

# SEAN Scene

Student Education Association of Nebraska - September 2012

A large crowd of people is gathered at a conference. In the background, a large stage features a central star-shaped logo with the text "NEA WE EDUCATE AMERICA" and "nea" below it. Two large portraits of smiling individuals are displayed on either side of the stage. The crowd in the foreground is diverse, with some people wearing blue shirts and others in red shirts, one of which has "EAT CAKE!" written on it. The overall atmosphere is busy and professional.

**SEAN goes to Washington,  
D.C. for Student  
Leadership Conference and  
Representative Assembly**

# On the Cover...

From June 26 - 29 Student leaders went to Washington D.C. for the annual Student Leadership Conference

The week began with a free day for the students. We were able to tour some of the city.

From June 30 to July 6 the annual National Education Association Resident Assembly was held. Students, Teachers, and Retired members from around the country met to discuss today's issues in education.



Student Education Association of Nebraska  
605 S. 14th Street  
Suite 200  
Lincoln, NE 68508-2742  
<http://nsea.org/members/sean/index.htm>  
(800) 742-0047  
(402) 475-7611

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2012-2013 SEAN Executive Team:

President- Megan Brown

[seanpres@nsea.org](mailto:seanpres@nsea.org)

Vice-President- Ryan Evans

Secretary- Devin Garcia

[skbshooter@gmail.com](mailto:skbshooter@gmail.com)

Underclass Representative- Rae Carbough

Western Region Representative- Jill Kimbrough

Southeast Region Representative- Abbie Gabel

Northeast Region Representative- Gwen Moore

Metro Region Representative-

UniServ Directors

Gary Osborn

Mike Wiesen

Associate Staff

Tamra Mick





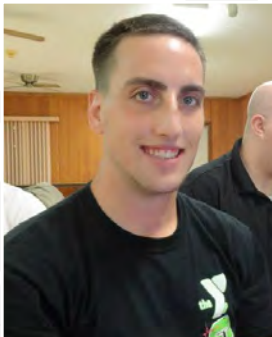
# MEET YOUR REPRESENTATIVES



NEA-SP Chairperson  
David Tjaden  
University of Iowa



SEAN President  
Megan Brown  
Peru State College



SEAN Vice-President  
Ryan Evans  
Peru State College

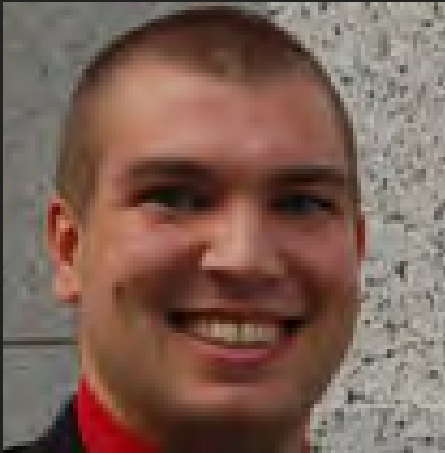


SEAN Secretary  
Devin Garcia  
Peru State College



SEAN Underclass Rep  
Rae Carbaugh  
Peru State College

# WORDS FROM THE NEA-SP CHAIR



Hello everyone! My name is David Tjaden and I am the Chairperson of the National Education Association-Student Program. I would like to welcome you all to another school year and as a member of the Student Education Association of Nebraska (SEAN) and the NEA-Student Program. I am very excited for what we can accomplish as leaders and future educators over this upcoming school year and I look forward to working with you on the state and local level to partake in community outreach, increasing civic and political

action, and continuing to prepare to be the upcoming generation of teachers!

All over the country local campus chapters are working with schools and communities, doing everything from service projects to tutoring and volunteering, and also having sessions, seminars, and panel discussions to get the resources it takes to be great teachers. As a SEAN and NEA-Student Program member I want to highly encourage you to become involved on your campus, become a leader and take every opportunity you can to be an active member. Year after year we see our active student leaders enter the classroom as some of the best prepared teachers coming into the profession. I encourage you to contact your local and state leaders to see how you can become further involved.

Want to get more involved in making sure that our student voice is heard in the 2012 election? Interested in keeping up on all the politics that will affect you as a future classroom teacher? Learn more about holding a Voter Commitment event on your campus by contacting me at [dtjaden@nea.org](mailto:dtjaden@nea.org), and stay informed by visiting the Education Votes website ([www.educationvotes.org](http://www.educationvotes.org)).

I continue to encourage you to be informed, be involved, and be a leader! You can contact your state and local leaders for more information, but also know that you are always free to contact me directly (information below).

Welcome again to the NEA-Student Program and SEAN; I look forward to working with you throughout the school year!

