



PTA Development Days

Programs & Grants

Workshop

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Why are we here? Why do you PTA?

To make every child's potential a reality
by engaging and empowering families and
communities to advocate for **all children.**

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PTA

V A L U E S

- Collaboration:** We will work in partnership with a wide array of individuals and organizations to broaden and enhance our ability to serve and advocate for all children and families.
- Commitment:** We are dedicated to children's educational success, health, and well-being through strong family and community engagement, while remaining accountable to the principles upon which our association was founded.
- Respect:** We value the individual contributions of members, employees, volunteers, and partners as we work collaboratively to achieve our association's goals.
- Diversity:** We acknowledge the potential of everyone without regard, including but not limited to: age, culture, economic status, educational background, ethnicity, gender, geographic location, legal status, marital status, mental ability, national origin, organizational position, parental status, physical ability, political philosophy, race, religion, sexual orientation, and work experience.
- Accountability:** All members, employees, volunteers, and partners have a shared responsibility to align their efforts toward the achievement of our association's strategic initiatives.

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What are "Programs?"

- PTA Programs are events and activities that Local PTA Units can host at their schools to improve educational opportunities for all students.
- **National PTA** ([PTA.org](http://www.pta.org)) provides engaging, educational, and fun programs that inspire, recognize, and impact all students and their families.
- **Louisiana PTA** (<http://www.louisianapta.org>) has programs or contests that provide more opportunities to enhance students' educational experiences.

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Go to PTA.org

1. Create an account at Sign In
2. Click Programs

The screenshot shows the PTA.org homepage. At the top, there are navigation links: Run Your PTA, Advocacy, Family Resources, Events, Programs, and About PTA. The 'Programs' link is highlighted in blue, and a dropdown menu is open, listing: School of Excellence, Reflections, Family Reading Experience, STEM + Families, PTA Connected, and Healthy Lifestyles. A red arrow points to the 'Programs' link in the top navigation bar.

Reasons YOU Belong

We've compiled the most successful PTA membership recruitment and retention conversations in this five-step guide.

LEARN MORE →

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National PTA Programs

SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

A School of Excellence designation awards PTA units for building strong partnerships between families and their school that enrich the educational experience and overall well-being for all students. Enrollment is open until October 15 at <http://www.pta.org/home/programs/National-PTA-School-of-Excellence>

2022-2024 Winners:
Eden Gardens Fundamental Elementary PTA, Shreveport
Fairfield Fundamental Magnet PTA, Shreveport
Mandeville Middle PTA, Mandeville
Marigny Elementary PTA, Mandeville

2021-2023 Winner:
A.C. Steere Elementary PTA, Shreveport

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National PTA Programs

NATIONAL PTA REFLECTIONS®

REFLECTIONS 23-24
I AM HOPEFUL BECAUSE...
LOUISIANA PTA

Explore the Arts and Express Yourself

Each year, over 300,000 students in Pre-K through Grade 12 create original works of art in response to a student-selected theme. This 50+ year-old program helps them explore their own thoughts, feelings and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful in school and in life.

Students participate in the appropriate division for their grade:
Primary (Pre-K - Grade 2), Intermediate (Grades 3-5), Middle School (Grades 6-8), High School (Grades 9-12), Special Artist (All grades welcome).*

Students submit their completed works of art in one or all of the available arts categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts.

To participate, provide reflections contact information (register) with LAPTA at LouisianaPTA.org/reflections and follow the instructions there

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National PTA Programs

National PTA Family Reading Experience

National PTA is committed to helping families support their child's development of literacy skills and encourage a love of reading through access to books, particularly those that reflect the diversity of our world.

Literacy Activities to Host for Your School Community

PTAs will host events and activities to promote the excitement of reading, so students and parents are more likely to read together and to read for fun. Literacy event examples include:

- Virtual Read-Aloud with special guest (i.e., author, community member, etc.)
- Online Read-a-Thon
- Book drops at a local community space for families to use year-round, like a Book Depot
- Host book giveaways throughout the school year and especially before summer vacation
- Refresh teachers' classroom libraries with new books for students to check-out
- Create alternative options (e.g., discounted audio book libraries).

Work with your school community and your administration to determine which activity is best for your PTA. Use the toolkit to ensure implementation success.

