



Winter 2022 , Volume 35, Number 1



We cannot wait to see you all at conference!



**Brought to you by the 2021-2022 SLS Student Advisory Board –SAB**

## The 35th Annual SLS High School Leadership Conference! “Building the Best”

Shanty Creek Resort  
Bellaire, MI

March 19-20, 2022

***“...Building trusting relationships that empower students to be bold and authentic leaders.”***

**SLS is the Michigan organization dedicated to students leading students for teen driver safety, leadership, and mental health.**

### 1991 SLS Conference Opening Speech

*In honor of and delivered by Stacey Anklaam, Edited by Pam*

Welcome to the 1991 SLS- Michigan conference! I’m Stacey Anklaam, a member of the Student Advisory Board, and I’m here to give you a sneak peek at what’s going on this weekend. If you’ve never been here before, don’t worry, this place will feel like home in no time. If you’re a returning conference goer, you know what I mean when I say that the students here are one big family.

There will certainly be enough here for everyone to do! There’s entertainment, speakers, workshops led by students, video games, The Big Dance, and much, much more! Not only is this conference fun, but it also gives you a chance to learn about SLS in your school and in your community. It also gives you a chance to learn about other communities and their SLS chapters.

In fact, you have an opportunity to meet people from all over the state and you already have one thing in common! You will be amazed at all of the people like yourself, and not like yourself, that are here for the same basic reason: stopping teen deaths...due to distracted driving, alcohol/drugs, mental health, and inclusiveness.

When people ask you if SLS helps, you can tell them a strong, proud “Yes!” The number of students killed in alcohol related crashes has gone down, but the total number of teens dying in car crashes each year has stayed the same. This is because people, especially teens, are distracted and aren’t wearing their seat belts. For this reason, SLS is talking about driving etiquette and avoiding any distractions that take your mind off the road. ‘No text, email, or notifications is worth a life.’

There are a lot of schools here that can teach you about things they have done. The best way to learn is from each other. We have workshops designed to let hot chapters tell you how they got the spark to start their fires. Talking with people between activities or at one of the meals is also a great way to teach and learn. Every person in this room will go home knowing a person from another school that they can share future experiences and ideas with. I personally am still in touch with a person that I met at the SLS conference in 1989.

The people within your own group are also very important. School team meetings are one of the most productive parts of the day. When you return to your home base, you will have a month-by-month plan, devised at these meetings, to help eliminate the number of unnecessary deaths of teens due to distracted driving, alcohol, drugs, mental health issues, social media, and unhealthy relationships.

Many of us have seen firsthand that we leave here with the power to topple the world with the SLS message and all too often, when we return home, we fizzle out. Your school plan should help you through this, because it tells you what you have to do this month and you can’t get around it!

This main reason for the conference is to help you get through these. The speakers that you will hear give you lasting words, phrases, and advice to help you better yourself and your chapter. They have inspiring words that make you want to tell the whole world about SLS. They also give you great guidance to get you through the little things that can hinder your chapter.

The memories of the people, and the feelings of unity and brotherhood will also help you through the lull that most chapters experience. You will leave this conference knowing that you are not alone in any situation that may arise. I bet you can call or write a friend from this conference to get their advice.

You can make this annual conference a success by using what you learn here to the best of your ability. So, welcome to the three most rewarding and memorable days of your life!

### **A look at Conference!**

### **Agenda- Draft**

***This conference is planned and facilitated by the SAB for YOU!***

#### **Friday March 18, 2022 (Pre-conference for early arrivals)**

7:00pm Conference and Hotel Registration  
8:00pm ACTIVITIES –Family Feud, Wheel of Fortune, Ice Cream Social  
10:00pm Mandatory Advisor/Parent/Chaperone Orientation  
10:15pm Room Curfew

