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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Homestead FBLA: 20th National Leadership Conference Championship

Cupertino, CA — Homestead High School's chapter of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) continued to excel at the National Leadership Conference, which took place from June 29 to July 2, 2019 in San Antonio, TX. Homestead High School followed their 21st consecutive state championship in Sacramento, California with the number one ranking at this year's National Leadership Conference for the 20th year. Over 12,000 of the nation's highest achieving high school students demonstrated their talents as future business leaders by competing in over 70 competitive events. These events ranged from business-related events, such as Business Law, to technology-oriented events like Computer Game and Simulation.

Out of the 69 Homestead students competing, 44 competitors in 20 events received national recognition by placing in the top ten of their events. Homestead had three national championships: Naysha Kola, Manisha Srivatsan and Michael Wang in Banking and Financial Systems, Tara Joseph in Business Calculations, and Sruthi Rayaprolu, Martin Wu and Rohan Zamvar in the Partnership with Business Project. The competitions are scored on a point system, where first place receives ten points, second place receives nine points, and all the consecutive places after receive a point decrease down to tenth place. In total, Homestead earned 156 points, while the closest runner-up, Alharetta High School from Georgia, earned 106 points.

Byron Lee, Homestead FBLA Adviser for the past 25 years, is proud and excited about how much students have learned and grown over the years. "It truly warms my heart watching our professional mentors and former students work with our competitors to get these young people to the next level. The success through the years has been a byproduct of learning. I also appreciate the deep connections and friendships that happen through the FBLA experience."

About Homestead's performance, Homestead FBLA Vice President of Case Study Speaking Competitions, Mayuri Hebbar, expressed that, "Watching the presentations was such an amazing experience, one that made everyone watching feel warm and full with pride. As a competitions officer, watching the hard work of all the competitors, speaking, written, and tech, come alive was very rewarding and I am so incredibly proud of them all and how far they've come."

Every year, Homestead FBLA participates in three projects, American Enterprise, Community Service and Partnership with Business, where each set of chairs works hard to make an impact on both the community or partner as well as the members of Homestead FBLA. Homestead FBLA's Executive Vice President Valerie Hu has been working with the three projects all year long to help them develop their focuses and execute their goals. "All three projects made it to finals and placed in the top four at Nationals, and their success can only be attributed to a year of truly awe-inspiring hard work and the passion they have for their projects and members, which is so evident in every event and meeting. I'm incredibly proud of all the hours the project chairs and third speakers have put into preparing reports, speeches, and presentations," said Valerie Hu, expressing her pride for all six project chairs.

This year, the American Enterprise Project Resonate focused on educating its members about the prevalent relationship between government and businesses through various hands on activities including debates, Business

Nights, guest speaker presentations and the Mock Election. Project Resonate co-chair Mayuri Hebbar says, "Co-leading the American Enterprise Project was truly a once in a lifetime opportunity. Being able to see our ideas manifest into reality and watching members actively grow and learn was such a rewarding experience." Co-chair Aryaa Sapkota expressed her love for her project and members, saying, "It was heartwarming to see how AE members passionately approached learning new things during each meeting and it was evident to see how they grew from the beginning of the year when they were scared to raise their hand to the end of the year during the Mock Election when they could confidently debate topics and give speeches."

The Community Service Project Preserve took efforts to reduce and raise awareness about food waste in the community by implementing food waste bins at Homestead High School, creating a cookbook and holding educational nights at elementary schools and senior citizen homes. "Being a project chair this year was by far one of the most memorable, rewarding, and greatest experiences in high school so far! With over 2,680 hours spent, we as high school students were able to make such a large impact on our community, and implemented food waste bins for the first time in the history of Homestead," said project chair Sahiti Kadiyala. Project chair Erin Yoon reflected on the project's members this year, saying, "Watching our dedicated members work together to design the food waste bins was such a memorable moment since the bins would later positively change the community at homestead high school for years to come."

