



FLORIDA  
**TSA** 2019  
STATE  
CONFERENCE  
INFORMER

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# President's Welcome

After a successful Leadership Conference with new design teams and unique breakouts, teams have worked to put into practice the skills they acquired from these interactive sessions. With the implementation of regional conferences, students have tested their projects and have come ready to compete.

As one of the most competitive states in the country, it's easy to become enveloped in competition and winning. While that may be your primary focus, I encourage you to embrace the interpersonal relationships that TSA fosters. Bonding with not only the members in your chapter but students around the state adds that unique depth to your overall experience. These memories and connections you make while in TSA last a lifetime.

Use our Mummy Mixer and Escape Rooms to meet new people and strengthen these connections with your team. With the Chapter Game Night and Pie in the Face Contest, you can work as a chapter to beat other teams and bond over pieing your advisor and state officers.

I wish our delegation luck in their competitions and look forward to seeing the faces of our talented students at nationals!

- Christina Cunningham, State President



# Fundraising for State

All of your hard work and preparation for the state conference wouldn't be possible without spending a bit of money, and fundraising is the way to get there! While many people may think that fundraising is long and tedious, it can actually be made a truly FUN-draiser if you execute it correctly, turning into a lucrative experience that is great for chapter bonding as well as advertising. To try and decrease the costs associated with traveling and participating in the state conference, here are some great and FUN ways to earn some KASH, so money can be the least of your problems when working toward being the future leaders of tomorrow:

**Sale Fundraisers:** From children to adults, all people love food - it's a basic fact. Have some fun with your chapter and sell some sweet delicacies to try and raise money. Some great examples of food that sells well is:

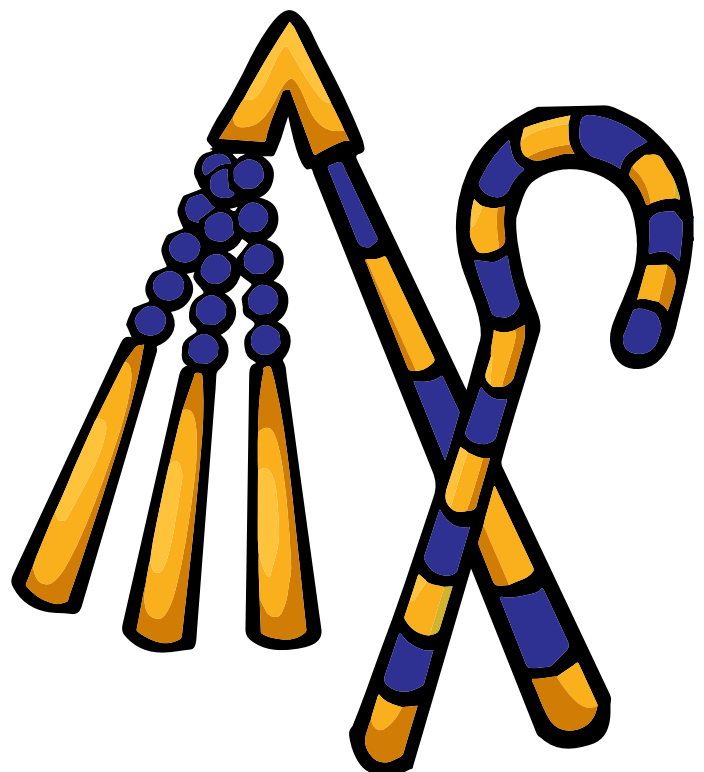
**World's Finest Chocolate, Krispy Kreme Donuts, Little Debbie's Snack Cakes, Chips Fundraising** And much more! Try your best to find something that sells well within your school and that everyone loves! And prizes always incentivize club members to sell more, but make sure to pass the fundraiser by your school administration first!

**Restaurant Fundraisers:** I know I would love to take a night off and eat at Chipotle, especially when it's for a good cause. Many restaurants offer the opportunity for clubs to have a sort of Spirit Night where a portion of the proceeds goes back to the club. Some great examples include Chipotle and Chik-fil-a, which give back almost 50% of the profits made. It's a great way to make great connections, and advertise the club with flyers and other promo items.

