



2019 TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit Press Release

The _____ chapter of Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE) attended the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit at new The Delta Hotel and Watters Creek Convention Center, in Allen, TX, February 28 – March 2, 2019. TAFE is a statewide co-curricular Career and Technical Student Organization created to allow young men and women an opportunity to explore the teaching profession. Attendees to this three-day conference included members of TAFE, which consisted of approximately 2,300 students, interested in becoming educators. The conference gave these students the opportunity to meet others from around the state with the same interests, gain an understanding of what it takes to be a successful college student, and learn the skills necessary for becoming a successful educator. This was the third year to have the annual conference at a university. Having the conference on a university campus opens many more opportunities for our student members.

This year's conference theme was "Discover the Magic in Teaching!" The students learned that all successful teachers have a bag of tricks. Master Magician, Billy Riggs used comedy and magic to help future educators discover the tricks that they will, one day, be able to use in their teaching. His message challenged the students to develop their leadership skills and continue to put more tricks in their bag because there are thousands of students out there that need them. Students were also inspired "to be the best version of themselves by unleashing their full potential and discovering their higher purpose" by Nick Jackson.

TAFE's mission is to encourage students to learn about careers in education and assist them in exploring the teaching profession while promoting character, service, and leadership skills necessary for becoming effective educators. The meeting featured a series of breakout sessions and general sessions in which members had opportunities to develop these skills.

While at the conference, many of the members participated in competitive events. The competitive events are designed to offer future educators exciting, authentic opportunities to measure their creativity, skills, and initiative against high standards and against their peers from across the state. There are 35 competitive events and 18 of those events advance to nationals. The students who placed in the top 5 in each of the national events have the opportunity to advance to the Educators Rising National Conference, June 22-25, 2019, in Dallas, Texas.

On Saturday afternoon, the new officer team for 2019-2020 was elected to continue the mission of TAFE and to inspire "The Hope for Tomorrow."

"It is my hope that the students left the conference with a greater understanding of the education field, a clear vision of how to get into college to pursue their dreams, and knowledge of what it takes to be successful in college," Donita Garza, TAFE State Program Director.