MEET YOUR 2026 OFFICER CANDIDATES

MN BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS OF AMERICA

KARAH ALBINO
PARK RAPIDS HIGH SCHOOL

Hi! My name is Karah Albino and I am more than happy to be considered for one of your 2026-2027 MN BPA Officer positions. A little bit about me is that outside of BPA, I enjoy multiple extra curricular activities including Dance, Theater, FFA, participating in church activities, and even making or playing music. Some things I plan to bring to MN BPA include more connection and community service work, as I have always been passionate about kindness and respect among others. Can't wait to get to know you all!

MAILYN ALIGADA
DETROIT LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

Hi Minnesota BPA! My name is Genevieve Starkson and I'm a junior at Triton. I am so excited to continue my BPA journey through state candidacy this year! If I became a state officer my top priorities would be to increase BPA member engagement at SLC, developing sponsorship relations, and create new opportunities to explore the "after highschool" experience. For example, developing a job/business fair at SLC so business can offer advice and coaching to our awesome members! I hope to create a fun and motivating place to compete. I promise to make Minnesota BPA proud!

KELLEN BURGER
MAYO HIGH SCHOOL

My name is Kellen Burger, a junior from Mayo High School. As chapter president, I've seen how competitions bring us together, but we can do more. I'm running to connect chapters statewide, making BPA more than regionals, state, and nationals. Imagine regular regional meetups where members from every chapter in the area gather; not just to compete, but to build real friendships, share ideas, strengthen regional culture, and create a true community. These connections will inspire growth, boost participation, and help every member discover their potential. Together, we can give purpose to potential across Minnesota. So, vote Burger, the only [redacted]!

CONNOR FERRIN
BARNUM HIGH SCHOOL

Hello BPA! I am Connor Ferrin from Barnum High School. As a National Leadership Conference participant and three-year member of BPA, I have been honored to be numbered among you all. I have seen how hard you work, how bright you smile, and the ambition in your eyes. I am excited to use my skills and leadership capabilities to improve BPA for the simple reason that you deserve it. I love this organization and hope to build upon the potential it has. As your State Officer this year, I will allow your passions to prosper. Cheers to an amazing year!

SIENNA GRANT
BLAINE HIGH SCHOOL

Hello! I'm Sienna Grant, and I'm excited to help you find your success at BPA and beyond. As a two-time regional champion and national qualifier, I've seen firsthand how BPA pushes us to grow in ways we never thought possible. That's why, as your state officer, I'm eager to build a community where students are ready for what comes next. By expanding real-world opportunities, renewing chapter engagement, and enhancing the skillsets you'll need to succeed; I'll empower every member to walk away from BPA with real skills, real connections, and real confidence. Together, let's shoot for the stars!

ZAINAB IFTIKHAR
CENTURY HIGH SCHOOL

Hello MN BPA! My name is Zainab Iftikhar, and I am honored to run for Minnesota BPA State Officer. Through my experience in BPA leadership, including serving a Region 3 VP of Communications for two years, I have learned the value of purposeful leadership and clear communication. BPA has helped me grow as a leader, collaborator, and advocate for others. As a state officer, I hope to strengthen member engagement, expand opportunities for involvement, and ensure every member feels represented and supported. I am committed to serving Minnesota BPA with professionalism, dedication, and enthusiasm.

VIKTORIIA "VIKA" KUNDEL
TRITON HIGH SCHOOL

Hello, Minnesota BPA! My name is Viktoriia Kundel, and I'm a junior at Triton High School. I'm running for State Officer because BPA has shaped my growth as a leader since I joined in my sophomore year. As an active chapter member and current Vice President of Region 3, I have learned to listen to others' ideas and turn them into action. If elected, I will expand partnerships with businesses, bring in guest speakers, and increase hands-on opportunities that prepare members for real-world success. I'm eager to amplify my impact and make BPA more engaging and beneficial for every student [redacted]!

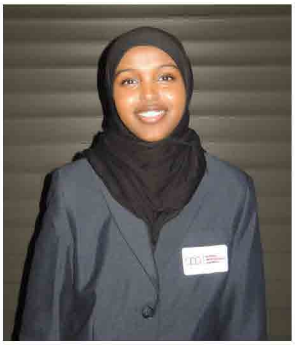
LILLIAN LETOURNEAUT
MAYO HIGH SCHOOL

I am Lillian Letourneaut, a Region 3 BPA competitor. BPA has taught me numerous skills, including research, presentation, technology use, and communication. As state officer, I would work to spread the various skills BPA has to offer by performing outreach to secondary schools in Minnesota, and by spotlighting less popular events internally to promote participation in all parts of BPA. Using my BPA skills, and those acquired through leadership in my own community, I strive to improve the quality of students' BPA experience by showcasing all of its opportunities. By highlighting everything BPA has to offer, our impact is amplified.