**Please note breakfast will be on your own Saturday morning.**

#### **Saturday March 19, 2022**

10:00am-11:30am Conference and Hotel Registration  
Schools set up exhibits; decorate hotel doors  
11:00am-11:20am Mandatory Advisor/Parent/Chaperone Orientation  
10:00am-11:00am Grab and Go Snack  
11:35am-12:00pm SAB Opening Ceremonies  
12:05pm-1:00pm General Session #1- Miss Oakland County 2021 -Melissa Beyrand  
1:10pm-2:00pm Workshop Session #1- **Choice of Five Topics**  
2:10pm-3:00pm Workshop Session #2- **Choice of Five Topics**  
3:00pm-3:15pm Snack Break  
3:20pm-4:10pm Workshop Session #3- **Choice of Five Topics**  
4:15pm-4:45pm School Team Meetings #1 \*Meet with Advisor(s)  
4:45pm Break/Dress for Special Advisor Dinner  
5:30pm Advisor Photo (*Tradition*)  
*Advisors meet in Bellaire Foyer for Group Photo*  
5:30pm Students Meet to Prepare for Advisor Dinner & Awards  
5:45pm-7:30pm Advisor Recognition Dinner, Theme: “Together We Can!”  
Award Ceremony and *Entertainment: by Nicole King*  
7:45pm-8:30pm Anthony Grupido “*The Magic of Hope*”  
8:40pm-9:00pm School Team Meetings #2 \*Meet with Advisors  
9:00pm-9:30pm Break/Dance Preparation/Decorating  
9:30pm-11:00pm The Big Dance – **“Dancing Through the Decades”**  
11:00pm Room Curfew (**11pm-7am**)  
11:30pm Lights Out!

#### **Sunday March 20, 2022**

7:30am-8:00am Interdenominational Service (optional)  
8:00am-8:45am Breakfast - *All Conference Photo-Wear Conference Shirts*  
9:00am- 9:45am General Session #2- Jesse Cole  
10:00am-10:50am Workshop Session #4 **Choice of Five Topics**  
11:00am-11:50am Workshop Session #5 **Choice of Five Topics**  
10:00am-11:50 am Advisor Workshop- Mental Health & Students– What’s Going On?  
12:00pm-12:45pm Memorial and School Team debriefing  
12:45pm-1:30pm Lunch  
1:35pm-2:05pm School Team Meeting #3-Action Planning & Preparing for Team Presentations  
2:15pm-3:00pm General Session #4-School Team Presentations  
3:00pm SAB Closing Ceremonies

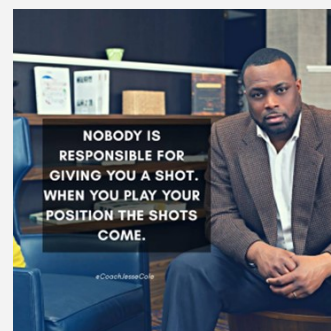
**This Conference is a Closed Campus Event with the support of Shanty Creek Security, Bellaire Police, Antrim County Sheriff, and SLS great adult Alumni volunteers.**



**Miss Oakland County 2021 Melissa Beyrand**  
**“Encouraging Equity”**



**Anthony Grupido**  
**Magician and Speaker**  
**“The Magic of Hope”**



**Jesse Cole**  
**Author, Coach, Speaker**

**For more information please visit**

**<https://slstoday.net/conference-2022/>**





Ionia County Youth Advisory Council hosted the “Strive to Arrive Alive” Teen Driver Safety Conference.

SLS presented action-based workshops on “Planning Student-led Driving Safety Activities to Engage Your Peers”.

SLS returned to Ionia to train students in the interactive, “SLS Spokesperson Training”. You, too, can take advantage of SLS training opportunities for your students! Contact SLS! Visit the web sites and social media!



Alexandria, by Mariam:

Alex is ambitious, intelligent and dependable, traits that will serve her well in her dream job as a therapist. She admires Iyanla Vanzant, a famous life coach, & inspirational speaker because of her determination & how much effort she puts forth to help others. Finally, Alex and I have a lot in common, including our bucket list desire to take in the beautiful sights of Paris.



Mariam, by Isabelle: This is Mariam's second year as an SAB member. If you know Mariam, it is no surprise that she is a natural leader who believes strongly in using her voice for good. We have no doubt she is well on her way to do just that. She aspires to be a social worker. Her hero is a personal mentor, Mrs. Venessa, who she said inspired her to become the best version of herself.

Mariam loves BBQ and the movie, The Hate You Give.



### 36th Student Advisory Board

Established in 1986, we train each passionate group of emerging leaders to teach and lead their peers and younger students. They work with our team and member schools to promote youth involvement, networking, and stakeholder partnerships. The Student Advisory Board develops and leads conferences, assemblies, and workshops.

