

EXPLORING THE 2026 NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



MEET THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Rishabh Barve



Secondary President

Alexa Chavez



Secondary Vice President

Niranjana Jayendran



Secondary Secretary

Angel Pina



Secondary Treasurer

Tyler Gunter



Secondary Parliamentarian

Allyssa Norman



Post-secondary
President

Timothy Nguyen



Post-secondary
Vice President

Natasha Grad



Post-secondary
Parliamentarian



QUALIFYING FOR NLC

- Individual Competitive Events
- Team Competitive Events
- Torch Awards: Approved Ambassadors
- Scholarship Recipients
- BPA Cares Program
- Leadership Passport Participation

Once you qualify through one of these ways, you can take advantage of more opportunities like the Middle Level “Aspiring Officer Experience” program. Check out the NLC Preview Guide for more information!



CONFERENCE LOCATION



GAYLORD OPRYLAND RESORT &
CONVENTION CENTER



THE INN AT OPRYLAND, A
GAYLORD HOTEL





OPENING SESSION

Wednesday, May 6

Gaylord Opryland Convention Center

8:30 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.



At Opening Session, you will hear from BPA stakeholders and get a sneak peek from an engaging keynote speaker, as well as be introduced to the 2026-2027 Executive Council candidates.

Post-Opening Session: Stay tuned for BPA Live!





