

# Workforce Development Update

## *Members Making a Difference*



**This issue features detailed coverage from AGC Georgia's recent Skills Challenges. Mark your calendar and plan to be a part of the Challenges planned for November 2018!**

- ▶ Central Georgia/Southern Crescent Workforce Development Alliances' Skills Challenge  
November 1, 2018 in Griffin
- ▶ Northeast Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Skills Challenge  
November 8, 2018 in Gainesville
- ▶ East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Skills Challenge  
November 15, 2018 in Augusta
- ▶ South/Southwest Georgia Workforce Development Alliances' Skills Challenge  
November 28, 2018 in Moultrie



# In the Classroom

1

Since the beginning of the 2017 school year, nearly 20 Crisp County High School students have earned their OSHA 10-hour certification. Jim Steele, the school's construction teacher, received a TradeFive grant enabling him to earn necessary credentials to administer OSHA 10-Hour Training to his students. Earning this card opens doors for students to work for construction companies requiring the certification.



2

ACE Electric donated NEC books to students to Crisp County High School. Steel said, "Thanks to ACE Electric, we have enough NEC books for every student to use to prepare for the Electrical End of Pathway test. CCHS construction appreciates our industry partners!"



3

In October, Atlanta Public Schools awarded Batson-Cook Co. with the 2017 *Jackson Cluster Partner of the Year Award* for its significant contributions to Crim Open Campus High School's construction program. The award was accepted by Jimmy Kennedy, the firm's Healthcare Project Executive and chair of its Crim Partnership Initiative. More than a year ago, Batson-Cook adopted Crim High School and within 10 months, a construction lab and classroom had been designed, built out, and equipped.



4

Also in October, Jenny Horton, President, Collins and Arnold Construction Company, LLC, exhibited during the Gwinnett County Middle School's Career Day and met with students looking to learn about career opportunities. The career day, in its fourth year, is for 8th graders from Gwinnett County Middle Schools that feed into a high school with CTAE curriculum. The students are required to interview four companies as an assignment for the event. Horton was interviewed by 70 students interested in construction.



5

In November, Brian Daniel, AGC Georgia Executive Committee member, and AGC Georgia Director of Governmental Affairs Mark Woodall addressed a gathering of CM students and members of AGC Student Chapter at KSU's Marietta Campus.

6

In December, Kristen Williams, Penco Electrical Contractors President/CEO presented Griffin High School junior India Bryant with an Electrical Apprenticeship Program scholarship. The offer includes an apprenticeship with Penco and the possibility of a continued scholarship for the entire course of study. Williams learned of India's interest in a career in construction when she met her at the Southern Crescent & Central Georgia Skills Challenge. Among nearly 20 competitors, India earned first place in the electrical division at the challenge.



# Statewide Initiatives

1

During an October STEM Forum held in Athens, the Georgia Department of Economic Development's TradeFive initiative presented 17 Georgia middle and high schools with TradeFive Grant Awards.

As mentioned on page 2, Jim Steel of Crisp County High School was a recipient. He wants to offer a richer course structure to help his students graduate high school with a greater chance of entering the workforce. "Any opportunity allowing students to be better prepared to enter the workforce is inestimable," Steele said. "Having industry credentials from the OSHA 10-hour class and my National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER) accredited program helps my students be the first hired."



2

The Construction Industry Employers Roundtable (CIER) met in January. CIER's mission is to "Communicate, Coordinate and Speak with One Voice." CIER has some exciting plans coming up this year including a School Counselor Day during the Skills USA/CEFGA Expo in March and the Work-Based Learning focus of CEFGA's K12 Pipeline.



3

In January, a meeting was held with Effingham County Superintendent Dr. Shearhouse, Marchese Construction President Joe Marchese, Jada Dailey with ACE Electric, Chris Young with Southeast Concrete, and AGC Georgia's Bill Chambless. The group is working to reopen the high school construction program which was closed several years ago. Marchese (pictured left) committed to line up industry volunteers to set up jobsite and classroom visits for all students, including those in middle and elementary schools.



**Have a story you want to share in this quarterly newsletter?  
Want to get involved with a construction program in your area?**

Contact Bill Chambless, Member Development Specialist at [chambless@agcga.org](mailto:chambless@agcga.org).