Potential hard costs: Books, inclusive promotional materials, author fee, virtual platform, audio book subscriptions, shipping

Literacy Events and Activities for PTAs Toolkit

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National PTA Programs



STEM+ Families Programs National PTA's STEM + Families® program delivers access and hands-on exposure to science, technology, engineering and math to engage families and inspire students to pursue career opportunities in STEM fields.

PTA wants to foster passion for science, technology, engineering, and math through fun activities and by involving families in these experiences together. Our STEM initiative will engage students, families, and communities in opportunities to **explore... inspire... empower...** and **educate...** STEM possibilities. They are available as in-person and STEM at home activities for Science or Family Engagement Nights.

Programs Where You Are

Local PTAs are encouraged to select PTA Programs and program delivery models **based on the unique needs of their school community**. Each program is flexible and offers free technical assistance, leader-to-leader learning opportunities and “drag and drop” materials necessary for success.

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National PTA Programs



PTA Connected strives to help children act safely, responsibly, and thoughtfully online, especially with social media. It connects parents with tools, research, and support to make the best decisions for their children. Each Program has its own toolkit with Planning, Promoting, Hosting, and Wrap Up support information.

- **Be Internet Awesome Event** is an interactive night where families engage with one another in meaningful conversations about raising children in an online world.
- **Digital Families Community Events** includes social media and technology use strategies.
- **The Smart Talk** is a free tool that helps caregivers and kids (ages five to 17) have positive, proactive technology conversations and set healthy digital limits together.
- **Access from AT&T** provides low-cost internet service for qualified households.
- **Build Up and Belong** facilitates meaningful technology discussions between teens and their parents and caregivers.

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National PTA Programs



Healthy Lifestyles is committed to improving the overall health and well-being of families across the country because we know living a healthy lifestyle is a key component to our students' ability to thrive.

The Healthy Lifestyles initiative offers educational resources and engagement opportunities that empower students and families to make better-informed health decisions.

Healthy Bodies (physical health) includes school meals, school wellness, physical activity, and physical education; PTA hosted Family Fitness nights; physical activity fundraisers and education.

Healthy Minds Program (mental health) was developed to help families **make mental health an everyday priority**. Check out the resources on this webpage, including informational and activity resources directly for families and resources to help PTAs run PTA Healthy Minds programming.

Healthy Earth (environmental responsibility) can create family engagement opportunities by starting a community compost program or community garden or by educating families and your school administration on how to lessen food waste. Be advocates to make sure environmental considerations are kept front of mind in key decisions such as infrastructure and transportation.

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National PTA Programs



Connect 4, Respect works to prevent bullying behavior by creating a positive school climate from the physical building to policies, staff, and peer culture. School climate encompasses everything that contributes to a student's experience with a school—from the physical building to policies, staff and peer culture.

Use the Connect for Respect (C4R) Toolkit to guide your PTA/PTSA in engaging students in improving the school climate and reducing bullying.

1. Get Started
2. Assess current school climate
3. Engage the school community in dialogue
4. Develop an action plan
5. Educate and empower students, families, and the community

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National PTA and Louisiana PTA Program Grants

What are "Grants?"

A grant is a sum of money given by an organization for a particular purpose. National PTA and Louisiana PTA have grants for PTAs and PTA members. There are endless other entities that give money away.



Know What Grants Exist and When to Apply.
Sign up for National PTA's newsletters at [PTA.org/SignUp](https://www.pta.org/SignUp) and bookmark our grants page at [PTA.org/Grants](https://www.pta.org/Grants).



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



Tell a Compelling Story.
Make sure all your answers work together to highlight your PTA's strengths.



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



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.



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



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

www.pta.org/home/run-your-pta/Awards-Grants
www.LouisianaPTA.org/grants

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National PTA Grants

National PTA offers awards or grants to honor or support PTAs as they engage families, support student success, improve the health and safety of students and families, increase access to arts education or celebrate advocacy and diversity.

