

The Wednesday Reader

September 19, 2012

Hotel Reservation & Registration Deadline for 2012 MBEA/Montana ACTE Institute Approaching

The Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) in conjunction with the Montana Association for Career and Technical Education (Montana ACTE) invite you to Billings for the [2012 Montana ACTE Institute](#) October 18-19.

This year's institute will be held at the Billings Crowne Plaza with Friday's breakouts taking place at Huntley Project High School in Worden.

A [schedule of events](#) and a listing of breakout sessions can be found at montanaacte.org/documents/glance.pdf.

The Institute's [registration form](#) can be downloaded from the [Montana ACTE website \(www.montanaacte.org\)](http://www.montanaacte.org) or directly with the following link: www.montanaacte.org/documents/registration.pdf. Registration confirmations/receipts will be sent via email.

Early-Bird Registration ends October 1, so don't delay, register today.

Be sure to make your Billings Crowne Plaza hotel reservations early as well. Reservations can be made by calling the Billings Crowne Plaza at 406.252.7400. The **Montana ACTE room block ends September 20**—don't delay, book today.

2012 New Career & Technical Education (CTE) Professionals Workshop – FREE for New Teachers

The Office of Public Instruction's Career and Technical Education Specialists will be conducting a **New CTE Professionals Workshop** on Wednesday, October 17, in Billings, prior to the beginning of the 2012 Montana ACTE Institute. The New CTE Professionals Workshop is a **free** professional development opportunity designed specifically for Career & Technical Education professionals in their first, second, or third year in the classroom.

This professional development opportunity will provide teachers who are new to the classroom, as well as those with less than four years of experience, with information on a variety of topics essential for success in the career and technical education classroom including

- Montana's Big Sky Pathways Initiative and the Development of Programs of Study,
- Perkins funding,
- State CTE funding,
- Advisory boards,
- Professional development,
- Professional organizations,
- CTE and program-area standards and guidelines, and
- Career & Technical Student Organizations.

The workshop will be held at the Montana State University-Billings Conference Center Downtown (214 North Broadway) from 8 am to 4 pm. The training is free of charge and lunch will be provided for attendees. Up to six OPI Renewal Units will be offered.

Additional details about the New CTE Professionals Workshop, including a schedule of events, are currently posted on the Updates—Latest CTE Info page of the Secondary CTE area of the OPI website (www.opi.mt.gov) and can be downloaded with the following link:

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/CTE/12NewProfessionalsWorkshopFlyer.pdf>.

Registration for the 2012 New CTE Professionals Workshop can be completed and submitted online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/FKDN7ZH. Registration closes Monday, October 8.

High School Business Challenge – Hands-on Learn for Key Business Concepts

The key to getting your students to understand key business concepts is through hands-on activity. If you've not yet done so, consider this simulation designed to develop management, financial, marketing and critical thinking skills in a competitive, learning enhanced environment.

The Montana High School Business Challenge, sponsored by the Montana Chamber Foundation and administered by the Montana Council on Economic Education lets your students actively participate in a state-wide simulation as real entrepreneurs. The students manage the business of a Blu-ray Video Disc Player manufacturer, and many daily decisions face the students, including financial, ethical, legal, and competitive issues. It is a dynamic simulation that can be incorporated into many different class disciplines.

The state-wide competition runs eight weeks, beginning Wednesday, October 3 and concluding Wednesday, December 5. College scholarships and cash prizes are awarded to the top three teams. The cost is \$15.00 per team.

FIRST TIME PARTICIPANTS: First-time participants need to be trained prior to involvement in the Business Challenge by webinar training sessions which introduces the teacher to the concepts and procedures the simulation. It will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 18 and 19, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. If you are a first-time participant, or simply want to re-familiarize yourself with the fundamentals of the Business Challenge, please register online at: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/843603040>

REFRESHER WEBINAR FOR PAST PARTICIPANTS: A webinar is scheduled on Tuesday, September 25, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. for teachers that have previously participated in the Challenge who want to refresh their skills and learn more about the simulation. This webinar is voluntary, and is open only to teachers that have previous HSBC involvement. Space is limited. The web address to register for this webinar is: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/997975640>

REGISTERING TEAMS FOR FALL SEMESTER? QUESTIONS?: To register teams for the fall Business Challenge competition or if you have any questions, please contact Tim Alzheimer via e-mail, timalz@montana.edu, or by telephone, 994-2263 for further information. Team registration deadline is Wednesday, September 26.