**Event Fundraisers:** Do you love carnival games? Or even just a family picnic? Then event fundraisers are for you! Have a great time bonding with your chapter and other people by hosting a game night, an auction, a carnival, or even a dance. Spread the word using flyers and social media, and you can even ask local sponsors to donate food or items for an auction, and raise money through entry tickets.

**Grants and Sponsors:** Take advantage of the strong community of businesses around you! Large multinational corporations such as Walmart and Publix have grant program that offer upwards of \$500 in support of STEM education and after-school clubs (You can find more information online). Take action and contact companies throughout your local community, or even set up a GoFundMe or other crowdsourcing page to get them involved and raise money while creating strong business relations as well. But throughout the process of raising money, enjoy the experience and remember to have fun while helping your chapter and creating more opportunities. Reach out to your advisor, your school, or your state officers if you

**2** have any questions - we're always ready to help!  
- Kashyap Sreeram, State Treasurer



# Bonding Activities

Nothing makes TSA more special than the family you make and the bonds you create. While competing and working on projects is important, don't forget to take some time throughout the year to dedicate towards helping your chapter become more than just a group of people who see each other once a week.

While going out as a chapter to the beach, park, movie, or dinner are options, you don't necessarily have to leave your school to do chapter bonding. Activities can range from a potluck to fun collaborative activities. Some examples involving human knot, marshmallow tower challenge, water balloon fight, or even a scavenger hunt.



All these activities can be found online with detailed directions and required materials, they just require some preparation. Always remember that your state officers are here to answer any questions if you need help or ideas!

Mica Chua, State Secretary

# The TSA Store

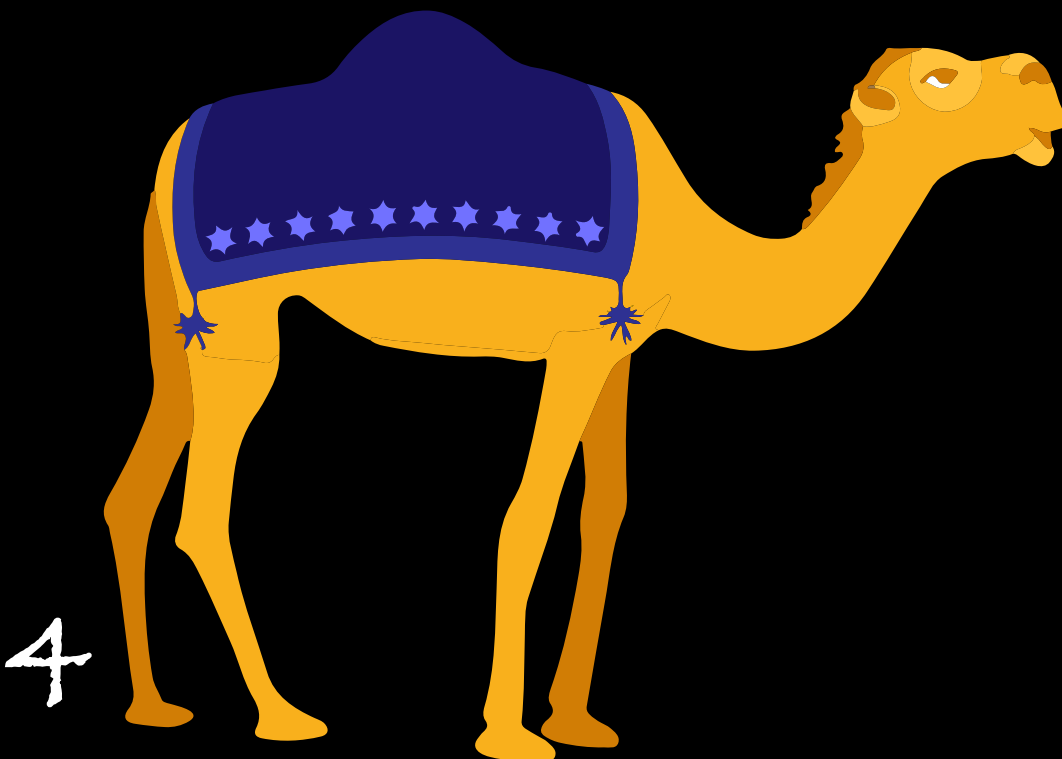
This year, we are proud to introduce a new initiative - our last-minute stop shop for anything TSA - The official Florida TSA Store. Have you ever wanted an extra pin at the state conference? Or are you looking forward to purchasing our new Florida TSA shirts? Well, our new store has got you covered. The store will open directly after the opening general session, so make sure you check it out!