NATIONAL HONOR AWARDS CEREMONY

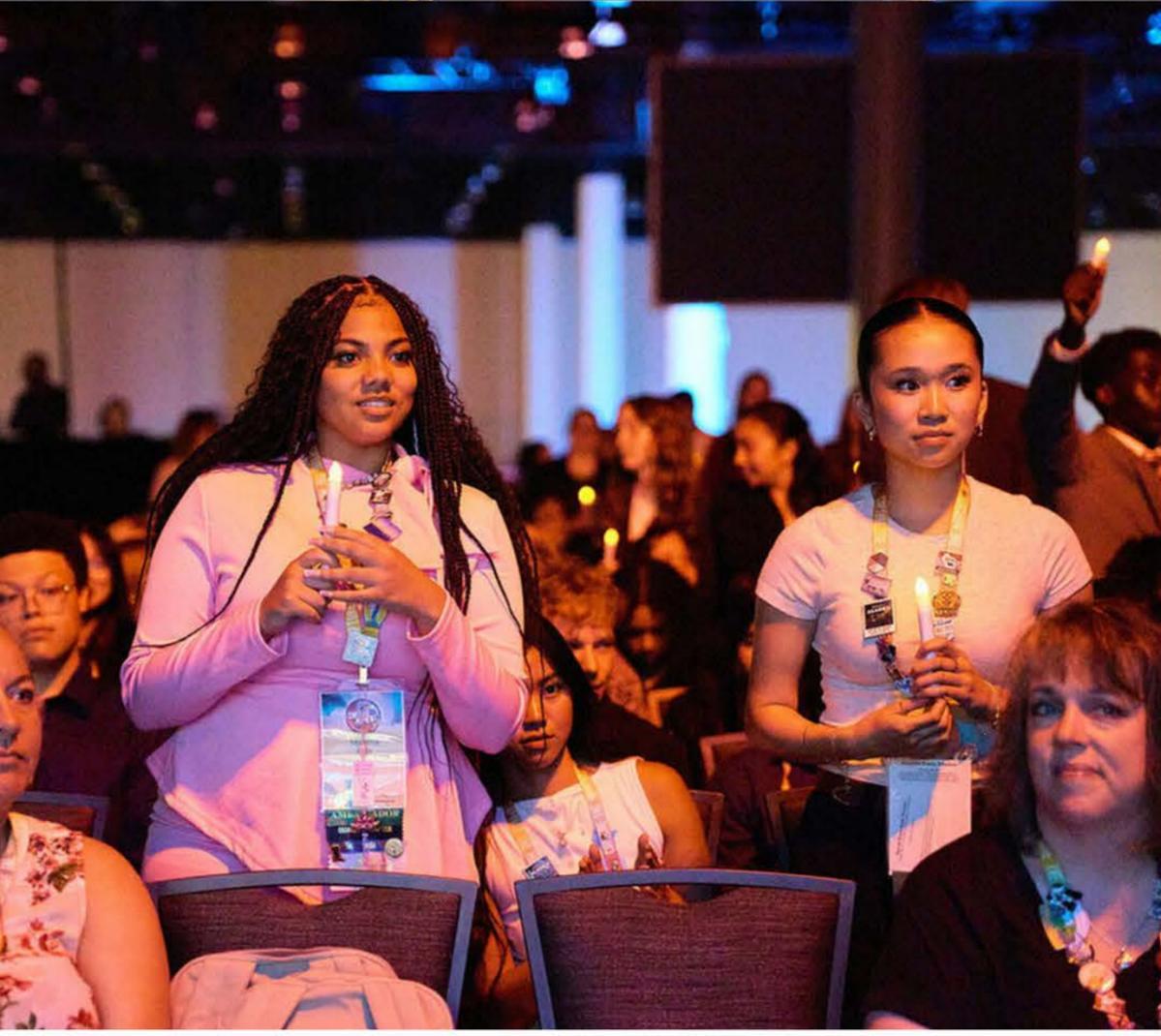
Friday, May 8

Gaylord Opryland Convention Center

5:00 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.

The National Honor Awards Ceremony will recognize those who have earned their Ambassador Torch Award. Other recognitions will be presented such as BPA Cares Awards, scholarships, and industry challenge winners!

Recipients: Keep an eye out for an RSVP!





GRAND AWARDS SESSION FINALE

Saturday, May 9

Gaylord Opryland Convention Center

Postsecondary Division @ 2 P.M.

Middle Level Division @ 5 P.M.

Secondary Division @ 7 P.M.



Celebrate competitive event finalists and meet your
2026-2027 Executive Council!





ACTS OF SERVICE

Opportunities - May 8 from 3 pm to 6 pm

- Special Olympics Chain of Love
- Amplify Your Style: Cowboy Hat Creations
- Letters of Gratitude for Conference Volunteers
- Letters of Gratitude for Service Members Overseas
- Shoe Drive by Funds2Org - bring shoes!
- Guitar Build - advanced registration required!

Rally for Special Olympics - May 8 at 8:30 pm





LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



- **NLC Leadership Academy - May 6 from 8 am to 5 pm (full day experience)**
 - Partnership with Central Michigan University's Sarah R. Opperman Leadership Institute
 - Advanced registration required
 - Apply to become a Co-Facilitator!
- **Leadership Passport - May 7 and May 8 (45-minute workshops)**
 - Attend high-impact workshops and earn a certificate
 - Complete list of sessions will be released in the coming weeks!
- **Ready to Launch: Chapter Leader Academy - May 9 from 10 am to 12 pm**
 - Highly recommended for current and aspiring chapter officers!
 - Advanced registration required

SCHOLARSHIPS



- Numerous scholarship opportunities offered with the support of the Executive Council, BPA's partners, donors, and alumni!
- Scholarship recipients will be announced and recognized during the National Honor Awards Ceremony at NLC!
- Complete scholarship applications through the Member Gateway - members.bpa.org
 - Tip: Review eligibility requirements before applying!
 - Deadline: Sunday, March 15, 2026

 Sherrell Wheeler Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded to one member who represents the same extraordinary amount of dedication to BPA that the National Officer Coordinator, Ms. Wheeler, demonstrates in her work with the National Officers and the organization.

[Apply Today](#)

 Tomorrow's Business Professionals Scholarships

This scholarship has been established by the Business Professionals of America Executive Council to recognize the most outstanding Secondary and Post-secondary members in our organization. The recipients of these scholarships will exemplify the core values of Business Professionals of America: leadership, service and extraordinary involvement.

[Apply Today](#)

 National Technical Honor Society Scholarships

The National Technical Honor Society Scholarships are awarded to outstanding Business Professionals of America members in either the Secondary or Post-secondary Divisions. This year we will award three (3) \$1,000 scholarships. These scholarships are based on academic success, involvement within BPA and membership in the NTHS.