One site, dozens of ways to use it! An Interactive Lesson Planning Tool from AICPA

Just in time for Back to School the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) announces the new [From point A to point CPA: An educators' guide to using Start Here, Go Places. in the classroom.](#)

The new school year is back in swing and you know what that means—a new crop of eager young minds looking to you to inspire them. AICPA knows you are up to the challenge and they want to help you out.

[From point A to point CPA: An educators' guide to using Start Here, Go Places. in the classroom](#) is an interactive resource filled with activities and exercises you can easily incorporate into your classes.

This guide provides ideas covering everything from accounting basics and what it takes to become a CPA to the opportunities—and money—that come along with getting there. There are even worksheets, handouts and discussion guides to bring everything together for your students.

Back to school doesn't have to mean back to the same old lesson plans. Why not consider kicking it up a notch (or two)? Check out [From point A to point CPA: An educators' guide to using Start Here, Go Places. in the classroom](#) today.

Scholarship Opportunity of Your Students

The 2012-13 Virtual Business Scholarship application is now available online. The application is accessible at: www.KnowledgeMatters.com/scholarships.

Business, marketing and personal finance students currently enrolled in their junior and senior years of high school throughout the United States are eligible for the scholarship. The applications will be judged nationally and the winner will receive \$2,000. Applications are due by April 1, 2013.

[Knowledge Matters](#) believes that rich visual simulation-based learning will be the dominant education trend of the next quarter century. This method is more appealing to students, easier for teachers, cheaper to deliver, and more effective in achieving useful skill development. The company is currently expanding its offerings to serve the college and university market.

To learn more about [Knowledge Matters](#) and the resources available visit www.KnowledgeMatters.com.

Please Complete the Required Business, Marketing, & Computer Apps Courses Survey

Beth Huguet, Hellgate High School, is gathering information on behalf of the Missoula County School District to see what business courses are being required for high school graduation around the state.

To assist in her quests for details, please take a couple of minutes to complete a short online survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XY82C9J>. Please complete the survey by Friday, September 21.

After the results are compiled, the data will be shared with you.

Nominations Due Friday for Montana Business Educator Awards Program

We all know and respect the innovative and wonderful things our colleagues are doing every day. Why not recognize them?! The [Montana Business Education Association](#) (MBEA) is seeking nominations for its 2012 Awards Program. Please consider nominating an awesome business educator for recognition in October during the Montana ACTE Fall Institute in Billings.

Categories include Rookie Business Teacher of the Year (1-3 years), Young Business Teacher of the Year (5 years or less), and Secondary Business Teacher of the Year. Both the Young Business Teacher and Secondary Business Teacher of the Year this winner will compete to move on to the ACTE Region V awards competition.

Letters of nomination can be sent to Regina Wood, MBEA Past President, at regina.wood@livingston.k12.mt.us. Please submit all nominations by September 21, 2012.

Election Economic Workshop Sponsored by MCEE

The [Montana Council on Economic Education](http://www.econedmontana.org) (www.econedmontana.org) is excited to announce the development of a new series of classroom-ready materials—[Election Economics](#).

A great workshop on the economics of elections will be held September 28 in Helena, from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Instructors will include one of your peers, Montana State University professors, and others involved in campaigns and elections. The workshop will be held in in one of the hearing rooms at the Capitol and lunch will be in the Rotunda. Seminar, materials, sub and OPI renewal unit are provided by MCEE at no cost to teachers.