David Tjaden  
Chairperson, National Education Association-Student Program

# WORDS FROM THE SEAN PRESIDENT



Greetings SEAN members! My name is Megan Brown; I am your 2012-2013 SEAN President. Below are questions and answers to get to know me better. If you have any questions of your own, please e-mail me at [megan.brown0914@gmail.com](mailto:megan.brown0914@gmail.com).

What are the duties of the SEAN president?

As the Student Education Association of Nebraska (SEAN) president my duties include: to preside at all state Executive Committee meetings of SEAN, including our yearly business meeting the Delegate Assembly; to appoint committees, make specific assignments of Executive Committee members, and appoint appropriate observers to Nebraska State Education Association (NSEA) committees, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee; to accept responsibilities and commitments requested by our affiliate organizations; to be responsible for contacting each chapter in the state periodically during the year; to be spokesperson-at-large for SEAN; to serve as a member of the NSEA Board of Directors; and to be representative to National Education Association – Student Program (NEA-SP) national meetings. I have numerous duties as the SEAN president; however, more than anything it is my most sincere goal to ensure that our members are provided with high quality opportunities, activities, and events at the state level that empowers them to be even better teacher candidates.

What advice would you give to new members or those thinking about joining?

I think all members of our group have special skills, thoughts, and unique perspectives to bring to the group. The collective action of individuals who take ownership of our group is what makes our organization great. When I was a freshman at Peru State College (PSC), I knew that I wanted to join an organization through which I could give back to my community and learn to be a better teacher. At the time I joined, the Peru Student Education Association was planning its annual Dr. Seuss Birthday Bash and that got me hooked. The spring semester of my freshman year I became PSEA Media Officer and was elected SEAN Underclass Representative. Since my freshman year I have held a position at the local and state level and won two national awards, the NEA-SP Jeffery J.D. Miller Outstanding Underclassman Award and the NEA-SP Outstanding Local Leader Award.

It was by taking on one small leadership role that I was able to grow as a leader, future educator, and accomplish great things. Having a stellar resume and attending expenses paid trips to New Orleans, Chicago, and Washington D.C. are incredible perks to being active in our organization. However, those perks cannot compare to the sense of achievement I feel and the amazing friendships I cherish with association members from across the nation.



# Student Leadership Conference

## Washington D.C.

Contributing Writer  
*Ryan Evans*

The executive committee, after being elected at the March 2012 SEAN Delegate Assembly flew out to Washington D.C. to attend the National Education Association-Student Program SLC. Along with the committee were freshman of the year award winner, Katie Bennet, and



the R.A. delegates, Devin Garcia, Megan Brown, and Arnold Adams. The week started off with minimal sleep for most of the group as we stayed up anxious for the trip and throwing out ideas for the upcoming year.

Our week kicked off with an early morning flight on June 26th. After landing and finding out hotel, we all had the day to adventure and sight see in D.C. with our group. Events kicked off that Tuesday night with registration and icecream at the NEA building. Students from all over the Nation gathered to come together and

begin bonding. Some of SEAN's executive committee went to SLC last year in Chicago, IL and were able to see friends in D.C. from the Chicago event. There were new faces all around though, and new friends to be made.

Wednesday was an event filled day. The NEA-SP Outreach to Teach event took place this day. All of the student members as well as advisors rode the bus to a nearby Maryland school. Howard Johnson Middle School was the site for this past summer's Outreach to Teach event. There was a lot of work to be done in the one day's worth of time. We started early that day and started working quickly. There were many projects to be done and team work was the key to completing everything on time. Some projects were bigger than others and some smaller projects took quite a while to complete. These projects required a lot of patience, hard work, and cooperation to complete. The whole day was filled with fun, cleaning, conversations, and hard work. At the end of the day, one massive cleanup and run-through was completed in order to make sure that no messes were left for the custodians to clean up.

With the end of a few NEA-SP offices campaigning and elections needed to be taken place on Thursday. A new NEA-SP chair person was the biggest position to be filled. After campaigning and speeches David Tjaden was elected as our new NEA-SP chairperson. Information was also given out for members to have the ability to apply for advisory committee as well as other committees for the upcoming school year.

Along with campaigning and elections, break-out sessions were held Thursday to help promote ideas and ways to build membership, getting people to vote, and others. We also had a Future Educators Association member speak to our association. These sessions were very informative about our association and what could be done at the state and local levels for the association. At the conclusion to Thursday's events, directions were given for students to attend the intergenerational dance. This dance was for student members, advisors, and NEA-Retired members. It was fun to sit and talk with some of the NEA-Retired members and compare how things were done in the past to how they are done now. It was also fun to dance and relax.

Friday's events included an awards ceremony for all different levels and parts of the association including, outstanding state newsletter, outstanding advisor, and many other awards. The executive committee then went back to the airport for the flight home.

All in all, the week was a complete success, and fun for everyone involved.



