

## The Wednesday Reader

### December 7, 2011

Please note: With the upcoming Christmas holiday, next week, December 14, will be the last *Wednesday Reader* for 2011. The first *Wednesday Reader* of 2012 will be Wednesday, January 4.

### [Planning to Set Up a Job Shadow or Job Showing Event? Check Out EducationPlanner.org](#)

[EducationPlanner.org](#) is your one-stop career and college planning website. [EducationPlanner](#) provides practical and easy-to-understand advice to help prepare students for the important decisions they will face in the future.

Middle school students will discover their interests and the things that motivate them by participating in several fun, interactive activities that get them thinking about careers.

High school students will discover and learn all about careers and colleges—including ways to pay—using simple search tools, clever interactive exercises, and straightforward instructions.

In addition to being a resource for students, this website also provides information and tools for parents and counselors to help them motivate and prepare today's youth for a successful tomorrow.

### [Online Professional Development with 360 Education Solutions](#)

[360 Education Solutions](#) offers online professional development for teachers.

[360 Education Solutions](#) partners with colleges and universities across the country to offer a wide variety of courses specifically for educators. Courses can be taken for either graduate credit or renewal units.

For more information and to browse the courses available visit [http://www.360-edu.com/professional\\_development.php](http://www.360-edu.com/professional_development.php).

### [Free Educator Membership with American Institute of Certified Public Accountants](#)

There is a saying: "Teaching is the profession that teaches all other professions." This is certainly true of the CPA profession. CPAs owe much of their critical thinking and communications skills, ability to analyze and their understanding of topics such as math, civics, history and economics to the teachers who engaged and encouraged them throughout their formative years.

In an effort to support you as you continue to engage and encourage your students, the [American Institute of Certified Public Accountants \(AICPA\)](#) is pleased to announce the launch of a new membership exclusive for Pre-College Accounting and Business Educators.

Becoming an [AICPA Pre-College Accounting and Business Educator Member](#) not only gives you the ability to say you are a part of the professional organization that represents the CPA profession, it also gives you the key to premier resources and information—**all for free**.

As a Pre-College Accounting and Business Educator Member, you get access to:

- Authoritative information keeping you up-to-date with the latest news and developments in the accounting profession including the AICPA's:
  - [Journal of Accountancy](#)
  - [CPA Letter Daily](#)
  - [The Edge newsletter](#)
- Member-only content on [StartHereGoPlaces.com](#) and the Educators' Portal
- Including access (upon request through portal) to the Educators' Forum & Classroom Curriculum members only sections

To learn more or become a Pre-College Accounting and Business Educator member, go to <http://community.startheregoplaces.com/aipcmembersignup.aspx> and sign into your account. That will take you to a

page with information and also will allow you to register as a Pre-College Accounting and Business Educator member.

In order to become a member, educators must first register for the [Start Here, Go Places. Educators' Portal](#) at [community.startheregoplaces.com](http://community.startheregoplaces.com). I see that you're already a member, so you won't have to re-register.

### **Early-Bird Registration for 2012 WBEA Conference Ends January 15**

It's time to start planning your trip to Newport Beach for the [2012 Western Business Education Association \(WBEA\) Conference](#), February 16-20, at the [Fairmont Hotel, Newport Beach](#). The early-bird registration rate is \$230.00 for registrations received/postmarked by January 15 and \$330.00 for registrations received after January 15. Registration can be completed [online](#) or [download the registration form](#) and submit via postal mail.

You may fly into any of the three nearby airports: Orange County (Santa Ana /John Wayne), Long Beach, or Los Angeles International Airport. The [Fairmont Hotel](#) offers free transportation to and from the Orange County Airport. Super Shuttle (advance reservation required) runs shuttles to the hotel from the other two airports.

The Conference Committee would like to remind all conference attendees to join the Fairmont President's Club before making your hotel reservation. Membership has its perks including free WiFi in your hotel room!