This past fall, AGC Georgia's regional Workforce Development Alliances hosted Skills Challenges in Augusta, Gainesville, Griffin and Moultrie. These four events allowed more than **420 students to compete**, representing **54 high schools**, in electrical, carpentry, plumbing, masonry, welding, A/V production and Team Works.

Several AGC Georgia member firms devoted hundreds of hours to make these member-driven challenges a huge success. Each of these events helped prepare students who competed in their regional SkillsUSA event this January. Winners of the regional events move on to the state SkillsUSA competitions in late March at the Georgia International Convention Center.

Overall, the skills challenges drew nearly **800 student observers** and dozens of influencers. Many of these students were observers this year and plan to compete in November 2018. Helping make these events a huge success is the **more than \$114,000 in contributions** made to the AGC Georgia Foundation by approximately **200 industry firms**.

## Thank You Skills Challenge Sponsors!

- 84 Lumber
- A. West Enterprise
- AAA Sign Co., Inc.
- Ace Electric, Inc.
- Adams Exterminators
- Advanced Electric, Inc.
- Airgas National Welders
- Allen-Batchelor Construction
- All-State Electrical Contractors
- American Glass & Mirror, Inc.
- American Welding Society
- Andrews, Hammock & Powell, Inc.
- Artcrete Flooring
- Ashmore Concrete Pumping, LLC
- Atlantic Concrete Contractors
- Augusta Business Interiors
- Augusta Concrete Block Co.
- Augusta Industrial Services, Inc.
- Augusta Overhead Door
- Augusta Ready Mix, Inc.
- B & D Concrete Cutting, Inc.
- Baker Concrete Construction
- Barnett Southern Corporation
- BELIT, Inc.
- Block USA/ Cemex
- Bonitz Flooring
- Bowen & Watson, Inc.
- Bradley Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
- Brandon Zapata Electric Inc.
- Bryant Electrical Contractors, LLC
- Building Specialties Co., Inc.
- C. C. Owen Tile Co., Inc.
- Carroll Daniel Construction Co.
- Cauthan Construction Co.
- Centennial Contractors Enterprises
- Central Georgia Technical College
- Century Fire Protection, LLC
- Cherokee Brick & Tile
- Chick-fil-A
- Cobb Law Group
- Coleman Mechanical Services Inc.
- Collins and Arnold Construction Co.
- Colquitt EMC
- Concrete Enterprises, LLC
- Conditioned Air Systems, Inc.
- Contractors South, Inc.
- Cornerstone Masonry Group LLC
- Cox Container Service
- CSRA Testing and Engineering Co.
- D & S Doyle Electric
- Daikin Applied
- Delta Termite and Pest Control
- Dickinson Architects, P.C.
- Don Blackburn & Associates
- Donley's Concrete
- Douglas Mechanical Contractors
- DPS Evans, Inc.
- Dublin Construction Company
- Duckworth Development, LLC
- Dukes Edwards & Dukes Inc.
- E. R. Snell Contractors
- Engineered Openings, Inc.
- Ernst Concrete
- Finuf Sign Co., Inc.
- Fire Sprinkler Contractors, Inc.
- Fire Technology LLC
- Fleming Construction, Inc.
- G & G Electrical
- Gainesville Mechanical
- Garnto Southern Construction
- Gas & Supply
- Georgia Drywall, Inc.
- Georgia Hardware Distributors
- Georgia Mechanical, Inc.
- Georgia Power Company
- Gerdau
- Gill Plumbing Company
- Glass Service Center of Augusta
- GMS Companies
- Gold Mech
- Greene and Associates, Inc.
- H & S Supply Co.
- H. E. Hodge Company
- Hall County Schools
- Health Systems Development, LLC
- Heavener Construction Company
- Herc Rentals Inc
- Holman Supply Company
- Home Builders Association of N. GA
- Howard Lumber Co.
- Impact Safety Systems
- Independent Electrical Contractors
- J.H. Cleveland Construction Co.
- Jackson EMC
- Jacobs Land Management
- JCI Contractors
- Joiner & Associates, Inc.
- Jonquil Steel & Construction Co.
- Kellerman Construction, Inc.
- L. E. Schwartz & Son, Inc.
- Lang Mechanical, Inc.
- Lawson Air Conditioning & Plumbing
- Legacy Machinery, Inc.
- Lincoln Electric
- Lowe Electrical Supply Company
- M & D Masonry, Inc.
- M and R Equipment Rental
- M. E. Contractors, Inc.
- MacALJON, INC.
- Macon Econ. Developmt. Comm.
- MAI Risk Advisors
- Maner Builders Supply Co.
- Master Craft Flooring
- Master Safety Solutions, LLC
- Maximum RPM Construction
- McCoy Grading, Inc
- McKnight Construction Co., Inc.
- Merit Flooring
- Metro Waterproofing, Inc.
- MetroPower, Inc.
- Morgan Concrete Company
- Mulherin Lumber Co.
- Norvell Fixture & Equipment
- Parks Lumber & Building Supply
- Pellicano Construction
- Penco Electrical Contractors, Inc.
- Penn Roofing
- Plumbing Heating Cooling Contractors of Georgia
- Plumbing Service Company
- R. K. Redding Construction, Inc.
- R. W. Allen, LLC
- Ram Tool Construction Supply
- Ray Diamond Glass
- Reames Concrete Company, Inc.
- Riteway Plumbing Services Inc
- RPI Underground, Inc.
- Rutland Low Voltage Systems
- S&L Integrated
- S. C. Barker Construction Company
- S.D. Clifton Construction, Inc.
- Safe Aire Heating & Cooling
- Scruggs Concrete Company
- Sheridan Construction
- Shiver Lumber Company
- Sig Cox, Inc.
- Sky Industrial Services
- Smith, Currie & Hancock LLP
- South Georgia Brick Company, Inc.
- South State Bank
- Southern Crescent Technical College
- Southern Exteriors, Inc.
- Southern Regional Technical College
- Sports Turf Company, Inc.
- Springwood Nurseries, Inc.
- SRJ Architects, Inc.
- Stage Front Productions
- Stiles Heating & Cooling
- Summers Roofing Co., Inc.
- Sunbelt AG Expo
- Swofford Construction, Inc.
- Tafolla's Construction Inc.
- The Roof Depot, Inc.
- The Sack Company
- Thomas Concrete of Georgia, Inc.
- Thompson Building Wrecking Co.
- Thyssen Krupp Elevator
- TimberMark LLC
- Tri Scapes, Inc.
- Triad Specialties
- Trinity Fabricators
- Trinity Safety Management Services
- Triple M Site Site Work LLC
- Tri-Star Contractors, Inc.
- TTL, Inc.
- Two State Construction Company
- Tulsa Welding School Jacksonville
- Tyson Steel Building Products, Inc.
- United Rentals, Inc.
- Universal Engineering Sciences
- Universatech Electrical Co., Inc.
- Valdosta Comm. Doors & Hardware
- Valdosta Mechanical Co., Inc.
- Webco Electric Construction
- Willett Engineering
- Wiregrass Electric, Inc.
- Wiregrass Georgia Technical College
- WLS Construction Inc.
- Yohe Plumbing, Heating & Air