In our efforts to be the largest delegation with the largest donation, all of the proceeds from the store will go to the American Cancer Society and helping them in their quest to solve cancer. So you can pick up some last minute merchandise and materials while benefiting a meaningful and great cause

But make sure to catch the store when its open! The store will close before the final closing general session ceremonies on Saturday, so whenever you have some free time during the day, come on over to our

new Florida TSA store and check out what's available! I promise that you won't be disappointed.

- Kashyap Sreeram,  
State Treasurer

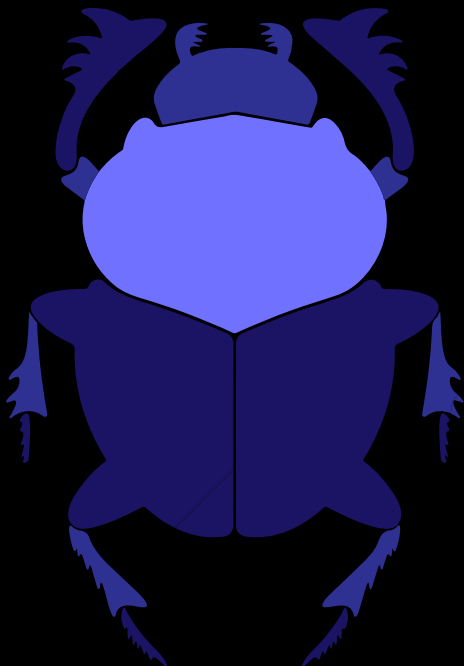


# ACS Fundraisers

HELLOOOO Florida TSA! As we make our way through this year, lets all get ready for an incredible state conference to come. Pack your bags and prepare for our journey to Ancient Egypt and our fun activities to come at the conference.

Uh Oh, clocks ticking, we have some great new escape rooms happening at states. Prepare to escape the forbidden tomb and look out for the gods that lurk in them. There will be 8 rooms at 20 minutes each at 1 person for \$5 and 4 people for \$15 . Also make sure to bring a little extra money to participate in pie in the face contest we are hosting! We will also have brand new Florida TSA shirts for sale at \$10 for regular sizes and \$13 for extended sizes. I'm glad to continue Florida TSA with another great state and national conference!

- Luke Haas, State Vice President





# The Mummy Mixer

This year, we invite you to The Mummy Mixer Friday night from 8 pm - 10 pm. Grab all your treasure hunting gear and join us at our family game night oriented mixer. Dress Egyptian and exploration themed for fun and chapter spirit. The mixer is always an event to get to know your chapter and relax from the conference.

At this event, we will have giant Jenga, giant Connect 4, giant Checkers, beach ball bowling, giant tic tac toe, and bean bag toss. Because of all the other fundraising we have done with the state shirts and with escape rooms, the mixer events are free! Bring your chapter and show us how much spirit you and your school have!

With all of the positive feedback from the Leadership Conference, we are having another lip sync battle. We challenge you to have your whole chapter and advisor to participate. Sign ups for the competition will start at the beginning of the mixer, and close 15 minutes prior. Please remember to sign up early because only the first 20 teams will be able to compete. All songs selections must be clean or have an easily accessible clean version for us to play. The top three teams will be announced and receive special awards at the conclusion of the mixer. We wish all teams luck and are exciting to see what you guys have in store for us this conference. Who knows - the state officers might have a surprise during the lip sync battle!