In order to register for the conference as a member, you must be a current member of either NBEA/WBEA or CBEA. Early bird registration will close on January

Check out the [2012 Conference](#) page of the [WBEA website \(www.wbea.info\)](#) to view the entire agenda for all sessions, meals, and activities, FAQs about the hotel and conference, and even weather information.

### **\$500 First-Time Attendee Stipends to Attend ACTE Region V in Jackson Hole**

ACTE Region V's 2012 Conference, entitled *Capture the Spirit of the West: ACTE Region V in Action 2012*, will be in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, April 11-14 at the Snow King Resort.

Region V (the western region of ACTE) is again sponsoring five (5) to 10 \$500.00 stipends for first-time attendees to the Region V conference. [ACTE Region V 1st-time Attendee Stipend Applications](#) can be found on the Region V website: <http://www.acteonline.org/content.aspx?id=1638>. Applications must be submitted by March 15, 2012

Details about the 2012 ACTE Region V Conference, including [registration](#) and a call for presentations—([Word](#)) or ([PDF](#))—can be found on the [Region V Conference page](#).

### **Rise to the Challenge with Certiport—FREE Learning Materials AND Exam Vouchers**

Certiport is offering Montana CTE teachers and administrators the opportunity to have a lasting impact on your students, your school and your career.

Through the [Rise to the Challenge](#) program, Certiport is offering Montana CTE teachers the opportunity to get FREE exams and practice tests for their globally recognized certifications through February 29, 2012.

Certifications are available in the following programs:

- Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS)
- Microsoft Technology Associate (MTA)
- Adobe Certified Associate
- Autodesk Certified User
- Intuit QuickBooks Certified User
- Internet and Core Computing Certification (IC<sup>3</sup>)
- CompTIA Strata IT Fundamentals

Heighten your skills and reputation with the Certiport certification pathway, a vital foundation for further advancement. This is a real-world credential that can create lasting impact, especially if you integrate certification into your curricula

In addition to free learning materials and vouchers for teachers and administrators, schools can register to become a private testing center with *no minimum exam voucher purchase necessary* through the end of March 2012. This is a great opportunity for students interested in gaining the Statewide Articulation credits for CAPP 154 Microsoft Word and CAPP 156 Microsoft Excel.

To learn more about this opportunity for both you and your students, please click the link below.

<http://www.certiport.com/portal/common/htmllibrary/Rise/index.html>

### **National Financial Capability Challenge**

The Department of the Treasury has partnered with the Department of Education to once again offer the 2012 National Financial Capability Challenge, kicking off on March 12!

The National Financial Capability Challenge is FREE a awards program designed to increase the financial knowledge and capability of high school aged youth across the United States so they can take control over their financial futures. It challenges high school teachers and other educators to teach the basics of personal finance to their students, and rewards students, educators, schools, and states for their participation and their success. Educators and top-scoring students will receive award certificates, and schools and states with the highest participation rates will earn special distinction.

To learn more about the 2012 National Financial Capability Challenge and to sign up to be a part of this year's challenge, please visit <http://www.challenge.treas.gov/about.aspx>.

### **Video Contest! Calling All Montana Youth!**

Calling all students enrolled in Montana K-12 schools! Are you interested in gaining notoriety and possibly a cash award for your school? Look no further. The *Focus on Health* video competition has arrived!

The Montana Team Nutrition Program is looking for student-made videos that feature examples of healthy eating, active living, and an overall healthy school environment. We are calling on students enrolled in K-12 Montana schools to take part. Through this video contest, your school, organization, or club will have the opportunity to win a cash prize gain statewide recognition, and have your video featured at statewide events.

Videos can be about any school program that promotes student health and wellbeing through food and nutrition. These could include: improvements in the nutrition of foods available in school meals, healthy snack options (vending, concessions, student stores, etc.), Farm-to-School programs, increased opportunity for physical activity, expanded school breakfast programs and healthy school fundraising programs.

