Hometown Heroes

NYS PTA 2019 Summer Leadership Conference

Gail Gligora, Awards Specialist

awards@nyspta.org
Why Awards are Important

It is important to recognize volunteers, students and community members.

- Awards make people feel noticed and appreciated.
- They can bring the community together to celebrate.
- They highlight important work that your PTA does.
- They inspire others to join in your mission.

Awards can be a great way to honor or remember members who have made a difference in your PTA.

- Awards can be created to honor and/or remember members who made a difference.
  - The awards can focus on an area that the member had worked in during his/her PTA time.
How to Create a Local Award

Inspiration/Motivation for a new award

Purpose of the Award

- Is the purpose to recognize an individual or group of individuals?
- Is it given in honor or in memory of a PTA member who is exemplifies an area of PTA or characteristic of a great volunteer?
  - Family Engagement Award in Honor of Jami-Beth Knapp – Jami –Beth Knapp was passionate about family engagement. She worked tirelessly in this award. This award was created to honor that her work and inspire others to follow in her footsteps. While the award honors Knapp it also promotes family engagement.
- Is there a certain PTA area that you would like to promote?
  - Membership Awards for units that have been struggling but overcame the odds.
  - Heroes in Education – This was a regional award started by WEPR to honor PTA members, teachers and administration. A side effect was it drew more people in to the Fall/Spring Conference because who does not want to support their Heroes. Also it got administrators in the door to see what the PTA is about.

Desired Impact on the Unit/Council/Region?

- Where is an area that you would like to encourage your PTAs to do more in? Diversity, Advocacy, Family Engagement, Programs? Create an award to inspire the work in that area. People love to work towards awards.
- Things to think about –
  - Are you raising awareness?
  - Encouraging Advocacy on an issue or Area?
  - Fostering or Mentoring New Volunteers/Advocates?
How to Create a Local Award

Type of Award

- Certificate/Pin/Plaque/Grant
  - Is this what the person or unit needs?
  - For example, if your library funds are being cut, a large plaque might not be the best fit for a literacy award. A grant to go to purchasing books might be better suited.
  - Is the award sustainable over the years?
    - If the amount is too large, the award will not last.
    - If the application is very time-consuming, fewer people may apply.

Type of Applicants

- Volunteers, Students, Teachers, Community
  - Who is the award for?
  - A scholarship award is for a senior in high school. The criteria are very spelled out.
  - A teacher’s award could have students nominating their favorite teacher.
  - A student leadership award could have units, councils, school staff, or classmates nominate an outstanding student volunteer.
How to Create a Local Award

Application Process/Timeframe

- Application process has to be carefully thought out.
- What is the timeframe?
  - Too long a timeframe and people forget about the award
  - Too short and people can not get their applications in.
- Are the application instructions clear?
  - Helps to have an outside person take a look over the application and see if there is any area that is unclear.
    - The Jenkins scholarship requires an essay on why the student wants to go into teaching. The committee may add prompts so the student has clearer direction.
- Is the application accessible to everyone?
  - May need to be translated into other languages so that anyone can apply
  - May need both pdf and doc website forms that can be used with assistive technology for visual or hearing disabilities
- Is the application too long or complicated?
  - It’s easy to have too many questions to applications or complicated questions that are difficult for applicants to answer.
- Do you provide contact information for the Award chair in case applicants have questions.

Selection Process

- Committee of 3+ people is recommended. A committee shares responsibility and can keep the process impartial.
- A set standard of evaluation is needed. State awards use rubrics in which each aspect of the application is worth a certain number of points.
How to Create a Local Award

Sample Rubric

Character and Personality (Review Essay): Total up to 25 points
• 1 - States reason why they want to be a teacher 5
• 2 - States experiences to teach 5
• 3 - States qualities of a good teacher 5
• 4 - States solutions to being a good teacher 5
• 5 - States current or past educational achievements 5

Potential Teaching Ability and Desire to teach: Total up to 25 points
Using the guidance counselor statement:
• 1 - Scholarship 5
• 2 - Personality 5
• 3 - Leadership Inside/Outside School 5
• 4 - Responsibility 5
• 5 - Initiative 5
How to Create a Local Award

Sample Awards Spreadsheet
How to Create a Local Award

Proposal to Board/Approval

- A written proposal outlines the plan for the award.
- Submitting a proposal to the board gets everyone on board with the idea.
- The Board votes to approve the award.