The Partnership with Business Project Radiate partnered with a local skincare startup called SkinIQ. Throughout the year, they focused on providing SkinIQ with app feedback, designing new features for the app, creating several marketing campaign, and generating publicity within the community. "Seeing the impact that we made on both Homestead FBLA and SkinIQ through Project Radiate made the countless hours and efforts worth it," says co-chair Sruthi Rayaprolu. Reflecting on the whole year, co-chair Rohan Zamvar shared, "We are so proud to have left a lasting legacy on those around us and would not have traded this experience for anything."

Homestead FBLA extends their gratitude to all of the advisers, mentors, and officers who helped competitors prepare. Special thanks go to the following: **advisers** Helen Carlson, Byron Lee, and Graeme Logie; **mentors** Ateken Abila, Rita Allen, Jane Babicz, Amity Bateman, Timmy Beckmann, Rob Bertolina, Maya Bronicki, Nadav Bronicki, Noa Bronicki, Elizabeth Chien, Nancy Daffern, Revati Dhomse, Greg Giglio, Christy Heaton, Esther Heller, Braden Holstege, Navaneet Kadaba, Richard Knapp, Garrett Kuramoto, Han Lee, Raymond Lee, Nathan Lee, Karen Li, Nancy Liao, Harrison Lin, Gene Longinetti, Soham Pardeshi, Christina Park, Mark Sagherian, Neeraj Senthil, Aria Srinivasan, Alissa Song, Rujuta Swadi, Varun Tandon, Kary Wang, Osman Wong, Daphna Woolfe, Laeticia Yang, Teresa Yang, and Gloria Zhang, and **competitions officers** Zibaa Adil, Mayuri Hebbar, Darren Hsing, Kelly Mao, Raj Raghulan, Sruthi Rayaprolu, and Rohan Zamvar.



Homestead FBLA at the National Leadership Conference

The following is a list of Homestead's placings:

<p>3D ANIMATION 5th Place — Navaneet Kadaba, Walter Tang</p> <p>ACCOUNTING II 4th Place — Noa Bronicki</p> <p>AMERICAN ENTERPRISE PROJECT 4th Place — Mayuri Hebbar, Aryaa Sapkota, Arnuv Tandon</p> <p>BANKING AND FINANCIAL SYSTEM 1st Place — Naysha Kola, Manisha Srivatsan, Michael Wang</p> <p>BUSINESS CALCULATIONS 1st Place — Tara Joseph</p> <p>BUSINESS COMMUNICATION 8th Place — Emma Lu</p> <p>BUSINESS LAW 4th Place — Elizabeth Chien 5th Place — Mason Wong 6th Place — Akshat Jain 7th Place — Alexander Choi</p> <p>CLIENT SERVICE 3rd Place — Zibaa Adil</p> <p>COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT 2nd Place — Sahiti Kadiyala, Tishani Weerasuriya, Erin Yoon</p> <p>COMPUTER AND GAME SIMULATION 5th Place — Ayush Satyavarpu, Eylam Tagor</p>	<p>ELECTRONIC CAREER PORTFOLIO 2nd Place — Brandon Fu</p> <p>ENTREPRENEURSHIP 8th Place — Roma Bedekar, Valerie Hu</p> <p>HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT 9th Place — Clarissa Gao, Kelly Mao, Nadya Svidzerskaya</p> <p>INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS PROCEDURES 2nd Place- Calix Tang</p> <p>INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL MATH 4th Place — Hansel Desouza</p> <p>MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS 5th Place — Bryan Ham, Darren Hsing, Arnav Kulkarni</p> <p>MARKETING 5th Place — Sahiti Kadiyala, Laeticia Yang, Gloria Zhang</p> <p>PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE 2nd Place — Lydia Huang, Lynn Huang, Eileen Kim, Aishwaria Rangaswamy, Christine Yang</p> <p>PARTNERSHIP WITH BUSINESS 1st Place — Sruthi Rayaprolu, Martin Wu, Rohan Zamvar</p> <p>SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT MANAGEMENT 4th Place — Smera Doshi, Taner Karaaslan, Michael Wallerius</p>
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