**These students are dedicated to creating healthy, safe and inclusive schools and communities across Michigan and we are proud to help them do this important work.**

To apply for next year’s SAB, visit <https://slstoday.net>



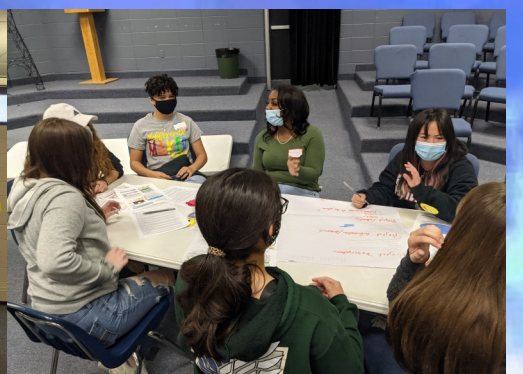
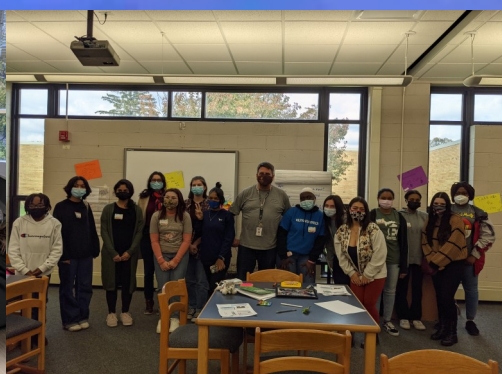
Gia, by Loretta: Gia is outgoing, smart, down to earth and has a great sense of humor. She has an interesting outlook on life and questions the strangest things. When asked who she would trade lives with for a day, she said our AP Government teacher because she wondered what it would be like to be tall and bald. She once ate a fly on accident as a kid. We are glad to welcome Gia as part of our team on the SAB!



Isabelle, by Alexandria: This is Isabelle's second year on the SAB. Her dream job is to become a Certified Medical Assistant (CMA). Working as a CMA would provide Isabelle the opportunity to better nurture those in need of medical attention. When asked what is one thing she would do if she could not fail? She said she would become a surgeon or a doctor. Isabelle's fun quirks include chewing ice cream and water.



Loretta, by Gia: Loretta is energetic, outgoing, and adventurous; traits that serve her well as a 2nd year SAB member. She has dreams of cliff diving and traveling to Cancun. She’s very determined, but also enjoys her relaxation time as one of her favorite summer activities is sleeping! She has aspirations of becoming a lawyer or a computer forensic analyst. Loretta is super dependable and she’s an amazing sister.



**From left to right: Atherton, Ferndale, Clarenceville, and Taylor High Schools completing the year-long SLS Citizens Insurance Grant Program. This SLS Model Program includes on-site trainings, conference registration, t-shirts, chapter banner, advisor training, chapter funding, and advisor stipend. Workshops by these schools will be presented at the SLS Conference in March. Contact Dawn: [dmf@slstoday.org](mailto:dmf@slstoday.org) to apply.**



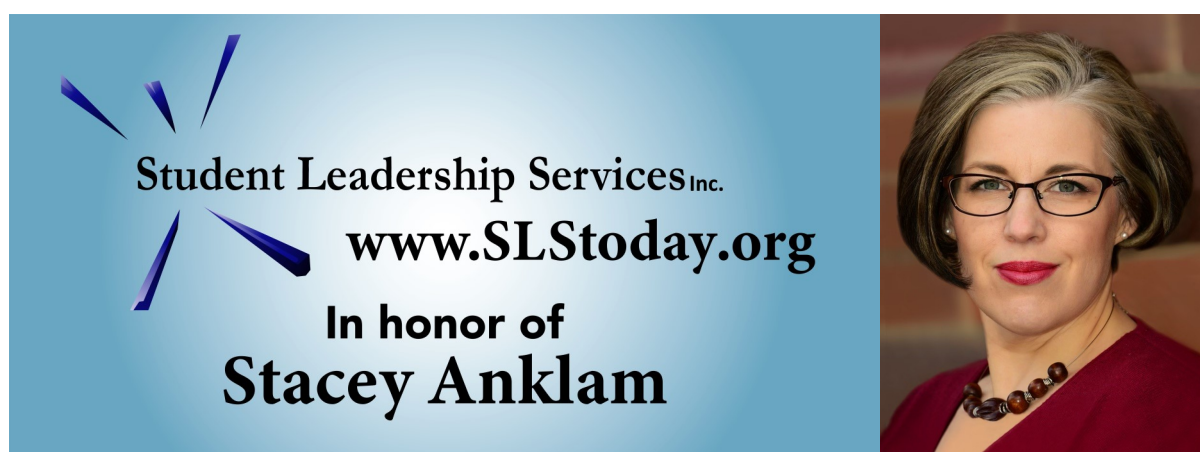
## The Founding of SLS 40 years ago

We knew that students could help their peers better than anyone. We believed that students had the power and ability to tough it out even through hurdles to get things done. Students accepted our challenge. As a result, teen fatalities have been reduced. Laws changed, government agencies responded, and schools contacted SLS for support. **BUT, it was the students who saved each other.**

