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What is Future Business Leaders of America?

MVFBLA is the Monta Vista High School chapter of FBLA-PBL Inc., the largest student-run organization in the world dedicated to promoting business education and career skills at the high school level. In addition to business education, FBLA-PBL encourages members to participate actively in serving their community, through their American Enterprise and Community Service projects.



MVFBLA has had a long tradition of excellence, and we have the ranking to prove it. At the 2009 National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California, MVFBLA was ranked #2 overall for its competitive events program. Our projects program is ranked #1 in California, winning first place for American Enterprise and Community Service and second place for the Partnership with Business project. One state-level officer for the 2009-2010 school year is from MVFBLA, in addition to two section-level officers. Our alumni have gone on to attend prestigious schools, including the **University of California Berkeley**, the Wharton School at the **University of Pennsylvania**, **Brown University**, **Stanford University** and **Princeton University**.

Chapter History

Monta Vista FBLA has grown to become one of the most influential clubs on campus since its conception in 1986. With well over a hundred members today, MVFBLA takes its place as one of the largest organizations on campus. Our chapter has excelled in its competitive events program, and has reached international prestige with a second place ranking. Our projects are nationally recognized for their success each year the National Leadership Conference, most recently with the Partnership with Business project placing 5th in 2009.

In addition to our high rankings, our members have been elected to office at the section and state level, demonstrating our member's unique capacity for leadership. In 2008, Alice Lee was elected to become the Bay Section President, along with Crystal Yan as Bay Section Secretary in the same year. In the following year, Panos Kanellakopoulos was elected as California State Secretary-Treasurer, along with Angela Gu serving as Bay Section Secretary and Eric Wong serving as Bay Section Parliamentarian.



Many of our officers hold leadership positions in other organizations on campus, including the Associated Student Body government, applying the leadership skills they learn in MVFBLA. Many of our members are members of the variety of honor societies on campus and participate actively in community service. Our name is easily recognizable on campus, both among the student body and the staff, for its dedication to excellence and social responsibility. In fact, MVFBLA is consistently selected to help operate school-wide projects, such as bond measure promotion or selling water at the annual graduation ceremony.

Alumni

MVFBLA is known for our alumni heading off to prestigious universities. Here are some examples of those alumni.



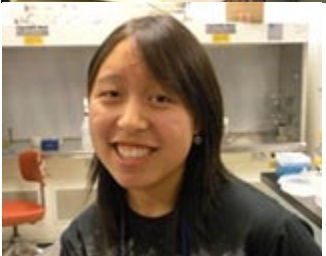
Alice C. Lee
University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business
 Economics Major
 Section President, Bay Section FBLA



Connie Wu
Brown University Medical School
 Chapter President, Monta Vista FBLA
 (Also held ASB Secretary officership)



Evelyn Shaw
University of California, Berkeley
 Anthropology Major
 Chapter President, Monta Vista FBLA



Christine Chang
Stanford University
 VP Projects, Monta Vista FBLA

Competitions

A core part of MVFBLA is our competitive events program. Applying a variety of skills in business or information technology related fields, members compete in over 50 different competitions at the section, state, and national level. Competition topics range from developing business plans and management decision making to parliamentary procedure and desktop application programming.

MVFBLA prides itself on our competitive excellence. Throughout the nation, our chapter is well-known for its performance, and has consistently performed well. In 2009, our chapter sent 35 delegates to the National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, California - that's more than the delegates from some **states**.



From the beginning, competitors are given guidance and instruction on how to best approach the often-daunting topics of their competitions. Experienced competitors mentor new ones in the skills of writing business plans and presenting financial data, and workshops are held to teach competitors new skills they need for their competitions. While preparing for the presentation phase of their competition, competitors present to the competitions officer team who give critique and suggestions for improving their speaking and presentation skills. This process has led us to our member's extraordinary performance.

Projects

Partnership with Business

Each year MVFBLA partners up with one business in a symbiotic relationship. Our members help the business grow and develop by participating marketing and other aspects of business, and in return they gain real-world experience with how a business operates. Past partnerships have included iStudyToGo, where members helped conduct market research, product quality assurance, and conduct sales; Russel Leong Design, where members designed and sold their own greeting cards; and most recently, NASA, where members are working closely with the Entrepreneurial Initiative to develop business plans that turn cutting-edge patents into marketable products.



American Enterprise

The American Enterprise project seeks to educate the public about America's free-market system. Each year, MVFBLA members plan and execute a project that achieves this purpose. Past projects have included Simply Biz-E, where MVFBLA members held business etiquette workshops for the community, and social business plan development, in which members educated the community about the various aspects of social businesses. Through the American Enterprise project, members of both MVFBLA and the community become more knowledgeable about the capitalist system that enables entrepreneurship in our country.



Community Service

Every great business leader always remembers to give back to the community. MVFBLA fosters this spirit of contribution through the Community Service project. Each year, the chapter plans and implements a unique project to benefit the community in some way. Past projects have included teaching ESL classes, a campaign to promote healthy living, and a community art canvas.

Aside from the benefits to the community that this project provides, it also gives MVFBLA members experience in hands-on planning and leadership. By participating in the various project committees, either as leads or members, our members can gain a unique experience in planning community service projects that is unparalleled with any other organization on campus.

FBLA vs. DECA

FBLA and DECA are the two business clubs on campus, both amongst the leading chapters in the nation. It is said that the "only gangfight you'll ever see at Monta Vista is between FBLA and DECA," and while this is an exaggeration obviously, there is some fierce rivalry between the two organizations.

For the most part, FBLA and DECA offer similar quality events and experiences. However, in addition to competitions, MVFBLA has a strong projects team that has in the past created its own projects, in the Community Service, American Enterprise, and Partnership with Business areas. Anyone can become a project lead, including freshmen. Projects provide an excellent opportunity to get involved in MVFBLA and gain leadership experience. Past projects include teaching ESL classes, teaching business to Kennedy Middle School students, partnering with Russell Leong Design, and Healthy Life Campaign.

Comparison Chart



Website	http://www.mvfbla.org	http://www.mvdeca.org
Competitive Events	50+	40+
Competitive Focus	General career skills and business including technology, individual oral, individual written, team oral, and team written	Marketing, business plans, business research

Conferences

Leadership Conference	Leadership Development Institute (LDI)	Leadership Development Conference (LDC)
Local Conference	Bay Section Leadership Conference (BSLC)	Northern California Career Development Conference (NCCDC)
State Conference	California State Leadership Conference (CASLC)	California Career Development Conference (CACDC)
National Competitions	National Leadership Conference (NLC) - Attended by members from the US in addition to Canada, Peurto Rico, and a number of countries in Europe	International Career Development Conference (ICDC) - Attended by members from the US in addition to Canada, Mexico, and Guam
Conference Times	Usually during weekends, may miss 1-2 days for SLC. NLC is held during the summer.	Conferences held during school days and miss around average of 4-7 days per year. ICDC is held before AP testing.

Club Information

Meeting Times	Thursdays, Lunch	Wednesdays, Lunch
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Study Sessions Saturdays

Saturdays

Prelims

Interviews for oral competitors and written tests
for written competitors

No prelims

Get In Touch – Contact Us!

You can reach us for general questions and inquiries by emailing pr@mvfbla.org.

Our website is www.mvfbla.org - you can learn more about Monta Vista Future Business Leaders of America there.

We look forward to hearing from you!