The video submission deadline is January 31, 2012.

For more information, official rules, and registration form, visit: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/FocusOnHealthVideoContest/>.

Questions can be directed to Aubree Durfey, Farm to School Assistant, Montana Team Nutrition at [aubreedurfey@gmail.com](mailto:aubreedurfey@gmail.com) or (406) 994-5640.

### **Get Money for Your Study—The 2012 WBEA Professional Improvement Scholarship**

The Western Business Education Association (WBEA) takes pleasure in announcing the annual [WBEA Professional Improvement Scholarship](#) for business and computer science educators.

The scholarship will be available for tuition and is offered and managed by the WBEA Executive Board through the WBEA Professional Development Committee. Funding for the scholarship will be through donations from individuals, companies, and other sources. The amount of the scholarship is \$500.00.

**Application Process:** Applicants must

1. Be a current member of an STP business education association and a member of WBEA/NBEA,
2. Be currently engaged in the business/computer education profession in the Western Region,

3. Register for and pass a credit class with a "C" or better, or
4. Register and complete a non-credit class, and
5. Send proof of payment and grade sheet or unofficial transcript upon completion of the class to the Professional Development Director.

The [2012 WBEA Professional Improvement Scholarship](http://www.wbea.info/pdf/2012WBEAPISApplication.pdf) can be downloaded from the [WBEA website \(www.wbea.info\)](http://www.wbea.info) or directly at <http://www.wbea.info/pdf/2012WBEAPISApplication.pdf>.

Completed applications must be submitted by January 1, 2012, to:

Eileen Wascisin, Director  
 WBEA Professional Development Committee  
 3815 Gala Loop  
 Bellingham, WA 98226-7845

### [Next Steps Workshop Follow-Up—The Who, What, & When of Submitting Pathways-Related Materials for the 2011-2012 School Year](#)

Last month the first three of the eight Big Sky Pathways Next Steps Workshops were held in Great Falls, Havre, and Kalispell. Attendees began Gap Analysis process by comparing the coursework of their Pathway courses with the Cluster- and Pathway-level Knowledge and Skills Statements from the National Career Clusters ([www.careertech.org](http://www.careertech.org)).

The Gap Analysis is being completed by both the faculty of both the secondary and postsecondary Pathway partners. The Gap Analysis seeks to provide documentation the various knowledge and skills of a pathway are being covered within the Pathway's coursework at either the secondary or postsecondary level, and in some cases both.

As Pathway partners complete their Gap Analysis the following timeline outlines this year's submittal process.

Friday, December 2, 2011	Postsecondary Faculty submit Gap Analysis information to OPI Specialists
Friday, February 3, 2012	High Schools submit to Postsecondary Partner with High School CTE Teacher, Counselor, & Principal Review signature
Friday, March 2, 2012	Postsecondary Partner submits to OPI Specialist with College Lead Faculty and Chief Academic Officer Review Signatures
Friday, April 6, 2012	OPI Specialist submits to OCHE for review and approval
Friday, May 4, 2012	Agreement form returned to Secondary and Postsecondary schools with OCHE Deputy Commissioner Review and Approval

The Approval for this year has been modified/updated from the form used last year so be sure to use the new form (dated October 2011). When submitting for approval this year, please include the following materials/documents:

- Completed Pathway Template if developing a new Pathway or revising/updating your approved Pathway from last year (if not developing a new or revising/updating last year's Pathway, then you will just need to submit last year's Pathway as is)
- Completed Gap Analysis
- [2012-2013 Completed Agreement Form](#)

The [Request for Big Sky Pathway Approval form](http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_3) to be submitted can be downloaded from the Big Sky Pathways page of the CTE section of the OPI website: [http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1\\_3](http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_3).