Committee Appointment/Procedures

- The PTA Board appoints the committee of 3 or more members.
- The committee shares responsibilities to keep the process fair and impartial.
- The committee works on the procedures, which outline all steps in the award process.

Publicity

- Awards committee works with President to include awards information in member emails and on PTA website and social media.
- Awards committee makes flyers to have on membership tables at Back to School nights and other PTA events.
- Awards committee seeks opportunities in the community to announce the awards like posting a flyer on a library bulletin board or newsletter.
NYS PTA Awards

Units must be in good standing to receive awards or grants

- Unit has at least 25 members
- 25 members paid for by October 31st
- Insurance is paid and paperwork is completed
- Unit files 990 form with the IRS annually and maintains NOT Revoked status with the IRS
  (excludes units who have notified the State office that Reinstatement is in process)
- Bylaws are approved by New York State PTA every three years
NYS PTA Awards that you apply for

Student Awards

**Jenkins Memorial Scholarship for Teacher Education**
- Assists outstanding students with funding for preparation for the teaching profession.
- A $3,000 scholarship distributed over 4 years.
- For HS seniors who are pursuing a teaching career and plan to attend a SUNY college or a two year community college followed by transfer to a SUNY college.
- Deadline postmarked by December 15th to NYS PTA Office

**Youth Humanitarian Award in Memory of Stanley Marcus**
- For a junior or senior who best exemplifies the humanitarian principles of Stanley Marcus, who is remembered for his humanitarian work and dedication to youth through zealous volunteer community service.
- An engraved plaque and a monetary award of $250.00 is awarded to the State Winner. Each region winner receives an engraved plaque.
- Deadline postmarked by January 31st to the Region Director
NYS PTA Awards that you apply for

Teacher Awards

Teacher Fellowship for Graduate Study in Memory of Richard Gazzola

- Award encourages excellent teachers to stay in the classroom by providing an opportunity to improve teaching skills, update professional knowledge, and expand professional perspectives.
- A $3,000 fellowship.
- For a full-time teacher with a master’s degree who has completed at least one year of teaching in a New York State public school.
- Deadline postmarked by June 15th to NYS PTA Office
NYS PTA Awards that you apply for

Leadership and Family Engagement Awards

Leadership Award in Honor of Jane Skrzypek

- Award recognizes an outstanding leader in your PTA who inspires others to volunteer and assume leadership positions.
- Deadline postmarked to your Region Director by June 15th.
- Each region may submit one nominee to the State.

Family Engagement Award in Honor of Jami-Beth Knapp

- Award honors an individual or group of individuals that continue the work and dedication of Jami-Beth Knapp in family engagement.
- Recipients receive an engraved clock and an invitation with a guest to the NYS PTA Banquet held Saturday night at the NYS PTA Annual Convention.
- Deadline to apply online is May 15th.
NYS PTA Automatic Awards

**Advocate in Action Award**
- Acknowledges the involvement of PTA members in their children’s education as well as their PTA.
- Award is a certificate that can be framed.
- If the certificate is mailed, there is a $1.00 fee.

**Community Service Award**
- Recognizes groups of individuals for their dedication and achievement to the children and youth of NYS.
- Award is 8” x 10” wooden plaque.
- Fee is $75.00.
NYS PTA Automatic Awards

Diamond Award and Golden Oak Award

- Both awards honor your most dedicated volunteers.
- The proceeds from award fees are dedicated to leadership development throughout the state.
- Both awards feature personalized engravings with the name of the Award recipient and the signature of the NYS PTA President.
- The Diamond Award is a table top glass sculpture. $250.00 fee
- The Golden Oak Award is a wooden plaque. $150.00 fee
- Allow 6 weeks for delivery.

Founder’s Day Award

- This award can be used to welcome new members or in honor of a special PTA friend.
- This award is in honor of Founder’s Day. NYS PTA was founded on February 17, 1897.
- The half of the proceeds from award fees go to NYS PTA for Leadership Development and the other half to National PTA to support Programs.
- This award can be given year around.
NYS PTA Automatic Awards

Honorary Life Membership
- Award recognizes individuals for their contributions to the welfare of children and youth.
- Award is a congratulatory card and an Honorary Life Membership card and pin.
- Fee is $55.00.
- Application needs to be in the NYS PTA office 4 weeks before presentation.