- Go to [pta.org/home/programs](https://www.pta.org/home/programs) to explore the programs behind the grants. Which events will excite and educate your PTA community?
- Next, go to [pta.org/home/run-your-pta/Awards-Grants](https://www.pta.org/home/run-your-pta/Awards-Grants)
- Start your application process. You can apply for more than 1 grant!
- PTA Grant Deadlines: October 4, 2023 at 4:00 pm CST
- Applying for National PTA grants is an easy process and worth your time. \$650,000 was awarded in 2022!

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National PTA Grants for all grades and ages

1. PTA Healthy Minds

<http://www.pta.org/home/programs/Healthy-Lifestyles/mental-health/for-pta-leaders>
100 local PTAs will be selected, and each will be awarded \$1,250.

2. Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Arts Enhancement

<http://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections/artsedtools>
Two local PTAs will be selected, and each will be awarded \$1,250.

3. PTA Wellness Fairs

<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/Healthy-Lifestyles/pta-wellness-fairs-with-Walmart>
40 local PTAs will be selected, and each will be awarded \$1,250 in funding.

4. PTA Connected: The Smart Talk

<http://www.pta.org/home/programs/connected/the-smart-talk>
40 local PTAs will be selected, and each will be awarded \$1,250 in funding. All programs must be completed by the end of March 2024.

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National PTA Grants for Elementary Schools

1. PTA Connected: Ready, Tech, Go!

<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/connected/ready-tech-go>
150 local PTAs will be selected, and each will be awarded \$1,250 in funding. To be considered, PTAs must hold their programs in-person.

2. STEM + Families Propelling Our World

<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/stem/propelling-our-world>
30 local PTAs will be selected, and each will be awarded \$1250 in funding.

3. STEM + Families Science Festival

<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/stem/STEM-Families-Bayer-Science-Festivals>
40 local PTAs will be selected, and each will be awarded \$1,250 in funding. To be considered, our PTAs must be located within a 55-mile radius of Luling, LA or St. Charles Parish

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National PTA Grants for Elementary or Middle Schools

PTA Connected: Be Internet Awesome

<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/connected/be-internet-awesome>

50 local PTAs will be selected, and each will be awarded \$1,250 in funding.

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National PTA Grants for Middle or High Schools

Healthy Bodies Tobacco Prevention Campaign

<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/Healthy-Lifestyles/healthy-bodies/tobacco-prevention>

At least 15 local PTAs/PTSAs serving grades 6-12 will be selected, and each will be awarded \$1,250 in funding.

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National PTA Grants for High Schools

PTA Connected: Build Up and Belong

<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/connected/build-up-and-belong>

25 local PTAs/PTSAs will be selected, and each will be awarded \$1,250 in funding.

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Louisiana PTA Grants

The **\$750 Reading and Literacy Grants** help PTA Units host literacy events at their schools. Literacy skills in Louisiana are unacceptably low, and LAPTA made literacy opportunities a priority for our children.

For program ideas, reference [PTA.org/home/run-your-pta/how-we-pta/access-to-opportunities](https://www.pta.org/home/run-your-pta/how-we-pta/access-to-opportunities) and [PTA.org/home/programs/family-reading](https://www.pta.org/home/programs/family-reading)

Application Deadline: November 17, 2023

Apply at <https://form.jotform.com/221794928286067>

Winners Announced: December 1, 2023

Quantity Offered: 4 (One/category)

2022-2023 Grant Winners

The winners of the \$750 LAPTA Reading & Literacy Grants were Covington Elementary PTA in Covington and Mandeville High PTSA in Mandeville!

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Louisiana PTA Grants

The **\$750 Healthy Minds Grants** encourage PTA Units to host mental health programs. The mental health of all children, parents, and caregivers before, during and after challenges arise is immensely important. Make mental health a priority for your PTA and school.

Contact Jessica Latin, LAPTA Healthy Minds Champion at healthyminds@louisianapta.org for program ideas

Application Deadline: March 27, 2024

Apply at <https://form.jotform.com/221748198534162>

Winners Announced: May 1, 2024

Quantity Offered: 4 (One/category)

2022-2023 Grant Winners

The winners of the \$750 Healthy Minds Grants were the Judson Warriors PTA, Shreveport, and Lake Harbor Middle School PTA, Mandeville!

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Louisiana PTA Grants

The **\$500 Day of Service Grants** encourage PTA Units to reach beyond the school and into the community to make a difference. Where is there a need? Who needs the PTA? February 17 is the National PTA Founders' Day - how can you continue the legacy of PTA?

