

## Washington Leadership Academy

### Leadership Activities

By Mike Brode, National HOSA President

Participants worked tirelessly and challenged themselves for an exciting four days in our Nation's Capital! Participants were able to learn how to better lead both their state and local affiliations through excellent instruction by members of TRI Leadership Development. HOSA leaders developed skills ranging from professionalism to how to develop quality goals to advance their state and chapter. Not only did the participants learn skills, but they also learned about their individual strengths and areas for growth. After attending the Washington Leadership Academy, HOSA leaders developed the necessary knowledge to be outstanding leaders for an exceptional HOSA year.



### Meeting with Representatives

By Claire Lucas, National President-Elect

During WLA, state officers experienced the greatness of Washington D.C. while learning how to better themselves as leaders. On the final day of the conference, the officers took to the Hill to meet with their congressmen and senators. There, HOSA leaders expressed the importance HOSA plays in their lives and the many benefits of HR 2946. This was a remarkable opportunity, as HOSA leaders and national leaders were in the same room discussing the same topic: health care. Senators and Congressmen were enthused to learn more about HOSA as it is preparing students to be the promising future of our health care system. State officers found it to be a true privilege to share the purpose of HOSA with our nation's leaders on Capitol Hill.



### The Quest

By Frank Berdos, Postsecondary/Collegiate Vice President

HOSA State Officers and advisors took to the National Mall as they embarked on the Quest for Leadership. The State Officers were split into groups and began a scavenger hunt through Washington's most historical sites. They visited the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, the Smithsonian Museums, the White House, and a many more! The bigger picture of the Quest was for the State Officers to put the leadership skills they were taught to work. They each had to work together to figure out how to progress through the quest. The officers showed great teamwork and had a great time!



### "What WLA Meant to Me"

By Nathalie Figueroa, Florida State President-Elect

As the book of history remains open, the future is still unwritten. The days in Washington D.C. gave me the opportunity to get in touch with my country's history of travails and accomplishments. However, the Leadership Academy inspired me to act upon everything I do as if limits were nonexistent. This experience has become a factor of motivation – a motivation to carry medicine to great heights through HOSA and for the improvement of all that sustains life through health care. Memories for the HOSA dream teams of 2009-2010 truly began in D.C.

