



Programs and Awards

PICK A READING PARTNER (PARP)

Learning to read is the single most important activity in a child's education.



PARP is a program that asks a partner (parent, grandparent, babysitter, older sibling, cousin, friend, etc.) to read with a child for at least 20 minutes daily.

The **PARP Award** highlights the PARP program, shares outstanding PARP ideas with other PTAs, schools, libraries, communities and other parent groups, and shows the importance of reading and other literacy activities within the family and the community.

REFLECTIONS



The National PTA Reflections Program welcomes students of all grades and abilities to explore the arts. Students reflect on a theme and create original works of art in the areas of **Dance, Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts.**

Children and youth can submit a **Reflections Theme** to serve as the inspiration for Reflections artists and their original works. Students submitting the winning theme receive \$100 and recognition at the National PTA Convention.

OTHER PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

Every Child Travels Safely – In partnership with the NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, this program is both virtual and in-person and focuses on bike, pedestrian, and traffic safety with free traffic safety items!

Every Child Healthy – In partnership with Fidelis Care, this initiative supports the health and wellness of children and families!

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiative (DEI) – NYS PTA continues to stand ready to support every child, with one voice. Our expanding DEI initiative continues to reflect current and systemic issues facing students and schools.

NYS PTA Family Engagement Initiative – A school-family partnership that raises student achievement, improves school and community, and increases public support.

NYS PTA Meals Initiative – Provides direct meal and SNAP/WIC support for families, in partnership with Hunger Solutions.

STUDENT AWARDS

Jenkins Memorial Scholarship for Teacher Education – Helps outstanding students prepare for the teaching profession.

Susanne Smoller Commitment to Advocacy Youth Award – Given to one high school senior to encourage them to pursue post-secondary education or training and to continue their active engagement in advocacy in the areas of HIV/AIDS, the LGBTQ+ community, mental health, social justice or substance use.

Youth Humanitarian Award in Memory of Stanley Marcus – Recognizes a junior or senior who best exemplifies the humanitarian principles of Stanley Marcus, who is remembered for his humanitarianism and dedication to youth through zealous volunteer community service.

TEACHER AWARDS

Teacher Fellowship for Graduate Study in Memory of Richard Gazzola – Encourages excellent teachers to stay in the classroom by providing an opportunity improve teaching skills, update professional knowledge and expand professional perspectives.

Innovative Teacher Grant – Recognizes outstanding teachers who are creating new programs and materials to help their students succeed.

ADVOCACY, FAMILY ENGAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP, AND SERVICE AWARDS

Advocate in Action Award – Acknowledges the involvement of PTA members in their child's education and their PTA.

Community Service Award – Recognizes groups of individuals for their dedication and achievement to the children and youth of NYS.

Distinguished Service Award (DSA) – Recognizes outstanding contributions to the welfare of children and youth, or to a PTA association.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Award (DEI) – Given to a Unit, Council or Region that demonstrates a leadership commitment to diversity and inclusion through recruitment, training and retention efforts.

Family Engagement Award in Honor of Jami-Beth Knapp – Honors those that continue the work and dedication of Jami-Beth Knapp in family engagement.

Golden Oak and Diamond Awards for Special Recognition – These awards are a special way to honor your most dedicated volunteers.

Honorary Life Member Award (HLM) – Recognizes individuals for their contributions to the welfare of children and youth.

Leadership Award in Honor of Jane Skrzypek – Recognizes an outstanding leader in your PTA who inspires others to volunteer and assume leadership positions.

For more information on Reflections, PARP, and NYS PTA Awards, please visit <https://nyspta.org/home/programs/>