### [Links to the Big Sky Pathways Gap Analysis Templates & Pathway Proposal Templates](#)

During the Big Sky Pathways Next Steps Workshops attendees are provided with hard copies of the pathway-specific Gap Analysis templates and copies of the new Big Sky Pathway Proposal Template.

Both of these items are also available in electronic format and can be downloaded for completion and submission.

The Gap Analysis worksheets can be found on OCHE's Workforce Development page at <http://mus.edu/wd/Assets/BigSkyPathways/BSPGap.asp>. The worksheets are grouped by Career Cluster so please be sure to download the worksheet for your Pathway's program of study.

Should wish to submit a new Pathway, or revise one created last year, the Big Sky Pathway Proposal Templates can be found on the [Big Sky Pathways page](http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#p7GPc1_3) of the Secondary CTE section on the OPI website at [http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#p7GPc1\\_3](http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#p7GPc1_3).

If you are not sure which Gap Analysis worksheet(s) and/or Big Sky Pathway Proposal Template(s) to use, just give me a holler.

### **Information on Montana's Statewide Articulations**

Information about the [Statewide Articulation \(START\) agreements](http://mus.edu/wd/START.asp) and end-of-course assessments can be found on Workforce Development page of the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE) website at <http://mus.edu/wd/START.asp>.

Here you find the details about the various [Statewide Articulations \(START\)](http://mus.edu/wd/START.asp) discussed during the Big Sky Pathways meetings this fall as well as the form to register with OCHE as an instructor wanting to provide students with the opportunity to gain the START college credits.

Each START agreement provides details pertaining to the course outcomes, assessment procedures, assessment registration information (if applicable), and the awarded of earned credit(s).

Within Business and Marketing Education there are eight (8) START agreements—

- ACTG 101 Accounting Procedures I
- CAPP 120 Introduction to Computers
- CAPP 154 Microsoft Word
- CAPP 156 Microsoft Excel
- ITS 140 Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA): Discovery 1
- ITS 142 Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA): Discovery 2
- ITS 150 Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA): Exploration 1
- ITS 140 Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA): Exploration 2

Students who complete the coursework at the high school level can take the assessment identified within each START agreement and be eligible to gain college credit from a participating postsecondary institution should the pass the assessment.

In order to receive the credit(s), students must complete one academic term at a postsecondary institution where the course is offered. After students successfully complete the academic term, the earned START credit(s) will then be awarded and the grade of "Pass" will appear on the transcript.

Please note: If a student enrolls with a postsecondary institution where the course is not offered then the credit(s) cannot be awarded. For example, if a student passes the ACTG 101 Accounting Procedures I assessment and enrolls with MSU-Bozeman, the START credits cannot be awarded as ACTG 101 Accounting Procedure I is not a course offered by MSU-Bozeman.

Participation in the Statewide Articulation process is at the discretion of local school district and/or classroom teacher and is not a requirement for Perkins and/or State Career and Vocational/Technical funding nor required for Big Sky Pathway approval.

### **Where to Find the Postsecondary College Programs**

As you work on your Gap Analysis and review your pathways and/or seek to develop a new pathway this year, below are the links to programs of study/course listings for the various participating colleges.