Distinguish Service Award
- Award recognizes outstanding contributions to the welfare of children and youth, or to a PTA association.
- Recipient receives a certificate and a Distinguished Service pin.
- Recipient must have previously received Honorary Life Membership.
- Fee is $75.00.
- Application needs to be in the NYS PTA office 4 weeks before presentation.
NYS PTA Programs Awards

Pick A Reading Partner (P.A.R.P) Award

- This award is given to an unit that illustrates a great theme, encourages literacy, educates families through collaborative reading and literacy activities.
- The State Award winner receive two tickets and accommodations to NYS PTA Convention were they will receive their award during the PARP presentation.
- Deadline is June 15th to the Region Director.

Reflections Award

- NYS PTA Award of Excellence and Award of Merit
  - Units submit their Reflections winners to their Regions. Check website for drop off dates and Region chair contacts.
  - Regions send their winners to NYS PTA on January 17, 2020.
- Reflections Theme Search
  - Students submit their theme ideas to NYS PTA office.
  - Deadline is October 26, 2019 postmarked to NYS PTA office.
  - Winners receive a cash prize and their theme will be used for the following year’s Reflection theme.
NYS PTA Membership Awards

The Early Bird Award

- Register and pay dues for 60% of your state membership goal to earn this award.
- Be entered into a drawing to win a prize.
- Deadline is September 30th.

Watch for more membership awards to be announced!
National PTA Awards

Phoebe Apperson Hearst Award

- Award recognizes and celebrates achievements in building effective family-school partnerships.
- This award is presented to PTAs that have earned the National PTA School of Excellence designation and have demonstrated outstanding success engaging families in student success and school improvements.
- Award is open from May 1st – October 1st, 2019.
- Winner receives $2,000 grant for their school travel for two to the National PTA Convention and Expo, two tickets to National PTA Awards & Reflections and a trophy presented on stage at Convention.
- Merit Awardees will receive $500 grants for their schools.

Life Achievement Award

- The highest honor from the nation’s largest child advocacy organization to the person who daily lives out their commitment to children.
- Winner receives a certificate of recognition, a congratulatory letter from the National PTA President and an elegant 10-Karat gold lapel pin or tie tack.
- The fee of $125.00 goes to support the National PTA Endowment Fund and National PTA endeavors. Award is available all year long.
Jan Harp Domene Award

- Award recognizes PTAs that are dedicated to the needs of all families represented in their schools.
- The award acknowledges PTAs that develop practices that are inclusive and equal for all families and that result in positive change.
- All diversity and inclusion efforts must be from the previous calendar year.
- Award winners receive:
  - $1,000 cash award and plaque/trophy
  - Certificates for PTA members named in the applications
  - Honored at Diversity & Inclusions Breakfast at National PTA Convention & Expo
    - Receives two tickets for Breakfast
    - Potential speaker at the Breakfast
  - Honored at Awards Program at National PTA Convention & Expo
    - Receives two tickets for Awards Dinner
National PTA Grants

Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Arts Enhancement Grant

- This grant help bring arts education to your school.
- The grant is for two local PTAs for $1,000 in matching funds for student-centered programs that increase access to high quality arts learning experiences and new pathways for students to participate in National PTA’s Reflections program.
- Grant is open from April 1st – June 30, 2020.

2019 PTA Connected SmartTalk Conversation Grant, Sponsored by Symantec

- This grant awards $1,000 to 25 PTAs across the country to host a SmartTalk Conversation at their school, in celebration of Safer Internet Day during the week of Feb. 11, 2020. This programs is designed to grow with all PTAs from pre-K through 12th grade.
- Grant is open from July 10th – September 8, 2019.
National PTA Grants

2019 PTA Connected Be Internet Awesome Family Workshop Grant, Sponsored by Google

- This grant provides 75 local PTAs, up to 10 state PTAs and up to 10 to district/council/regional PTAs with grant funds and materials to host Be Internet Awesome Family Workshops in their community during the 2019-2020 school year.
- Workshops are designed to help PTA leaders in elementary schools facilitate family conversations about digital wellness.
- Grant is open from July 10th – September 8, 2019.

2019 Take Your Family to School Week Grant, Sponsored by Office Depot Office Max

- This grants offer $1,000 to 15 local PTAs to host any National PTA program with pre-k through high school during Take Your Family to School Week – Feb. 6-23, 2020.
- Grant is open from July 10th – September 8, 2019.
National PTA Grants

2019 STEM + Families Science Festival Grant, Sponsored by Bayer

- This grant will award 30 local PTAs, 5 District/Council/Region PTAs and 10 Renewal PTAs at the elementary and middle school level with Science Festival grants.
- PTAs will host engaging, hands on Science Festivals during 2019-2020 school year.
- Grant is open from July 10th – September 8, 2019.

