



LOUISIANA PTA

THE MONITOR

CONVENTION 2014

ISSUE TWO

DATES TO REMEMBER:

February

1-28 Black History Month
American Heart Month

March

5 Ash Wednesday
9 Daylight Savings Time begins
17 St. Patrick's Day
Deadline for Convention Early Registration
Deadline to order Convention T-shirts
20 Spring begins
31 Deadline to Purchase Membership Cards to Qualify for Membership Awards at LAPTA Convention

April

1-30 National American Indian Heritage
11-12 Louisiana PTA Convention, Pineville
13 Palm Sunday
18 Good Friday
20 Easter
22 Earth Day
26 Deadline for End of Year Issue, Louisiana PTA Newsletter

May

11 Mother's Day
26 Memorial Day
31 14 in 14 Membership Drive ends

June

15 Father's Day
19-22 National PTA Convention, Austin, TX



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope your 2014 is off to a great start. We are working hard to make this year's state convention the most enjoyable and informational we've ever had. National PTA is sending **Tina Zubeck**, National PTA Secretary-Treasurer to Pineville. The Convention Chair has planned some fun activities and the workshop schedule is a little different. I look forward to meeting some new leaders and welcoming old friends. Pineville is ready and waiting for us...the board and I went in January, to the hotel and convention center to make arrangements.



I have been actively working on the PTA Mission: To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. I have had several meetings with the Superintendent of Education, legislators, senators and other decision makers. Several of us will be attending the National Legislative Conference in Washington, DC in March to continue our efforts.

PTA is as important today as it was in 1923 or 1897, when National PTA began. Everyone needs to be involved in the health and education of our children - the future of our state and country. The education of our children is a non-partisan issue and those that we elect to represent us in Baton Rouge and Washington D.C. need to hear from every one of us on the importance of education and health care for our children and youth.

Thank you so much for your service and passion on behalf of all the children in Louisiana.

Giselle M. Allen, *Louisiana State PTA President*

LOUISIANA STATE PTAs MISSION

The overall purpose of PTA is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

Every child, one voice!

NATIONAL PTA MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

Here's how it works:

RECRUIT AND REPORT

Jump start your membership push and get a chance to win \$1,000 for your PTA. Get 14 members to join your local PTA between February 1 and May 31 and receive one entry to win \$1,000 for your PTA.

For every 14 members you recruit, attach one "Official National PTA 14 in '14 Entry Form" to your State PTA membership dues report. Send the **entry form(s)** and your membership dues report to your State PTA Office.

Start recruiting now to increase your odds of winning.* 14 local PTAs will be selected to win \$1,000 in June 2014. Drawing will be held at the 118th Annual National PTA® Convention & Exhibition in Austin, Texas.

***Limit 10 entries per PTA.**

YOUR PTA COULD BE A WINNER!

Download entry forms at louisianapta.org or pta.org.



MARY LOU ANDERSON REFLECTIONS ARTS ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

AMOUNT: \$1,000 (matching funds)

DEADLINE: Friday, March 14, 2014 at 8:00pm EST/5:00pm PST

The National PTA Mary Lou Anderson Reflections® Arts Enhancement Grant Program complements PTA's long-standing commitment to quality arts education by providing funds to local PTAs to establish or enhance arts programs in one or more of the following categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography and Visual Arts and Special Artist.

PTA's interested in applying for this matching grant (1:1 ratio) must fill out an online application available on the National PTA website, pta.org. Details of matching funds must be included in the budget at the bottom of the application. Matching donations can come from your PTA, arts agencies, private donors, local businesses, etc.

Please fill out every field of the online application with as much detail as you can. It is recommended that you review the questions provided in the Grant Announcement and formulate responses before you proceed with this

application. You can find the Grant Announcement at PTA.org. Please be advised that once an application is started, it must be completed in order to be reviewed. There is no way to save a partially completed application.

PTA's serving at-risk student populations are particularly encouraged to apply.

Dia Young,
3rd Vice President
Louisiana PTA



REFLECTION THEME 2014-2015

"The world will be a better place if..."

ENTER TO WIN \$1,000 FOR YOUR PTA

National PTA® Membership Challenge



Get 14 in '14 and Win \$1,000!

Jumpstart your membership push and get a chance to win \$1,000 for your PTA. Get 14 members to join your local PTA between February 1, 2014 and May 31, 2014 and receive one entry to win \$1,000 for your PTA.

Here's how it works: **Recruit and Report!**

Recruit 14 members... Get 1 entry

Recruit 28 members... Get 2 entries

For every 14 members you recruit, attach one "Official National PTA 14 in '14 Entry Form" to your State PTA membership dues report. Send the entry form(s) and your membership dues report to your State PTA Office. You can find the form online at PTA.org/Challenge. Start recruiting now to increase your odds of winning.* 14 local PTAs will be selected to win \$1,000 in June 2014. Drawing will be held at the **118th Annual National PTA® Convention & Exhibition** in Austin, Texas.

*Limit 10 entries per PTA.

Your PTA could be a **Winner!**

For more information, visit PTA.org/Challenge

Get 14! / Grow / Win

ENTRY FORM AVAILABLE AT LOUISIANAPTA.ORG AND PTA.ORG

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE AND BYLAWS FOR PTAs

Parliamentary Procedure is a set of rules for conducting orderly meetings that accomplish goals fairly. These rules are the bylaws of your organization.