**College**[Dawson Community College](#)**Big Sky Pathway Degree Program(s)**[AAS Business Management](#)[Flathead Community College](#)[AAS Accounting Technology](#)  
[AAS Administrative Assistant](#)  
[AAS Business Administration](#)  
[AAS Information Technology](#)  
[AAS Information Technology-Web Technology](#)  
[AAS Small Business Management](#)  
[CAS Accounting Technology](#)  
[CAS Administrative Assistant](#)  
[CAS Business Administration](#)  
[CAS Entrepreneurship](#)  
[CAS Marketing/Sales Specialist](#)  
[CAS Payroll Accounting](#)  
[Customer Service Certificate](#)[Fort Peck Community College](#)[AAS Computer Technology](#)[Gallatin College Programs](#)[CAS Bookkeeping](#)[Miles Community College](#)[AAS Business Management, Insurance option](#)  
[AAS Information Technology, Graphic & Web Design option](#)  
[AAS Office Administration and Technology](#)  
[AAS Small Business Management](#)  
[Accounting Certificate](#)  
[Customer Relations Certificate](#)  
[Entrepreneurship Certificate](#)  
[Fundamentals of Business Certificate](#)  
[Sales and Marketing Certificate](#)[MSU-Billings College of Technology](#)[AAS & CAS Accounting Technology](#)  
[AAS Administrative Assistant/CAS Office Assistant](#)  
[AS Business Administration](#)  
[CAS Human Resource Management](#)  
[AAS Computer Programming & Application Development](#)  
[AAS Computer Desktop/Network Support](#)  
[AAS Computer Systems Technology](#)  
[CAS Networking Technology](#)[MSU-Great Falls College of Technology](#)[AAS Accounting Technology](#)  
[AAS Business Administration-Entrepreneurship option](#)  
[AAS Business Administration-Management option](#)  
[AAS Computer Information Technology, Microcomputer Support](#)  
[AAS Computer Information Technology, Network Support](#)  
[AAS Computer Information Technology, Web Design](#)  
[CAS Computer Assistant](#)[Montana State University-Northern](#)[AS Business Technology](#)

### Montana Tech College of Technology

[AAS Accounting Technology](#)  
[AAS Accounting Technology, Health Service option](#)  
[AAS Accounting Technology, Human Resource option](#)  
[AAS Business Technology, Medical Office Specialist option](#)  
[AAS Business Technology, Administrative Computer Specialist option](#)  
[AAS Network Technology](#)

### UM-Helena College of Technology

[AAS Accounting Technology](#)  
[AAS Computer Technology, Network Administration option](#)  
[AAS Computer Technology, Programming option](#)  
[AAS Computer Technology, Webmaster option](#)  
[AAS Office Technology, Administrative Office Management Specialist](#)  
[AAS Office Technology, Medical Administrative Specialist](#)  
[AAS Small Business Management](#)  
[CAS Bookkeeping](#)  
[CAS Computer Assistant](#)  
[CAS Office Technology, Computer Skills Specialist](#)  
[CAS Office Technology, Legal Support Specialist](#)  
[CAS Office Technology, Medical Assisting](#)  
[CAS Small Business Entrepreneurship](#)

### UM-Missoula College of Technology

[AAS Accounting Technology](#)  
[AAS Administrative Management](#)  
[AAS Management, Entrepreneurship option](#)  
[AAS Management, Sales and Marketing option](#)  
[Management, Sales and Marketing Certificate](#)  
[AAS Information Technology, Information Systems Management option](#)  
[AAS Information Technology, Network Management option](#)  
[CAS Computer Support](#)

### **Career Clusters: The New Website/URL**

Over the summer, the Career Clusters Website was incorporated into the site for the National Association for State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEC) and the new URL is [www.careertech.org](http://www.careertech.org).

Information about Career Clusters can be found under the Career Cluster button. The [Career Cluster page](http://www.careertech.org/career-clusters/) (<http://www.careertech.org/career-clusters/>) offers direct access to a wide-range of Career Cluster-related resources including the Knowledge and Skills Charts and Statements.

Within the realm of Business and Marketing Education, our Clusters and Pathways fall under the [Business Management & Administration](#), [Finance](#), [Information Technology](#), and [Marketing](#) cluster.

Please be sure to Bookmark/Favorites this site as it will come in handy while completing the Gap Analysis associated with the Big Sky Pathways Next Steps Workshops this fall.

### **NBEA Annual Convention First-Time Attendee Stipend**

If you are a professional member of the National Business Education Association ([www.nbea.org](http://www.nbea.org)) and have never attended the annual national convention, you are eligible for a professional development stipend.