# NEA Representative Assembly

## Washington D.C.

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Contributing Writers  
Devin Garcia  
and L.A. Adams

Megan Brown, L.A. Adams, and Devin Garcia represented SEAN at the NEA-Representative Assembly (RA). These three students were selected by their peers to represent the state of Nebraska during the conference. During these 5 days the students had many long nights and early mornings. The students had to board the metro to change hotels, from the SLC hotel to the Nebraska RA hotel, on the first morning.

During the conference the students had the opportunity to work side by side with many other veteran teachers from the state and nation. In the morning the students attended state caucus meetings before heading to the convention center for RA itself. During the caucus meetings new business items, amendments to the constitution, new resolutions, and candidates for office were discussed.

The first day of the RA included registration, getting credentials, and looking at NEA exhibits. The first day the students got to the convention center they checked in to get their badge and credentials. There was even an interactive classroom which had new technology tools that the students could see firsthand. In another part of the convention center were groups selling products to raise money for the NEA PAC fund.

Throughout the next four days the students attended their daily caucus meetings in the hotel then headed across town to the convention center for the RA. When inside, the representatives from each state were welcomed each morning by NEA president Dennis Van Roekel. There were several RA speakers including Vice President Joe Biden and his wife Dr. Jill Biden. The students also had the opportunity to hear President Barak Obama address the representative assembly through a telephone conference call. The national teacher of the year Rebecca Mieliwocki also addressed the delegates during the conference.



Other events during the assembly allowed the delegates the opportunity to sign the “Bully Free Starts With Me” pledge. Everyone of the Nebraska students took this pledge. The delegates also had the opportunity to sign up for the Educators for Obama campaign to help in the re-election of current President Barak Obama. The students also attended the student program caucus that was led by president Tommie Leaders of University of Nebraska at Omaha. The newly elected student program president David Tjaden also spoke to the student delegates at this conference.

While at the conference the delegates voted on new business items, Constitutional amendments, and election of officers. The students found this to be a very rewarding trip and brought a bountiful amount of information back to the students in Nebraska.



# Save these Dates!

## NOVEMBER

**Election Day!**

November 6, 2012

Go VOTE!!!

## FEBRUARY

**Spring Conference**

February 22-23, 2013

TBA

## APRIL

**Delegate Assembly**

April 6, 2013

NSEA Building; Lincoln, NE







## Southeast Region

Abbie Gabel - Doane College, Nebraska

Wesleyan University, Peru State College, University of Nebraska at Lincoln



## Metro Region

Tommie Leaders - College of Saint Mary,

Creighton University, Grace University, University of Nebraska at Omaha



## Western Region

Jill Kimbrough - Chadron State College, Hastings

College, Mid-Plains Community College, University of Nebraska at Kearney



## Northeast Region

Gwen Moore - Midland Lutheran University,

Northeast Community College, Wayne State College

# DO YOU KNOW YOUR REGION REPRESENTATIVES?

It's crucial for you to know your SEAN Representatives and them to know you. Take the time to get to know your Rep so we can facilitate open communication from state to local levels.



# Rock the Vote!

## Support Candidates who Support Education

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Contributing Writer  
*Megan Brown*

Regardless of what side of the political spectrum you find yourself, this fact prevails: the results of the election will directly impact education. Even more applicable to future educators is the climate in the field of education in which we will be seeking jobs upon graduation.

I challenge you. Take the few seconds it takes to type in the following link, find your district, and read the Nebraska State Education Association information regarding our association's endorsed candidates.

<http://www.nsea.org/2012-candidates>

If you do not know in which district you are registered to vote, either A) look at your voter registration card, or B) check out this site!

[http://nebraskalegislature.gov/about/leg\\_map.php](http://nebraskalegislature.gov/about/leg_map.php)

Regardless of your political party affiliation, I urge you to look at the candidates and critically analyze their platforms and their stances on issues surrounding public education. From your school board race to the national presidential candidates, find out how they prioritize teachers and quality education in comparison to other topics.

If you are not registered to vote, you NEED to get it done! The election is a short time away and the young vote of future educators can make a difference. We have the ability to collectively take a stand for public education and elect politicians who will support policies that promote our mission to provide a quality education to every child. Join us in our efforts to prove that the National Education Association - Student Program is a force not to be underestimated.

Part of SEAN's Rock the Vote! campaign is to incorporate and spread information regarding the Election Protection app and website.

<http://www.866ourvote.org/>

Make sure you and your friends vote via absentee ballot or on the momentous November 6, 2012. Be an advocate for quality public education and make your vote count as a voice for your future job, community, and students.

**ELECTION PROTECTION** **YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE**



# SNAPSHOTS FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.



(L-R): LA Adams, Ryan Evans, Jill Kimbrough, Gary Osborn, Megan Brown, Devin Garcia



(L-R): Gwen Moore, Megan Brown, Jill Kimbrough



(L-R): Katie Bennet and Megan Brown



The LA Adams