Benefits of parliamentary procedure include:

1. Justice and courtesy for all
2. Maintenance of order
3. Consideration of one item at a time
4. Ability for each member to provide input
5. Maintenance of the rights of the minority

All PTAs are ruled by Robert Rules of Order, Newly Revised. It would be a good idea to purchase a copy of Robert Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 10th Edition published by Henry M. Roberts III, William J. Evans, Daniel H. Honemann, and Thomas J. Balch. You might want to purchase the made simple and easy book, published by the same authors called Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised In Brief. These books may be purchased by going to the National Parliamentarians website:

www.parliamentarians.org or from Amazon or your local bookstores. National PTA also offers a parliamentary procedure e-learning course at: www.pta.org/e-learning. If your board has a parliamentarian, they are to be appointed by the president and are seated beside the president to advise him or her in matters of parliamentary order. If a member of the organization serves as the parliamentarian, he or she has the same duties as the presiding officer, to maintain a position of impartiality, and therefore does not make motions, participate in debate, or vote on any question, except in the case of a ballot vote.

Bylaws are the rules the local unit must follow. They are adopted and amended by a vote of your unit's members at a general meeting. PTA bylaws may not conflict with the bylaws of the PTA national organization or the state PTA. If you can't find a copy of your unit's bylaws, contact the state office at la_office@bellsouth.net or the bylaws chair, Charlotte Echols at laptabylaws@gmail.com to obtain one. All officers should be familiar with the local unit bylaws. Any member has a right to view them. Bylaws provide the following important information:

- ◆ The structure of the local unit board
- ◆ Information on required meeting dates (may include how meeting notification is given)
- ◆ Nominating committee formation
- ◆ How and when to conduct elections
- ◆ Dates for the fiscal year
- ◆ Requirements of a quorum for conducting business

Charlotte Echols
Bylaws Chair

LAPTA Newsletter Deadlines

LAPTA issues (3) newsletters each school year, the Back to School Issue, the Convention Issue, which you are reading, and the End of Year Issue with a deadline for articles being April 26, 2014. Please send any news worthy articles to the Editor at sandiree5@aol.com so we can share what you are doing in your schools with other PTAs.

Sandi Walton
Newsletter Editor

DISTRICT PTA NEWS

Caddo District

The Caddo District PTA has had such a busy 1st semester that it's hard to believe that school is more than half way over. In December, we welcomed our new Superintendent, Dr. Larmar Goree, who also spoke to PTA Presidents, Principals and PTA Members at our January General Meeting. We are looking forward to working with Dr. Goree in strengthening the PTAs throughout the school district.

October, we held our annual Principal's Luncheon. Over 240 PTA members, principals and local leaders attended with well over half of Caddo schools represented. We are now looking forward to our annual Founder's Day Celebration in February. At this event, we recognize PTA's past, present, and future. Local PTAs as well as the District will also recognize and honor the wonderful volunteers who make our PTAs so successful.

Lastly, we are looking forward to the State PTA Convention in April in Pineville, Louisiana. It's a fantastic way to network with other PTA Officers throughout the State, glean new ideas, and learn how to run an efficient PTA. To encourage attendance from our members, we are once again providing "Mini-Grants" to qualifying PTAs to help them offset the cost of registration. We can't wait to see everyone there.

Eppie J Adams
Caddo District
PTA President
www.caddodistrictpta.org



St. Tammany

Wow! What a great start to a new school year. New ideas, new leadership, and new opportunities for training in 2013-2014 has quite literally "Blown In". All over our parish and state, teachers, schools principals, dads, parent volunteers, and PTA Leaders are taking advantage of District Training, Grant Applications, Reflections, Membership Events, Rachel's Challenge, etc. One word - **AWESOME!**

I am both proud and thankful for our District Team and our Local Unit Teams! Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of PTA can be seen throughout St. Tammany Parish. Our current membership exceeds 18,000 and we still have a month to top our 20,000 goal. Local Membership Chairs you are amazing for helping grow the PTA VISION within our community. Congrats to the 12 local units who received \$250 Grants for developing a strategy to promote membership within your school and local community. The National PTA School of Excellence is within your grasp. **FINISH STRONG!**

As you enjoy the Winter Olympics coverage let me challenge you to push yourself and your team to finish what you started in August. Preparation is the key. Register your team for the State PTA Convention in Pineville and give them the motivational push to not only raise the bar but to leap over it. Leaders from all over our state will be present to help you grow, plan, develop, and strategize. Your school needs you and your vision. What do you have to do? **DREAM BIG!**

Breaking Boundaries and Establishing New Goals,
Gary Fayard
St. Tammany PTA, 1st VP Membership
www.sttammanypta.org

LOUISIANA PTA

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONNY SAVOIE, our very own Louisiana PTA Legislative Chair is a nominee for a National PTA office! Sonny has been nominated to be a National PTA Member Representative. We are very proud Sonny has been chosen to represent our children and the great state of Louisiana!

Congratulations to **Marigny Elementary** and **Tchefuncte Middle School** who were the only two schools in Louisiana that were awarded grants for their "Take Your Family to School Week" activities. Each school received a \$1000 grant from the National PTA! Great Job to you both!



PLEASE JOIN US



JOIN US IN PINEVILLE!

**Celebrate your PTAs accomplishments!
Recharge your PTA with New Ideas and Vendors!**



**NO EXCUSES! THIS ONE'S CLOSE TO HOME!
Gather up your group and get INSPIRED!
Meet PTAs from across the USA!**