The \$200 stipends will be presented at the NBEA awards luncheon on Friday, April 6, 2012, in Boston, Massachusetts. Recipients must attend the luncheon, where they will receive the stipend from NBEA President John Olivo on behalf of the

regional or corporate sponsor.

Recipients will be notified by February 6, 2012.

If you would like to apply for a Professional Development Partnership Program stipend, please complete the [application form](http://www.nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/documents/2012ConventionStipendApplicationForm.pdf) (<http://www.nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/documents/2012ConventionStipendApplicationForm.pdf>) sign, and fax to (703) 620- 4483 or return to:

NBEA PDP Program  
1914 Association Drive  
Reston, VA 20191-1596

Applications must be received at NBEA headquarters by **January 3, 2012**. No application will be accepted after the deadline.

For details about the 2012 NBEA Annual Convention please visit <http://www.nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/convention.html>.

### On This Day in History . . .

#### **December 7**

- 1787: In Dover, Delaware, the U.S. Constitution is unanimously ratified by all 30 delegates to the Delaware Constitutional Convention, making Delaware the first state of the modern United States
- 1941: Pearl Harbor is bombed at 7:55 a.m. Hawaii time when a Japanese dive bomber appears out of the clouds above the island of Oahu. A swarm of 360 Japanese warplanes followed, descending on the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor in a ferocious assault. The surprise attack struck a critical blow against the U.S. Pacific fleet and drew the United States irrevocably into World War I.
- 1991: U2 went to No.1 on the US album charts with *Achtung Baby*, featuring the songs *One* and *Even Better Than The Real Thing*

#### **December 8**

- 1941: On this day in 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt asks Congress to declare war on Japan; Montana Representative Jeannette Rankin was the sole dissenter within U.S. Congress
- 1980: Singer John Lennon is shot and killed by Mark David Chapman outside his apartment building in New York City

#### **December 9**

- 1972: *I Am Woman* by Helen Reddy tops the U.S. pop charts
- 1983: *Scarface* opens in theaters starring Al Pacino as a Cuban refugee who becomes a Miami crime boss
- 1992: The separation of Charles, Prince of Wales, and Lady Diana, Princess of Wales, is announced

#### **December 10**

- 1898: The Treaty of Paris is signed, formally ending the Spanish-American War and as a result Guam and Puerto Rico were ceded to the United States, the Philippines was bought for \$20 million, and Cuba became a U.S. protectorate
- 1901: The first Nobel Prizes are awarded in Stockholm, Sweden, in the fields of physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and peace
- 1966: The Beach Boys went to No.1 on the US singles chart with 'Good Vibrations'
- 2006: San Diego Chargers running back LaDainian Tomlinson racks up his 29th touchdown of the year, breaking the National Football League (NFL) record for touchdowns scored during a single season

#### **December 11**

- 1872: Already appearing as a well-known figure of the Wild West in popular dime novels, Buffalo Bill Cody makes his first stage appearance in Chicago
- 1941: Adolf Hitler declares war on the United States, bringing America, which had been neutral, into the European conflict
- 1981: Jamaican boxer Trevor Berbick beat former heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali in a unanimous 10-round decision, before a crowd of 10,000 at the Queen Elizabeth Sports Centre in Nassau, the Bahamas
- 1982: Singer, TV actress and dancer Toni Basil went to No.1 on the US singles chart with *Mickey*

## December 12

- 1901: Italian physicist and radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi succeeds in sending the first radio transmission across the Atlantic Ocean—from Poldhu in Cornwall, England, to Newfoundland, Canada—disproving detractors who told him that the curvature of the earth would limit transmission to 200 miles or less
- 1917: Boys Town opens in Omaha, Nebraska, when Father Edward J. Flanagan, a 31-year-old Irish priest, opens the doors to a home for troubled and neglected children
- 2003: Mick Jagger became a “Sir” after being knighted by Prince Charles at Buckingham Palace