[Registration](#) and workshop details can be found on the [Montana Council on Economic Education](http://www.econedmontana.org) website at www.econedmontana.org. Seating will be limited, so early registration is encouraged.

Did you know . . .

stewardesses is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand

M&M's chocolate stands for the initials for its inventors Mars and Murrie

the Internet was originally called ARPANet (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network) designed by the US department of defense

the fortune cookie was invented in San Francisco

all the blinking in one day equates to having your eyes closed for 30 minutes

Montana BPA Fall Publications on the Website

The new Business Professionals of America membership year is up and running. As you and your chapter prepare your 2012-2013 programs of work be sure to read the [Fall 2012 Montana BPA Newsletter](#) and the [Fall Update](#), both are posted on the [Advisor Manual](#) page of the [Montana BPA](http://www.bpamt.org) website (www.bpamt.org) under the Communications tab.

Please download the [Fall 2012 Montana BPA Newsletter](#) and share it with your membership, school administrators, and have it available during your fall Open House.

2012 Montana BPA Fall Advisor Meetings

Below are the currently scheduled regional fall meetings for local chapter advisors. If you have any questions, please contact your regional coordinator.

<u>Region</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
1	October 3	Flathead Valley CC	Ron Hanson	ron.hanson@ronank12.edu
2	October 1	Missoula	Jamie Toivonen	jtoivonen@superior.k12.mt.us
3	October 4	Great Falls	Carolyn Stone	cstone@moore.k12.mt.us

4	September 27	Bozeman	Kerri Cobb	kerri.cobb@bsd7.org
5	October 3	Big Timber	Regina Wood	rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us
6	October 3	Billings	Natalie Schaff	natalieschaff@yahoo.com
7	TBD	TBD	Julie O'Dell	Julie.odell@hardin.k12.mt.us
8	October 3	Glasgow	Bertha Kirschten	bkirschten@circleschools.k12.mt.us

Registration Deadline Approaching for 4th Annual BPA-Be a Business Major Day @ Rocky

Rocky Mountain College will be hosting the Fourth Annual “BPA - Be a Business Major Day” on Monday, October 8, 2012.

Rocky Mountain College would like to invite you and your students to explore Montana's first and finest institution of higher education. At RMC we are committed to providing learning opportunities and experiences that prepare our students to be outstanding leaders in business industries, as well as their communities.

Rocky Mountain College feels students should be able to make life-changing decisions with their eyes wide open and experience a college classroom first-hand. That being said, RMC would like to invite your BPA Chapter to Rocky Mountain College's Fourth Annual BPA - Be A Business Major Day on Monday, October 8, 2012.

Registration for this event is now open. Chapter Advisors are welcome to register their chapter and student participants. Juniors and seniors only, please. No registrations will be accepted after September 30, 2012. [Register Now!](#)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call 406.657.1026 or email at admissions@rocky.edu. We look forward to seeing you on campus.

For more information, please visit gold.rocky.edu/admissions/BusinessDay.php.

Montana BPA Design Contest Guidelines Available at www.bpamt.org

Entries are now being accepted for Montana BPA’s three design contests—[Trading Pin](#), [State Leadership Conference Program Cover](#), and [State T-Shirt](#).

These three contests allow Montana BPA members the opportunities to share the design skills with other Montana BPA members as well as with BPA members across the country. The winning [Trading Pin](#) design will be the pin Montana BPA can take with them and trade at the 2013 National Leadership Conference in Orlando. The [State Leadership Conference Program Cover](#) design contest allows a member to design the cover of the 2013 Montana BPA State Leadership Conference program. The [State T-Shirt](#) contest seeks designs for the official 2013 Montana BPA t-shirt which will be a members’ ticket to the State Leadership Conference dance and can be worn at the 2013 National Leadership Conference as well.

Thursday, October 25 is the deadline to submit entries for the [Trading Pin](#) design contest and all entries for the [State Leadership Conference Program Cover](#), and [State T-Shirt](#) must be submitted by December 1.