2019 STEM + Families Math Night Grant, Sponsored by Mathnasium

- This grant awards $1,000 Math Night grants to 35 local PTAs at the elementary school level.
- Grantees will be required to host their events no later than March 31, 2020.
- Grant is open from July 10th – September 8, 2019.
National PTA Grants

2019 Healthy Hydration Grant, Sponsored by Nestlé Waters North America

- This grant awards $1,000 to 25 PTAs across the country to enable PTAs with pre-k through 12th grade to host hands-on and engaging Healthy Hydration Programs during Healthy Lifestyles Month in November 2019

- The program was designed to add on to your pre-existing PTA events, encouraging families to choose water over sugary beverages and teaching proper recycling.

- Grant is open from July 10th – September 8, 2019.
National PTA Grants

Top Grant Writing Tips

1. **Know What Grants Exist and When to Apply.**
   - Sign up for National PTA’s newsletters at PTA.org/SignUp and bookmark our grants page at PTA.org/Grants.

2. **Tell a Compelling Story.**
   - Make sure all your answers work together to highlight your PTA’s strengths.

3. **Share How the Grant Would Impact Your School Community.**
   - Identify an existing need in your school community and explain how the grant will address that need.

4. **Show Your Enthusiasm.**
   - Say how the grant will provide an exciting opportunity for your school and PTA.

5. **Answer All Parts of the Question.**
   - Include concrete, detailed examples and explanations that expressly answer the questions asked.

6. **Promote Family Engagement.**
   - Demonstrate how this grant will help you build stronger families in your community and encourage all families to attend your event.

7. **Get a Second Set of Eyes.**
   - Ask someone to proofread your work for spelling, grammar and clarity before submitting the application.

We offer **Over 500 Grant Opportunities Throughout the Year**. If you don’t receive a grant the first time, apply again! Visit PTA.org/Grants.
Duties of an Award Chairperson

Inform membership about awards and grant opportunities

- Ask to be a set part of the PTA meeting agenda or at a PTA event so you can give an updates and reminders on awards
- Work with Unit President to include Award information on emails that are sent out to members
- Work with the Publicity/Website/Social Media chairs to get award information on the website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter
- Create flyers to be handed out PTA events

Learn more about Awards opportunities

- Attend Region, State and National workshops, webinars and conference calls

Contact your Region or State Counterparts

- Work with Region/State Counterparts. They are there to assist you and support you. You do not have to do this job alone!
Awards Deadlines Calendar

**September**
8th – National PTA Grants – Be Internet Awesome Family Workshop Grant, Smart Talk Conversation Grant, Take Your Family to School Week Grant, Healthy Hydration Grant, STEM + Families Science Festival Grant and STEM + Families Math Night Grant
30th – The Early Bird Award

**October**
1st – National PTA - Phoebe Apperson Hearst Awards
26th - Reflections Theme Search

**December**
15th – Jenkins Memorial Scholarship for Teacher Education

**January**
17th – Region Reflections Submission to NYS PTA
31st – Youth Humanitarian Award in Memory of Stanley Marcus

**March**
1st – NYS PTA Award of Excellence Winners Submitted to National PTA
31st – National PTA - Jan Harp Domene Award

**April**
1st – June 30th – National PTA - Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Arts Enhancement Grant

**May**
15th – Family Engagement Award in Honor of Jami-Beth Knapp

**June**
15th – Leadership Award in Honor in Jane Skrzypek
15th – Pick A Reading Partner Award
15th – Teacher Fellowship for Graduate Study in Memory of Richard Gazzola
30th – Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Art Enhancement Grant

**All other awards are open throughout the PTA Year.**
NYS PTA Awards – Advocate in Action Award, Honorary Life Membership, Distinguished Service Award, Golden Oak Award, Diamond Award and Founders Day Award. National PTA Awards – PTA Lifetime Achievement Awards
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JENKINS 200

Who is the Jenkins Memorial Scholarship for Teacher Education for?
JENKINS 400

When are the Jenkins application due?
JENKINS 600

How many candidates can a High School submit?
What is the amount of the Jenkins scholarship?
JENKINS 1000

What are the 4 Jenkins requirements for the students besides being a High School Senior?