## December 13

- 1642: Dutch navigator Abel Tasman becomes the first European explorer to sight the South Pacific island group now known as New Zealand; few weeks earlier, Tasman had discovered Tasmania, off the southeast coast of Australia
- 1966: The Jimi Hendrix Experience record *Foxy Lady*
- 2000: Vice President Al Gore reluctantly concedes defeat to Texas Governor George W. Bush in his bid for the presidency, following weeks of legal battles over the recounting of votes in Florida, on this day in 2000
- 2003: After spending nine months on the run, former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein is captured

## Montana DECA Program Cover Design Contest Ends This FRIDAY

Entries for the Montana DECA State Career Development Conference Program Cover Design Contest are due next month.

Make sure to submit your students' cover designs by **Friday, December 9** to [erinweisgerber@yahoo.com](mailto:erinweisgerber@yahoo.com).

The theme is Las Vegas and the winner will receive \$50.

## Global Entrepreneurship Week Campaign Activities Sign Up Ends Next Week

December 15 is the last day to sign up your activities for Global Entrepreneurship Week Campaign in order to receive recognition for your chapter.

Visit [www.deca.org/events/gew](http://www.deca.org/events/gew) for more info.

## Deadline for Finish Line Challenge Quickly Approaching

If you have students competing in the Finish Line Challenge, December 19 is the last day to submit a video.

Details can be found on the DECA website at <http://www.deca.org/events/finishlinechallenge/>.

## \$250 & 12 Free Shirts for Winning ICDC T-Shirt Design

Do you have creative students? Do they want everyone at ICDC to see their creative designs? If so, have them submit a design for the ICDC T-shirt Design Contest.

In addition to showcasing the design, the winner will get a \$250 honorarium and 12 free shirts.

Visit [www.deca.org/shop](http://www.deca.org/shop) to find out more!

## Looking Ahead to 2012.....

January 2012 is a busy month for DECA programs and deadlines for the State Career Development Conference. Please be sure the dates below are on your calendars.

January 2

- Virtual Business Challenge Round II begins
- H&R Block Dollars and Sense Round II begins

January 13

- School Based Enterprises Submission and Recertification deadline **\*\*This is a change from original calendar!!**
- State Conference Registration due to Erin Weisgerber
- State Conference Hotel lists due to the Red Lion
- Montana DECA Membership Registration AND Payment deadline

January 20

- DECA Scholarship Deadline

January 27

- Written Events due to the Montana DECA P.O. Box (not postmarked!!)

Remember, the 2012 Montana DECA CDC will be February 12-14.

### Computer Accounting Company Setup Information Now on BPA Website

Just prior to the Thanksgiving holiday, BPA published the company setup information for Computerized Accounting.

The setup file was E-mailed out to all regional coordinators and is also available on the BPA website, [www.bpa.org](http://www.bpa.org).

The Computerized Accounting setup information was included as an Appendix to the Workplace Skills Assessment Program (WSAP). Advisors can go the [BPA Download Center](http://www.bpa.org/compete/eventdownload) (<http://www.bpa.org/compete/eventdownload>) and get the latest WSAP. The Computerized Accounting company setup information is in the back on Pages 185-187.

### BPA Members: Here's Your Chance to Win Your Share of Over \$10,000 in Prizes

Put your students' graphic design and/or video production skills in action for the opportunity to win several prizes from cash, scholarships, or even a trip to San Francisco.

[Act Out Loud](#) has 11 prizes totaling over \$90,000 waiting for your students to win with graphic design competition focusing on traffic safety. This [flyer](#) has additional information about this competition.

Second, students can create a 60 second Public Service Announcement (PSA) on texting and driving for the chance to win a \$2500 scholarship through [Project Yellow Light](#).

Lastly, the [Great American NO BULL Challenge](#) focuses on eliminating cyberbullying. This video competition has over \$10,000 in prizes and aligns with the video production event prompt for this year.

