



THE REPORTER

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YOUR GUIDE TO YOUR HAPPILY EVER AFTER

BY SIDNEY ROPP

Less than four months currently separate now and the highly-anticipated 2020 IASC State Convention, hosted this year by Collinsville High School at the Wyndham City Centre in Springfield, IL. The convention is the official business meeting of the IASC, featuring candidate elections, prominent keynote speakers, student breakout sessions, and more. This year's convention is shaping up to be our most exciting convention ever, and we promise that you won't want to miss it!

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

MADELEINE BRASS



I hope all is well with you, your school, and your council! With 2020 upon us, the IASC Executive Board has been hard at work, specifically on our near approaching 86th Annual State Convention. We couldn't be more excited and hope you too are looking forward to finding and pursuing "Your Happily Ever After" at State! This year, convention is May 7-9 at the Wyndham Springfield City Centre in Springfield, Illinois. Not only do students get the chance to meet new people and gather new ideas, there are also several fabulous and motivating speakers lined up

for the weekend! State Convention is the opportunity for student leaders across Illinois to come together, reflect on the past year, and be inspired for the next! It is nearly impossible to leave State without gaining some knowledge and some lasting memories. I hope you and your school can join me this year at Convention! Registration can be found on our website. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or my fellow board members!

Another way we come together as a state is through our state service project. This will be our third year helping the organization "Let it Be Us." This is a foster care organization, and the IASC plays a role by both creating school supply backpacks for foster students and by collecting money for a college-age student to get tangible educational needs like a computer or books. Whether your school participated last year or not, challenge yourself and your school to participate this year because this project truly makes a DIRECT difference in foster students' lives. And of course, it is important for us all to remember that EVERY donation helps a child. As leaders, some of the greatest impacts we make are through our service towards others, and I hope you and your school decide to participate! More information can be found on the website, and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have!

As we move through second semester and approach convention, keep in mind this year's theme: "Your Happily Ever After." We all have goals, hopes, and dreams—we all have a "happily ever after"—and inevitably that means we all have something in the way of us reaching them. Whether these obstacles are produced by others, our environment, or self-made, focus on what you can control, and tackle the things in your way. Leaders understand that the path to their goal may be difficult, but they never stop pursuing. I hope that within these next few months you all can reach a new level of your leadership, accomplish a goal, or even just get one step closer. Although it takes effort, I truly believe you can do it! As student leaders, let's work towards the "happily ever after" for our schools, our projects, our leadership, and our state!

YOUR GUIDE TO YOUR *happily ever after*

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Because May can be a very stressful time for both students and teachers, we want to help make your preparation for convention as seamless and easy as possible. Throughout the next two pages, you will find a myriad of resources designed to simplify the registration process and to answer any lingering questions you may have about this event. We can't wait to see you this spring, IASC!

CONVENTION CHECKLIST **(before march 25)**

- book hotel rooms**
- register for convention on the iasc website**
- print confirmation form and obtain signatures**
- obtain check for specified amount**
- complete hotel listing form**
- return signed documents to host school**

students should also complete both a medical release form and iasc code of conduct before arriving at convention on may 7.

YOUR GUIDE TO YOUR

happily ever after

speaker preview



JUDSON LAIPPLY

After getting his Master's Degree in 2000, Judson Laipply has been entertaining and educating audiences all over the globe. With energy and engagement, comedy and content, wit and wisdom Judson provides keynotes and trainings that are as enjoyable as they are impactful. Helping people and organizations deal with and create change while reminding them about the importance of growth and evolving Judson gives tangible actions items and thought provoking insights into sustained success and joy.

CARA FILLER

Cara Filler is driven to inspire. For more than twenty years, Cara has shared her powerful positive leadership and prevention programs with more than two million people in five countries. She has become one of the most sought after female motivational speakers in her field. She empowers students, teachers, parents and complete strangers to make everyday choices count. Why? Because if it causes just one person to care more, speak up, and stand out, it's all worth it!



stay tuned for more information about this year's state convention in upcoming editions of the reporter. please visit our official state convention website at <https://illinoisstuco.org/convention/> for further details regarding convention registration and schedules.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

who's running to be a part of the 2020-2021 board?

PRESIDENT

JAYKOB ARCHER: cumberland high school,
recommended

DANIEL SLOAN: taylorville high school, recommended

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

ANNA FREEDLUND: byron high school, highly
recommended

CAMRYN PICKEN: midwest central high school, highly
recommended

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

NO CANDIDATES CURRENTLY RUNNING

SECRETARY

CARLY TOWLE: sullivan high school, highly
recommended

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

JOHN JOHNSON: newton community high school,
highly recommended

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

ADILYN MCCRAY: windsor high school, recommended

SHOP IASC

The IASC Leadership Store first opened this past fall, selling an array of IASC attire to students and advisers throughout the state. Following its immense success, we've decided to open the store once again to allow for more apparel orders before State Convention! While the website has a multitude of options, below are a few of our favorite pieces from the online store. Be sure to order your apparel today at <https://stores.inksoft.com/stucoleadership/> by March 1, 2020.



gildan heavy blend crewneck sweatshirt

\$18



gildan heavy blend hooded sweatshirt

\$23



ladies zephyr full-zip jacket

\$30



microfleece jacket

\$35

WHAT'S NEXT?

your guide to all things IASC

february 1, 2020:

honor council applications due

march 1, 2020:

iasc leadership store orders due

march 13-15, 2020:

rescheduled advanced workshop

may 6, 2020:

**state board meeting at wyndam
springfield city centre in springfield**

may 7-9, 2020:

**state convention at wyndam springfield
city centre in springfield**

june 19-21, 2020:

**region 6 vision conference in las
cruces, new mexico**

SERVICE PROJECT

SPOTLIGHT: *Let It Be Us*

Out of every state across America, Illinois ranks dead last in foster care. It's a statistic far too staggering to ignore, and that's why the IASC has selected Let It Be Us as our 2019-2020 service project: to help change the lives of children in our foster care system throughout the state. Let It Be Us founder Susan A. McConnell wrote the following message to further emphasize why this cause is so important:

"At Let It Be Us, our child specific recruitment tools offer customized solutions for each child referred to us, ensuring their placement in well matched, safe and loving homes. Our work is evidence based and has been applauded by stakeholders in child welfare...I founded Let It Be Us from the statistics of the University of Chicago's Chapin Hall study of children in foster care in the Midwest and those who age out of foster care combined with the fact that Illinois ranks last in the nation at achieving permanency for her children in foster care and also ranks last in the nation at achieving adoption for her waiting children...Thank you for your interest in Let It Be Us. We are the first nonprofit organization of our kind in Illinois and, I believe, the nation. Our work not only changes the lives of the children we serve; it benefits generations to come."

With that being said, IASC is incredibly excited to continue to support Let It Be Us and their efforts. One way you can get involved this spring is to bring backpacks with school supplies for high school students in the foster program. Additionally, individuals or schools may donate money towards the IASC Scholarship, which is donated to children in the foster system who aspire to pursue further education beyond high school.

