	Partnership with Business Project	10 th	Chopticon High School	Morganza, MD St. Mary's County
Jonathan Hill	Spreadsheet Applications	7 th	Allegany High School	Cumberland, MD Allegany County
Maryland FBLA State Chapter	State Chapter Annual Business Report	5 th		

The awards were part of a comprehensive competitive events program sponsored by FBLA. Individuals, state teams, and local chapters were encouraged to compete in any of the nearly 60 different events representing a wide range of activities and the business and leadership development focus of FBLA. The winners of these highly competitive and prestigious awards were selected from among FBLA's membership of over 250,000 students and advisors and represent some of the best and brightest of today's youth.

In addition to the competitive event award winners, several other representatives from Maryland received recognition at the conference.

- James Ko from Dulaney High School in Baltimore County was recognized in the Who's Who in FBLA event.
- Cheryle Johnson from James M. Bennett High School in Wicomico County was named Outstanding Local Advisor.
- Phil Salopek from Simutronics Corporation in Gaithersburg, Maryland was recognized as Businessperson of the Year for his work with the River Hill High School FBLA chapter in Howard County.

Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) education association. Its mission is to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs. The association is headquartered in Reston, Virginia, just outside Washington, DC. Within Maryland, more than 3,000 students participate in 80 chapters across the state. For more information, visit www.fbla-pbl.org and www.mdfbla.org.