MAKENZIE MACK
PARK RAPIDS HIGH SCHOOL

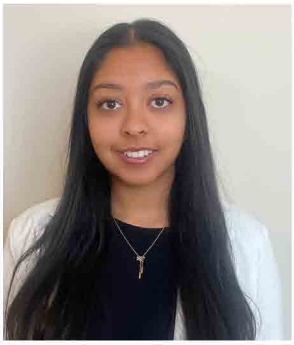
Hello! I'm Makenzie Mack and I'm excited to have the opportunity to help build the future of MN BPA and all its members. My goal is to give members the chance to make connections, build life long skills, and prepare for their futures while strengthening MN BPA as a whole. Though these things may seem daunting, I realize that they are important for building ourselves as individuals and leaders. I am eager to help everyone build confidence, skills, connections, and prepare this generation's youth to become great leaders and shape the future. Let's work together to amplify our impact!

SIHAAM SHEIKH-ALI
TARTAN HIGH SCHOOL



Hello, Minnesota BPA members. My name is Sihaam, and BPA has played a major role in my growth as a student and leader. Through competitions, leadership roles, and service, I have learned how to step up, listen to others, and follow through. BPA is more than events and awards. It's a place where members find confidence and community. As a state officer, I would work to strengthen communication, increase member involvement, and make sure every chapter feels heard and supported. I am ready to serve Minnesota BPA with commitment, integrity, and purpose.

ANUSHKAA SINHA
BLAINE HIGH SCHOOL



My name is Anushkaa Sinha. I am excited to help all MN BPA members AIM, ACT, and ACHIEVE! Over the past two years, I have had the honor of competing at regional, state, and national conferences, which has built my experience in networking, leadership, and professional skills. I want all members to have the opportunity to gain these valuable skills within a supportive and inclusive BPA community. As a state officer, I will increase mentorship between members and establish career-building opportunities for all professions so members can be prepared not only for their events but for their future careers.

JASON SMITH
EAST RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

Hello, I am Ania Sysengchanh-Gilbert, a Junior at Osseo Senior High, and I am committed to helping members grow and succeed through leadership, networking, and professional development. Through my experience in BPA and other Leadership roles, I have built strong skills in communication, teamwork, and problem-solving, which I plan to use to make a positive impact. My goal includes expanding engagement both within and outside of BPA, creating more opportunities for members to be involved, and empowering one another to reach our full potential. Together, we can strengthen BPA, uplift every member, and ensure that everyone's voice is heard.

GENEVIEVE STARKSON
TRITON HIGH SCHOOL

Hi Minnesota BPA! My name is Genevieve Starkson and I'm a junior at Triton. I am so excited to continue my BPA journey through state candidacy this year! If I became a state officer my top priorities would be to increase BPA member engagement at SLC, developing sponsorship relations, and create new opportunities to explore the "after highschool" experience. For example, developing a job/business fair at SLC so business can offer advice and coaching to our awesome members! I hope to create a fun and motivating place to compete. I promise to make Minnesota BPA proud!

ANIA SYSENGCHANH-GILBERT
OSSEO HIGH SCHOOL

Hello, I am Ania Sysengchanh-Gilbert, a Junior at Osseo Senior High, and I am committed to helping members grow and succeed through leadership, networking, and professional development. Through my experience in BPA and other Leadership roles, I have built strong skills in communication, teamwork, and problem-solving, which I plan to use to make a positive impact. My goal includes expanding engagement both within and outside of BPA, creating more opportunities for members to be involved, and empowering one another to reach our full potential. Together, we can strengthen BPA, uplift every member, and ensure that everyone's voice is heard.

FAAEZA WAKO
OSSEO HIGH SCHOOL

Hello BPA! My name is Faaeza Wako, a junior at Osseo High School. I'm running for state officer because of the profound bond that has grown between me and the club. As a future state officer, I hope to expand BPA's purpose to grow a diverse, inclusive community, and strengthen our current one. As a second year BPA member, I've had the privilege of managing our chapter's social media accounts, fostering a positive environment for new members, and gaining new experiences at the state level. I'm very excited and honored for this opportunity and I hope to have your vote!