Please visit the [Advisor Manual](#) section of the [Montana BPA](#) website for additional details and specifics for all three contests.

BPA Offering Local Advisor Leadership Certification

Interested in becoming a certified BPA advisor? Join BPA for this six part series beginning on September 24, 2012.

The sessions will cover:

- General Overview
- Managing A Chapter/The Advisor Role
- Making BPA Co- Curricular—Competitive Events
- Making BPA Co- Curricular—Leadership Resources
- Managing Your Membership
- Engaging Leadership Outside of the Classroom

Each session will last one hour with an opportunity for questions and answers throughout the webinar. In addition, advisors will be interacting with each other on the [SOURCE](#) after each session.

Interested advisors can register at <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/492362880>. Any advisors who completes all six sessions will be recognized

BPA Continues Partnership with the Great American NO BULL Challenge

Business Professionals of America is proud to once again partner with the [Great American NO BULL Challenge](#). NO BULL is a social action organization that uses the power of social media, music and the magic of filmmaking to inspire 25 million middle and high school students to create films that speak to the importance of digital responsibility.

The goal is to use these socially driven documentary-style films and PSA's as a means to bring about social change on a global basis.

The annual NO BULL Teen Video Awards celebrates the culmination of the NO BULL Challenge's 4+ month national video contest, where thousands of teens from around the country are celebrated for participating.

The ultimate goal? To inspire change at the youth level and build a positive school climate

Prizes include the coveted Stand UP Award, scholarships, laptops, video cameras and a trip to Sundance Film Festival.

NO BULL is committed to creating and inspiring youth-led films as a platform for dialogue on the

Opportunities for BPA Students & National Organization for Youth Safety

Again this year, BPA has partnered with the [National Organization for Youth Safety \(NOYS\)](#). NOYS is a collaboration of over 60 national, youth-serving organizations, including non-profit organizations, business and industry leaders, and government agencies, with the common goal of promoting safe and healthy behaviors among our nation's youth.

Two current activities that BPA and NOYS are working on together are Act Out Loud and the [Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Logo/Tagline Design Contest](#).

From September 4, 2012-April 1, 2013 you and your team are invited to enter the [Act Out Loud 2013](#) and raise your voices in your school and community for safe teen driving. This year high school teams will plan an Act Out Loud rally to take place in May as part of Global Youth Traffic Safety Month! There are fun projects along the way to help your team earn up to \$1,000 for your rally, and qualify for the grand prize of \$10,000!

Fall Marks the Start of Montana DECA Events

The Montana DECA Fall Advisor/Officer meeting will be Sunday, September 30, in Helena. Additional details on times, location, etc. will be sent out soon. We have a lot of changes coming this year, so please plan on attending the meeting.

If you start registering students for membership prior to the September 30 meeting, please note that membership numbers will carry over for your students from last year. You will only need to renew their membership and will NOT have to enter in their names again. If you have to make changes to any of their information, but the system will not allow it, please contact DECA, Inc. Membership for more help.

For students interested in competing in the Stock Market Game, it starts on September 4. Please see the website (deca.smgww.org) or your DECA guide for more details.

For those advisors interested in taking their students to conferences this fall, there are several options. The [Western Region Leadership Conference](#) will be held in Seattle, November 15-17. Registration will be capped at the first 2800 students to register and registration is due no later than October 15. After attending the SAM Conference this summer and listening to the Washington State Advisors talk about the conference, it should be fantastic and one you won't want to miss!!

The [Innovations and Entrepreneurship Conference](#) is November 8-10 in Chicago.

The [New York Experience](#) will have two options; November 28-December 2 and December 5-9.

While advisors talked about a possible alternative to the 2013 State Conference, we will be keeping it in Helena on February 3-5. Unfortunately, we ran into a few road blocks so will leave it as is this year. We can talk further at the Fall Meeting to discuss alternatives for the upcoming years.

Best of luck as you start out the year and I will look forward to seeing you on September 30 in Helena!!

Past issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at www.mbea.info. The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

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