Who would imagine that the crisis of 1982 because of alcohol related traffic crashes among youth would be mirrored in 2021 with the onslaught of distractions for teen drivers, lack of safety belt use, the mental health emergency, a pandemic, and the outbreak of school tragedies?

Once again, SLS will support students as they change the culture among their peers. We challenge students to extend themselves and demonstrate their concern for others- before we lose more teens. Students can impact this crisis like no other group. They have grit. SLS believes in students and will help them accomplish their mission to save themselves and their peers.

It was students, like Stacey Anklam, that kept SLS going when we heard doubts from adults about the ability of students to make a change among their peers. Students listen to students. Students care about each other. Students understand others' feelings. So, SLS put our faith in the power of youth and engaged them to lead their peers. Students in SLS were always accepting, diverse, equitable and inclusive. Students understood the value of these strategies to engage other youth to save lives.



### **"I want to help you." BIG IDEA Scholarship** in honor of **Stacey Anklam**

This scholarship award honors the steadfast and selfless support of SLS Alumna, Stacey Anklam, for the mission of Student Leadership Services. Stacey had a solid, consistent commitment to the SLS organization. We would like to tell you about Stacey.

Stacey joined her SLS Chapter as a junior. Stacey was president of her SLS Chapter at Reese High School during her senior year, while serving on the SLS State Student Advisory Board. Stacey was one of 21 Michigan SLS students on the 1991 State Student Advisory Board (SAB). The SAB team met monthly to plan workshops, social and fun activities, the State Conference, Advisor Recognition Dinner, selected the annual Student of the Year and other award winners, developed keynote addresses for conference opening, closing, Advisor Dinner, the Memorial, and Networking sessions.

Stacey had a "We can do it!" attitude that she matched with her unbelievable work ethic. Stacey approached me with her **"BIG IDEA"**. In 1994, Stacey wanted to create a web site for SLS! She said, **"I want to help you."** She assured me that one day I would be thrilled with the opportunities that the SLS web site would provide to students, advisors and schools, potentially from all over the world! Stacey created the web site and launched the web site with a fellow Alumna, Christina Lustenader Jacobsen, who brought 24 large computers for a Cyber Café at the SLS Conference. Everyone had a chance to see what the new web site would do! Since 1994, Stacey redesigned the web site many times, paid all fees, and trained countless SLS staff to maximize the web site and utilize social media. We are forever grateful to Stacey for her vision, skill, dogged determination and generosity. Stacey will always be in my heart. *Pam*

### **"I want to help you." BIG IDEA HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD Criteria**

**Answer all of these questions completely. Submit application and supporting documents to:**

**SLS, 1150 Scott Lake Road, Waterford, Michigan 48328, email [pgvp@SLStoday.org](mailto:pgvp@SLStoday.org), or call 248-706-0757**

**Include your full name, street address, city, state, zip code, email, school, graduation year, cell phone.**

Describe at least three years minimum of working to save lives of teens, ages 13-19 years. How many years?

How did you get involved? Why?

GPA: 3.0 and provide documentation of your GPA.

Describe the program that you created – your **"Big Idea"** to impact change among students in the SLS network.

Tell your story about how you accomplished your **"Big Idea"**. It needs to be a **BIG**— not common like Red Ribbon.

What motivates you to work so hard – like Stacey?

What student issue/s are you committed to solve? How will your **"Big Idea"** impact the issue?

Demonstrate your commitment with specific examples of your work. Examples include: Photos, articles, social media, videos, psa's, poems, songs, graphics, original artwork, or whatever you created.

How would you help someone else be successful implementing the program that you created – the **"Big Idea"**?

What would you tell Stacey about why this is important to you?