Application Deadline: March 1, 2024

Apply at <https://form.jotform.com/232048704031142>

Winners Announced: April 20, 2024

Quantity Offered: 4 (One/category)

2022-2023 Grant Winner

The winner of the \$500 Day of Service Grant was Roseland Montessori PTA in Roseland, LA!

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Louisiana PTA Grants

The **\$500 Creative Teacher Grants** support creative, innovative, and fun programs or projects for students. Grants may fund any activity or material which supports student enjoyment, wonder, and engagement. The hope is that this grant will result in fun and enriching projects or opportunities for the students that would not otherwise have been possible.

Application Deadline: April 1, 2024

Apply at <https://form.jotform.com/221796420623152>

Winners Announced: April 20, 2024

Quantity Offered: 2

2022-2023 Grant Winners

The two winners of the \$500 Creative Teacher Grants were Creekside Junior High PTA and Lake Harbor Middle School PTA in St. Tammany!

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Louisiana PTA Programs and Contests

See LouisianaPTA.org/contests or LAPTA Toolkit: Awards, Grants, and Contests, Sec 11 for details, sample flyers, and submittal directions.

Kiki's Red Ribbon Poster Contest

The Louisiana Seymore D'Fair Foundation celebrates their Kiki Red Ribbon Week School Celebration 2023 with the theme "I'm Better Drug-Free." Winning entries from Local PTA Units are submitted digitally through JotForm. National Celebration Week: October 23-31, 2023



Deadline to submit to LAPTA: October 20, 2023

Quantity Offered: 9 (Three/category)

LAPTA Winners Announced: October 30, 2023

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Louisiana PTA Programs and Contests

See LouisianaPTA.org/contests or LAPTA Toolkit: Awards, Grants, and Contests, Sec 11 for details, sample flyers, and submittal directions.

2025-2026 Reflections Theme Search is looking for a future Reflections theme! The final winning entry for National PTA will receive a \$100 prize. Students submit their entries directly with LAPTA.



Deadline: November 17, 2023

Students submit directly to LAPTA at <https://form.jotform.com/231396952311153>

Winners Announced: November 30, 2023

2023-2024 Reflections Contest

The PTA Reflections program provides students with opportunities for recognition and access to the arts which boosts student confidence. Visual and performing arts naturally align with established Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) goals.

Each year, over 300,000 students in Pre-K through Grade 12 nationwide create original works of art in response to a student-selected theme. Approaching its 55th year, this program helps them explore their own thoughts, feelings, and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence, and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful in school and in life.

The 2023-24 theme is "I Am Hopeful Because..."



LAPTA Reflections Timeline

- ❑ Register your Reflections Program Manager with LAPTA at <https://form.jotform.com/231397127809160>
- ❑ LAPTA accepts entries in all six Arts Categories. Each Local PTA Unit can decide which Arts Categories their students can enter.
- ❑ Arts Categories: Dance Choreography, Literature, Visual Arts, Film Production, Music Composition, and Photography
- ❑ Eligible Local PTA Units can submit three (3) entries from each Arts Category per Grade Division to LAPTA for judging at the state level. If your school has more than one Grade Division, you may submit three entries for each of those separate divisions.
- ❑ Grade Divisions:

Primary (Pre-K to Grade 2)	Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
Middle School (Grades 6-8)	High School (Grades 9-12)
	Special Artist (All grades)
- ❑ The Student Entry Portal link will be shared as soon as it is received from National PTA. This is the platform LAPTA use to accept entries. Guidance on how to use the portal will be provided on the LAPTA website.
- ❑ LOCAL UNIT ENTRY DEADLINE: Monday, January 22, 2024
- ❑ Local Units must be Actively Affiliated with LAPTA by December 15, 2023 for student entries to be accepted for judging by LAPTA
- ❑ Go to <https://www.louisianapta.org/reflections> for more information and forms
- ❑ Questions about Reflections? Send a note to arts.education@louisianapta.org

Louisiana PTA is in search of Leaders to serve on the Board of Directors

Apply Here



SCAN ME

Email us at president@louisianapta.org if you are interested in learning more about volunteering at the State level.