# Central Georgia & Southern Crescent Workforce Development Alliances' Skills Challenge

## Fast Facts

November 2, 2017  
Kiwanis Fairgrounds in Griffin, GA

### Host Partners

Sheridan Construction  
Swofford Construction, Inc.

### Overall Winner:

Mary Persons High School

» 13 competing high schools

» 78 competitors

» 218 student observers

» \$16,250 in sponsorship contributions

Photo Gallery: [tinyurl.com/y785t6ez](http://tinyurl.com/y785t6ez)



This region's Skills Challenge hosted student competitions in six categories. Students from the following high school construction programs earned medals for their work.

### Blue Print Reading

- 1st – Lee County High School
- 2nd – Mary Persons High School
- 3rd – Mary Persons High School

### Carpentry

- 1st – Mary Persons High School
- 2nd – Mary Persons High School
- 3rd – Crisp County High School

### Electrical

- 1st – Griffin High School
- 2nd – Upson-Lee High School
- 3rd – Mary Persons High School

### Masonry

- 1st – Peach County High School
- 2nd – Mary Persons High School
- 3rd – Griffin High School

### Plumbing

- 1st – Crisp County High School
- 2nd – Mary Persons High School
- 3rd – Griffin High School

### Welding

- 1st – Putnam County High School
- 2nd – Baldwin County High School
- 3rd – Lee County High School

# Northeast Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Skills Challenge

This region's Skills Challenge hosted student competitions in seven categories. Students from the following high school construction programs earned medals for their work.

