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educational, advocacy, networking and professional activities of the state CPA societies across the U.S.

**Mary Girsch-Bock** • Nov. 29, 2023



PICPA 2023 Young Leaders

Founded in 1897, the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) is the second-oldest CPA organization in the U.S. PICPA actively supports both current and future CPAs, providing educational opportunities, networking, and volunteer opportunities. PICPA also serves as the voice of the CPA profession through advocacy efforts in the state legislature.

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## Has PICPA experienced much growth?

PICPA's suite of high-quality and multi-faceted continuing education programs has grown substantially with the acquisition of CPA Crossings and joining collaborations for continuing education in the Northeastern and Mid-Western states. With the profession's nationwide pipeline issue affecting the future CPA pool, the organization is looking to find innovating ways to offer membership and value. They are also evaluating how they currently engage young people across the state, and are looking to engage students as early as freshmen in high school to drive their interest in accounting careers.

### **Mission:**

Part of PICPA is the Pennsylvania CPA Foundation, whose mission is to *inspire students to pursue careers in accounting and to provide educational, motivational, and financial support to those working to attain the CPA credential.*

### **A word from the president and CEO:**

“At the PICPA, we’re all about fueling the growth and vitality



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### **Top three objectives for the upcoming year**

1. Advocate for PICPA members on key legislative actions that would be beneficial for our industry and the greater Pennsylvania economy.
2. Provide invaluable educational and professional events that elevate the quality of the accounting industry.
3. Grow and support young professionals and aspiring CPAs to help address the pipeline challenges that we see unfolding in our industry.

### **Are there any long-term objectives?**

“The PICPA’s long term mission centers on advancing and improving the accounting industry and supporting the CPAs who play an instrumental role in our economy for both businesses and individuals,” says Cryder. “Right now, the accounting industry is at a crossroads. One key long-term objective is to support and grow the number of new CPAs entering the profession. Through initiatives like partnering with universities to educate young professionals and students on the benefits of becoming a CPA to working with accounting firms to reimagine how they recruit, train and grow young talent, we are focused on supporting the next generation of CPAs.”

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