### Montana BPA Regional Leadership Conferences Begin Next Week!

Region 7 held the first Montana BPA Regional Leadership Conference for the 2011-2012 membership year Monday, December 7 in Baker.

Below are the dates and locations for the seven remaining regional leadership conference. If you have any questions, please contact your region's coordinator.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
Region 1	January 9 2012	Kalispell	Ron Hanson, Ronan	<a href="mailto:ron.hanson@ronank12.edu">ron.hanson@ronank12.edu</a>
Region 2	January 9 2012	Missoula	Jamie Toivonen, Superior	<a href="mailto:jtoivonen@superior.k12.mt.us">jtoivonen@superior.k12.mt.us</a>
Region 3	January 16 2012	Great Falls	Carolyn Stone, Moore	<a href="mailto:cstone@moore.k12.mt.us">cstone@moore.k12.mt.us</a>
Region 4	December 19, 2011	Helena	Kerri Cobb, Bozeman	<a href="mailto:kerri.cobb@bsd7.org">kerri.cobb@bsd7.org</a>
Region 5	January 9 2012	Livingston	Region Wood, Park	<a href="mailto:rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us">rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us</a>
Region 6	December 19-20, 2011	Billings	Natalie Schaff, Roundup	<a href="mailto:rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us">rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us</a>
Region 8	January 18, 2012	Sidney	Bertha Kirschten, Circle	<a href="mailto:bkirschten@circleschools.k12.mt.us">bkirschten@circleschools.k12.mt.us</a>

Remember, all students and advisors must be registered BPA members in order to compete at the regional, state, and national levels. Any non-registered student(s) will be disqualified and will not be able to compete at the state leadership conference.

If your chapter has not yet registered, please do so as quickly as possible to be sure to receive any and all BPA communications, emails, and mailings.

To access the online membership registration system please go to <http://www.registermychapter.com/bpamem/> and enter your username and password.

Membership dues for this year are \$12.00 per member/advisor for National-level dues and \$8.00 for State-level dues.

If you do not remember your username and/or password or if you are taking over as a chapter advisor please let me know and I will email you the information.

### **BPA Announces the NLC 2012 Walk for Special Olympics Pin Design Contest**

Business Professionals of America announces the National Leadership Conference 2012 "Walk for Special Olympics"

#### **Description:**

Develop a logo design that will be utilized as a pin design as a giveaway for the Special Olympics Walk. You may not use any words, diagrams, clipart and/or artwork that are not public domain. Copyrighted materials other than the Business Professionals of America logo, name, and tagline, may not be used—even with written permission.

#### **Eligibility:**

Any registered BPA student member may participate in this contest>

#### **Submission:**

Electronic entry submission via: [www.bpa.org/submit](http://www.bpa.org/submit).

#### **Deadline:**

February 1, 2012, 11:59 PM EST.

#### **Specifications:**

- Contestant may select any theme that promotes the Business Professionals of America National Leadership Conference: Walk for Special Olympics in Chicago, IL on Saturday, April 28, 2012.
- The name of the walk is "Walk for Special Olympics"
- Dimensions of the logo must not exceed 4" x 4"
- Submissions must be vector graphics or at least 200 dpi
- Submissions must be 30 MB or less in size
- Confirmation of receipt will be provided when information is submitted
- All written materials must follow the organization's Graphic Standards and make proper use of the BPA logo and/or organization's name. (Refer to the Graphic Standards in the Style & Reference Manual)
- Contestants name may not appear anywhere on logo
- No registered trademarks or names may be used. It is the policy of Business Professionals of America to comply with state and federal copyright laws. The contestant will be DISQUALIFIED for copyright violations

The winning pin design will be selected by the National Officer Team and will be used at the 2012 National Leadership Conference.

*Past issues of the 2011-2012 school year's Wednesday Reader are now archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at [www.mbea.info](http://www.mbea.info). The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.*

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