[Apply Today](#)

 National Alumni Division Scholarship

The Alumni Division Scholarship is awarded to outstanding Business Professionals of America members in either the Secondary or Post-secondary Divisions. These scholarships are based on involvement within BPA and the member's vision for the growth of the Alumni Division.

[Apply Today](#)





TORCH AWARDS

- Earn your Ambassador Torch Award to be recognized at NLC
- 70 points approved in each category
- Use complete sentences, proper punctuation & grammar, and check your spelling!
- Visit <https://register.bpa.org/members> to start logging points
- Initial Deadline: Sunday, March 1, 2026
- Final Deadline: Sunday, March 15, 2026





↑ HATCH SHOW PRINT



TOURS & EXPERIENCES AT NLC

- General Jackson Showboat Midday Cruise
- Grand Ole Opry Country Classics Concert
- Daytime Backstage Tour of the Grand Ole Opry
- Grand Ole Opry Country Classics Concert + Private Post-Concert Backstage Tour
- Country Music Hall of Fame
 - Hatch Show Print
 - RCA Studio B
 - Stories Behind the Songs





TOURS & EXPERIENCES AT NLC CONTINUED

- Goo Goo Clusters Candy Making Experience
- Ryman Auditorium Self-Guided Tour
- Adventure Science Center Experience
- Downtown Trolley Tour
- Create-It Studios Business Experience
- Vanderbilt Experience
- Ultimate Nashville Sports Tour
- BPA Finale Night Celebration at Dave & Buster's



MORE TO DO AT NLC



- Pools & Water Parks at Hotels
- BPA Live! The BPA Talent Show
- Nashville Nights and Special Olympics Rally
- Keynote Experience
- Exhibitor Showcase
- Middle Level Ethics Workshop
- NLC Leadership Academy
- Ready to Launch Chapter Leader Academy
- National Virtual Showcase
- Pin Trading
- Officer Elections



TIPS FOR COMPETING AT NLC



- Early bird gets the worm! Get to your events early & be mindful of deadlines.
- Know where you are going! All events will be held at the Gaylord Opryland, but it is HUGE, so check out your event space prior to competing.
- The rubric matters! Keep an eye out for specifics you are getting judged on.
- Dress your best, do your best. Present yourself professionally at all times!
- Be prepared. Practice makes perfect!
- Have fun! Amplify YOUR impact at NLC & congratulations on making it here!



DRESS CODE!

Business Professional Dress:

- general sessions, if going on stage
- judged competitive events
- campaign rallies
- state caucuses

Business Casual Dress:

- general sessions, if not going on stage
- computerized competitive events
- leadership development workshops
- exhibit halls

Casual Dress:

- tours
- special events
- exhibit showcase





WHAT TO PACK

- Business professional clothes
- Casual clothes
- Pajamas
- Toiletries
- Competition materials
- Comfy shoes
- Pins (don't forget your trading pins!)
- Chargers
- Refillable water pottle
- Other personal items
- Shoes for Funds2Org Shoe Drive
- Cash for Acts of Service - Special Olympics!
- A positive attitude!

NLC RESOURCES



DOWNLOAD THE
BPA APP

[Google Play & App Store](#)



DOWNLOAD THE NLC
PREVIEW GUIDE

bpa.org/nlc



NLC SNEAK PEEK

The video player displays the following elements:

- Title:** NLC 2026 Promo Video
- Channel:** BPA
- Duration:** 03:19
- Player Controls:** Play button, progress bar, volume icon, CC icon, settings gear, share icon, and the Vimeo logo.
- Thumbnail:** A man in a blue suit holding a smartphone, standing in a conservatory with various tropical plants.



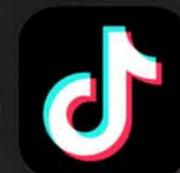
BUSINESS
PROFESSIONALS
of AMERICA

THANK YOU!

Questions?



@officers_BPA



@BPACONNECT