**Deadline: April 2, 2022**

**Scholarship Award: \$2,500.00**

***For education, information, and inspiration, stay connected with SLS!***

***1150 Scott Lake Rd, Waterford, MI 48328***

***248-706-0757, [www.SLStoday.org](http://www.SLStoday.org)***



You too can help SLS by selecting us as your charity on AmazonSmile's non-profit program. AmazonSmile donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases to support the work we do. Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select SLS as your charity. The donation will be made at no extra cost.



**Your Community- Friend or Foe**

Are you from a small town where your neighbor knows everything about you? Or are you from a large city where you very rarely see your neighbors? Either way, your community is your SLS chapter’s friend. The two ways that a community will usually support a SLS chapter are giving financial help and sharing SLS’s philosophy.

Belief in the principles of SLS is probably easier for some communities, but you have to let the community know that there is a SLS organization around them looking for support. Your community should be aware of the fact that Michigan has the largest SLS organization in the U.S.!

How do you make yourself known? Easy!! Pass out red ribbons for the “Red Ribbon Safety” campaign or stage a candlelight vigil. To make it a little more personal, send a representative from your SLS chapter to the local businesses and tell them what SLS is about. If they feel the same way about drinking and driving, put a sign, possibly even made by your SLS chapter, in the window. It doesn’t have to be anything fancy or professional, maybe just a piece of paper with the words “We Support Our Area SLS Chapter” printed on it. It’s a big responsibility. You will have businesses asking for those little signs.

By making yourself known in the community, it will be easier to solicit funding. There is only one thing to keep in mind when you ask for money: What is the public getting in return for their donations? People are going to want to know what their money is being used for and they want their money’s worth! You have to be able to tell them; you have to answer their questions.

So, prepare yourself before calling someone or going to talk with them. Practice what you are going to say on a parent, friends, or advisor. Make sure you have current statistics and information on your SLS chapter and SLS Michigan. Also, make sure that you have a plan of action for your chapter so that you can describe to the people what your chapter does. Most importantly, don’t get discouraged if they say “no.” Just kindly thank them for their time and try somewhere else. There are people out there who are willing to help, you just have to find one another. Good luck on your journey out into the community. *Stacey Anklam*

**Thank You!**

Welcome to our new staff, new board members, and new sponsors as SLS leaps into our new year ahead!

Heiroom

Jet Heat

Performance Assembly

Sign Fabricators

Tricia Devries

Park Services

Mortgage One -Team Lisa

Vickie Stocker

Wolf-Chandler Agency

Larry Rotta

Nikki and Allan Motes

**Board of Directors and Sponsors**

Brad Simmons, President

Ward Bartlett, Vice President

Dianne Bostic Robinson, Strategic Planning

Toni Lauretano, Fund Development Chair

Zane Sami Hatahet, Media Spokesperson

Griselda Mucollari, Social Media

Michael Talamonti, Networking

**SLS Staff**

Pamela Voss-Page, MED Executive & Research Director

Dawn Flood, MSW Program Director/Master Trainer

Jillian Davis, Technology Co-Op, Life Skills Intern  
Marian High School

Marcia Partin, Prevention Specialist

Elizabeth Barton, Prevention Specialist

Garrett Zimmerman, Communication Specialist,  
Alumnus

Allison McCauley, Newsletter Editor

**Volunteer Alumni Throughout the World!**

**OMS Celebrates Red Ribbon Week**

Middle school Red Ribbon Week was full of fun and important facts on leading a drug-free life. STAND (Students Taking a New Direction) planned dress-up days, games at lunch, a poster contest, message on all lockers, and put up decorations and informational posters around the school. OMS is red this week and the kids are getting the message.



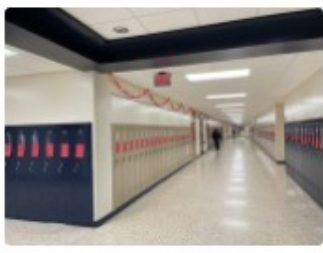
**Otsego Middle School STAND**



Bowling at lunch



Kahoot at lunch



Decorated hallways

SLS Intern, Miss Jill, teaches series of fun and interactive Life Skills lessons with 112 students from Boys and Girls Club Troy. Photo: Practicing refusal skills for smoking and vaping prevention and sharing photo of black fuzz on tongue to second & third graders.



**Thank you AAA**

**for providing simulators!**



**SLS National Awards**

SLS is the only Michigan developed, student-led program with national validation.

PETTIPREN



JCT Foundation