## A/V Production

- 1st – Johnson High School
- 2nd – Lumpkin Co. High School
- 3rd – Johnson High School

## Carpentry

- 1st – Gainesville High School
- 2nd – Johnson High School
- 3rd – Madison County High School

## Electrical

- 1st – Gilmer High School
- 2nd – Madison County High School
- 3rd – Chestatee High School

## Masonry

- 1st – Flowery Branch High School
- 2nd – Lanier College & Career Academy
- 3rd – Johnson High School

## Plumbing

- 1st – Madison County High School
- 2nd – Lanier College & Career Academy
- 3rd – Johnson High School

## Team Works

- 1st – Flowery Branch High School
- 2nd – Lanier College & Career Academy
- 3rd – Johnson High School

## Welding

- 1st – Madison County High School
- 2nd – Madison County High School
- 3rd – Lumpkin County High School

## Fast Facts

November 9, 2017

Chicopee Woods Agricultural Center  
Gainesville, GA

### Host Partners

Bowen & Watson, Inc.  
Carroll Daniel Construction

### Overall Winner:

Flowery Branch High School

» 13 competing high schools

» 100 competitors

» 200 student observers

» \$18,750 in sponsorship contributions

Photo Gallery: [tinyurl.com/y7tphqfw](http://tinyurl.com/y7tphqfw)



# East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Skills Challenge



This region's Skills Challenge hosted student competitions in seven categories. Students from the following high school construction programs earned medals for their work.

## Carpentry

- 1st – Evans High School
- 2nd – Statesboro High School
- 3rd – Lincoln County High School

## Electrical

- 1st – Evans High School
- 2nd – West Laurens High School
- 3rd – Lincoln County High School

## Masonry

- 1st – West Laurens High School
- 2nd – Statesboro High School
- 3rd – Lincoln County High School

## Plumbing

- 1st – West Laurens High School
- 2nd – West Laurens High School
- 3rd – Jefferson Co. High School

## Welding - ADV

- 1st – T.W. Josey High School
- 2nd – Evans High School
- 3rd – Lincoln County High School

## Welding - BEG

- 1st – Evans High School
- 2nd – Lincoln County High School
- 3rd – Grovetown High School + Hephzibah High School (tie)

## Welding - FAB

- 1st – Hephzibah High School
- 2nd – Evans High School
- 3rd – Lincoln County High School

## Fast Facts

November 16, 2017

Augusta Exchange Club Fairgrounds  
Augusta, GA

### Host Partners

R.W. Allen, LLC and GoldMech

### Overall Winner Construction Cup:

Evans High School

### Overall Winner Welding Cup:

Hephzibah High School

» 11 competing high schools

» 80 competitors

» 300 student observers

» \$56,850 in sponsorship contributions

Photo Gallery: [tinyurl.com/ycjxk5al](http://tinyurl.com/ycjxk5al)

# South Georgia & Southwest Georgia Workforce Development Alliances' Skills Challenge

## Fast Facts

November 30, 2017  
Sunbelt AG Expo in Moultrie, GA

### Host Partners

JCI Contractors  
Tulsa Welding School Jacksonville

### Overall Winner:

Tift County High School

» 17 competing high schools

» 162 competitors

» 70 student observers

» \$22,750 in sponsorship contributions

Photo Gallery: [tinyurl.com/y7xmotzj](http://tinyurl.com/y7xmotzj)

This region's Skills Challenge hosted student competitions in five categories. Students from the following high school construction programs earned medals for their work.

### Carpentry

1st – Crisp County High School  
2nd – Tift County High School  
3rd – Crisp County High School

### Electrical

1st – Crisp County High School  
2nd – Crisp County High School  
3rd – Colquitt Co. High School

### Masonry

1st – Camden Co. High School  
2nd – Peach Co. High School  
3rd – Tift Co. High School

### Plumbing

1st – Crisp County High School  
2nd – Colquitt Co. High School  
3rd – Lee County High School

### Welding

1st – Lee County High School  
2nd – Ware County High School  
3rd – Camden Co. High School

