

**BPA Texas
Association**

Regional Leadership Conferences Edition

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Regional Conferences Galore!

It's that time of the year where regions of Business Professionals of America Texas Association hold their annual Regional Leadership Conferences and what an exciting time of year it is! The experience your chapter gains at the leadership conference ultimately sets the tone for the rest of the year. For example, if a chapter has a record number of winners at RLC heading to SLC, the chapter is more motivated to fundraise and help one another study for their competitions. In this edition of the BPA Texas newsletter, I will inform you of some ways you can prepare for SLC either in an individual or team competition. Also featured in this edition will be photos of chapters at their RLCs from around Texas, I hope you enjoy this edition of our Newsletter!

Best Regards,

Cristian Martinez

Cristian Martinez, State Reporter

What to look forward to in this Issue:

- Learn more on how to effectively work as a team.
- How to effectively prepare for an individual event.
- Need help speaking in public?
- Oh State Leadership Conference, how we love thee!



No “I” in “Team”

When in a team competition, it is important to remember that you are as strong as your weakest link. If a member of the group is having a hard time understanding a concept in the event, then it should be the responsibility of the team to help that individual so the whole team can benefit. Usually when working in a team, the needs of the team come before the wants of the individuals, as it should be. Therefore, when participating in a team, remember the following:

- You are as strong as your weakest link.
- Needs before wants, and selflessness above individual attention.
- Every team member has a voice, so remember to listen.

- An opinion should not be taken as a criticism, but an opportunity to fix an error.
- A team will only succeed if each member does his/her part.
- Emphasize and encourage each other’s strengths.
- The foundation of a team is the ability to cooperate with one another and help each other succeed and overcome challenges.



Working in a team can be fun and challenging at the same time, but remember, you come together in an effort to accomplish your goals and ambitions, so make it an experience, not a chore.

Visit TEXASBPA.ORG for the latest information on SLC 2012!

Individual Tips

If you are in an individual event, it can be stressful at times to make sure that you have taken the appropriate measures to win your competition, I have some advice for those who are participating in Individual Events at SLC, because being alone, doesn’t mean you don’t have support. Practice the following tips to ensure success in your event and life as well:

- Study, study, study, going into a room with no knowledge equals you being eliminated.
- Take deep breaths and relax if you will be delivering a presentation.

- Drink some water to calm your nerves and ensure that you don’t have what is called “Dry Mouth,” during a presentation.
- A judge’s bark is stronger than their bite, don’t over stress the situation, HAVE FUN!

BPA is meant to be a fun educational experience, remember to have fun and enjoy networking with new and exciting individuals!



What's Up With SLC?!

This year's SLC will be fast paced and is geared up and ready to go. As the Regional Contests in Texas finish up, the journey from Texas to Chicago has just begun. At this year's SLC, things will be taken back to a whole new level, or should I say "Day and Age." This year at the Special Event in Dallas, we will be having a costume contest! The rules are that you must wear clothing from the 60s, 70s and 80s and wear your conference T-Shirt. Participants have a chance to win cool prizes and show off just how "hip" they are. For more information head over to TEXASBPA.COM today!

Members, don't forget to sign up for the Texas Intern Program before you head to SLC. Head over to TEXASBPA.COM for procedures on how to be a part of the Intern Program. The program has grown vastly over the last three years and we are hoping to see an even more active member body at SLC in Dallas! It's a fun and great way to experience Dallas and the Sheraton Hotel!



Running for State Office

As my last year as a state officer for Texas BPA, I would like to give advice to those running for officer at this year's SLC. If you follow the bulleted points below, you will have an even more efficient campaign and awesome campaign rally:

- READ THE OFFICER HANDBOOK!
- DON'T make any inappropriate remarks in your speech or make changes.
- Keep track of all of your expenses, from donated items to bought items.
- Remember, you need to list glue in your expense sheet.
- List stands and placeholders in expense sheet as well.

Running for office is an experience you will never forget, whether you lose or win, remember to always remain calm and never let nerves get the best of you. Your campaign manager should always be near you to support you and calm you down before your speech, your campaign rally and your interview. If you win, you have the most rewarding experience to look forward to, remember to always listen and respect those leaders in higher ranking and support the mission of Business Professionals of America, after all, that's why you chose to run for office, to be a part of something bigger than yourself and serve one another, this is the best part of being a leader.