6- Sarah Belli, State Sergeant-at-Arms





# Spirit Wars at State

The S in TSA doesn't only stand for student, but spirit too. During this conference, we have multiple spirit events set up to keep all chapters entertained during their downtime! There will be a total of five 30 minutes spirit events happening throughout the conference chapters can gain spirit points!

1st, 2nd, and 3rd will all be awarded points for each event. Bringing as many people as possible is highly encouraged. Formal attire is not mandatory and in fact, the state officer team encourages just wearing something comfortable that you don't mind moving in.

The top three chapters in the state will be awarded one of the most important trophies of the night! Some other exciting opportunities you can utilize to gain some points include the first ever game night we will be having at the dance! To make this award as fair as possible, we have ex-

cluded all events that include money from gaining spirit points - every chapter has a fair chance.

Make sure you and your chapter are feeling adventurous and ready to explore all the events this state officer team has ready for you!

- Mica Chua,  
State Secretary



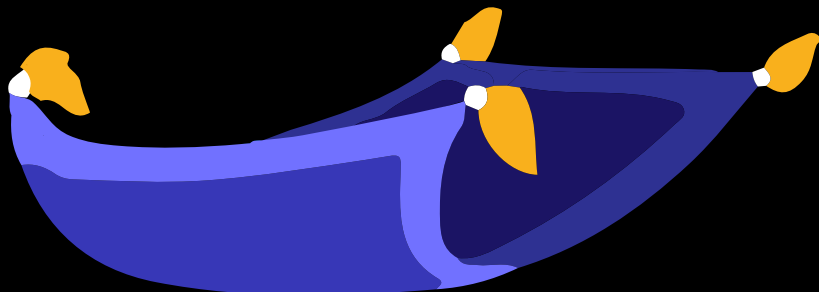
# Do's and Don'ts of Chapter Social Media

Having a social media account for your chapter is a great way to show off what your chapter is doing, how to bring in other ideas from outside of your chapter, and be able to interact with other past or future TSA members! Anyone can set up an Instagram, Twitter, or Facebook account, but it is a large undertaking in order to keep your chapter updated on social media.

When you first start an account, you need to clear it with your advisor, no exceptions. Your chapter advisor may choose to not have an account. If you are a middle school chapter, your advisor may want to create and manage the account for your chapter. The reporter can still produce publications, but your advisor may be the one to actually post to your social media accounts.

For high school chapters, it is almost a requirement. Large states will choose to spread important information across multiple social media platforms in order to keep you informed. We, Florida TSA, prefer to use Instagram to keep you up-to-date about our informers and newsletters. Like middle school chapter, even if your reporter or another officer runs the social media accounts, the advisor still needs to approve your posts.

- Collin George, State Reporter



# The Importance of Advisor Communication

Advisors are the lifeblood of TSA. Without them, students would not have the passion or the ability to succeed in their events. As we move through the year, the importance of advisor communication is paramount to ensure that both advisors and students are ready for competition.

We have a state-wide advisor Remind that I highly encourage you all to join by adding the group with the code '@fladvisors' on the app or texting the same code with the @ symbol to 81010. I also communicate throughout the year through email, sent through Executive Director Justin Lauer. Those emails contain important information, announcements, and tips that you and your chapter can utilize through the year. Please ensure that those emails aren't accidentally being sent to your spam folder.



Should you have any questions, please feel free to shoot me an email, or even send a text. On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, I want to thank you for everything you do through the year. Being an advisor is a large commitment, but know you are shaping your students' future for the better.

- Amanda Clark, State Officer Advisor

# Thank You

# **SPONSORS**

**Bluegrass Educational Technologies**

**Chief Architect**

**Experience Kissimmee**

**Florida Technology Educators Assoc.**

**FSU Stars Alliance**

**James Hines Printing of Jacksonville, FL**

**Johnson and Wales University**

**Jr. Solar Sprint**

**Justin Lauer Enterprises**

**Orange Seal LLC**

**NASA**

**National Fluid Power Foundation**

**Pitsco**

**R Clement Creative, Inc.**

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**Titanium Endeavors LLC**

**TLC Engineering for Architecture**

**U.S. Army**

**White Box Learning**

**William Quinter Soccer Tournaments**