a) Plan for a teaching career
b) Plan to attend a college of the State University of New York for a baccalaureate degree in education or plan to attend a two-year community college before transferring to a baccalaureate degree program in education of the State University of New York
c) Have not accepted scholarships exceeding the monetary value of $16,000
d) Have a 4.0 average
e) Attend a High School where there is a PTA/PTSA in good standing.
GAZZOLA 200

Who is Teacher Fellowship for Graduate Study in Memory of Richard Gazzola for?
GAZZOLA 400

When is the Gazzola application due?
What is the amount of the Jenkins Scholarship?
GAZZOLA 800

True or False
The grant can be used for course work complete before the application was submitted.
Which is not a requirement for the applicants besides being a full time, non-substitute teacher?

a) Have obtained a master’s degree and completed at least one full year of teaching in the year immediately preceding applying.

b) Be a New York State PTA member in the school in which the applicant teachers or which the applicant’s children attend. The PTA must be in good standing.

c) Plan to continue teaching in a New York State public school for at least three years.

d) Have received a Teacher Fellowship no more than once before.
Youth Humanitarian Award 200

Who is Youth Humanitarian Award in Memory of Stanley Marcus for?
Youth Humanitarian Award 400

When is the Youth Humanitarian Award application due?
Youth Humanitarian Award 600

How many candidates can a Region submit to New York State?
Youth Humanitarian Award 800

What does the New York State winner receive?
Youth Humanitarian Award 1000

Which one is **NOT** a requirement for the Youth Humanitarian award?

a) Be a junior or senior at a high school with a PTA/PTSA in good standing
b) Demonstrate outstanding volunteer community service
c) Demonstrate outstanding achievement in academics
d) Display Humanitarian principals by word and deed
e) Be selected for the quality of the humanitarian activities rather than for the quantity of extracurricular activities
Jane Skrzypek 200

Who is Leadership Development Award in Honor of Jane Skrzypek for?
Jane Skrzypek 400

When is the Jane Skrzypek Award application due?
Jane Skrzypek Award 600

How many candidates can a Region submit to New York State?
Jane Skrzypek Award 800

What does the New York State winner receive?
Jane Skrzypek Award 1000

Which one is not an application requirement for the Jane Skrzypek award?

a) The form must be filled out completely and signed by the PTA President
b) All units/councils in good standing or regions are eligible to nominate someone for this award
c) Each submitting group may nominate 4 people per year
d) The nominee’s leadership qualities should be included on the application form.
e) The application must include two statements, written as letters. One state should be from an officer of your PTA and the other may be from the principal/superintendent or from another PTA officer who has worked with the nominee.
f) Each letter must be submitted on one piece of 8 ½ x 11 paper. No more than 2 letters will be accepted. The letters should describe why this person is deserving of this award.
Family Engagement 200

Who is Family Engagement Award in Honor of Jami-Beth Knapp for?
Family Engagement 400

When is the Family Engagement Award application due?
Family Engagement Award 600

How many individuals or groups can a Region submit to New York State?
Family Engagement Award 800

What does the New York State winner receive?
Which one is not one of the six PTA’s National Standards for Family School Partnership?

a) Works within the school community to actively support the PTA’s National Standards for Family-School Partnership.

b) The ability to communicate effectively.

c) Support student success

d) Grow PTA membership and involvement

e) Empower families to advocate for the own and other children

f) Work with families and the school community to inform, influence and create policies, practices and programs

g) Collaborate with communities to connect students, families and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services and civic participation.
Automatic Awards 200

Which Award honors an individual of distinguished services to children and youth? Hint: The $55 fee supports the Twin projects.

a) Golden Oak Award
b) Diamond Award
c) Advocate in Action Award
d) Honorary Life Membership
Automatic Awards 400

Which award requires the recipients to be PTA membership who have been awarded a New York State Honorary Life Membership first?

a) Distinguish Service Award
b) Diamond Award
c) Advocate in Action Award
d) Community Service Award
Automatic Awards 600

Which award requires the recipients to be PTA membership who has participated in 8 out of 20 activities listed on the application?

a) Distinguish Service Award
b) Diamond Award
c) Advocate in Action Award
d) Community Service Award
Automatic Awards 800

Which award is a wooden plaque given to an outstanding PTA member.

a) Distinguish Service Award
b) Golden Oak Award
c) Advocate in Action Award
d) Community Service Award
This award is given to a group of individuals in thankful recognition for what they have achieved on behalf of the children and youth in their school, community and/or state.

Which award is it?

a) Distinguish Service Award
b) Golden Oak Award
c) Advocate in Action Award
d) Community Service Award