



NEWS

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WCCC students at national contest

Grand Junction, CO – Western Colorado Community College and Mesa County Valley School District 51 students are in Kansas City, MO, this week for the SkillsUSA 46th annual National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC), a showcase of career and technical education students.

Five students who took first place at the state competition will compete at nationals. The WCCC students are Logan Locke, Kyle Freud, and Garrett Jensen. The School District 51/WCCC students competing are Cory DeVore, Palisade High School, and Jordan Rossman, Fruita Monument High School.

Locke, Freud and Jensen took first in the state in the Automated Manufacturing Technology category and will compete in the same category at nationals. The contest evaluates three-person teams for employment in integrated manufacturing technology fields of computer-aided drafting/design (CAD), computer aided manufacturing (CAM), and computer numerical controlled machining (CNC). CAD operators construct the part geometry; the CAM operator generates the tool paths; and the CNC operator sets up and machines the part.

DeVore and Rossman took first in the state in 3-D Visualization and Animation and are competing in that category at nationals. This contest allows students to step into a real world 3D production environment where creative output must be accomplished within specific timeframes, resources and design constraints. This two-person team event includes a preliminary written exam. Contestants must produce high quality images and an animated short subject using 3D computerized images. Students are evaluated on their technical knowledge, production skills and creative abilities – including visual development and storyboarding. They will also have the opportunity to interface with and get feedback from high-profile judges with successful careers in 3D visualization and animation.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled work force. SkillsUSA helps each student excel. SkillsUSA's mission is to help its members become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. It serves more than 300,000 students and instructors annually. The organization has 13,000 school chapters in 54 state and territorial associations. More than 14,500 instructors and administrators are professional members of SkillsUSA. <http://www.skillsusa.org/about/index.shtml>

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