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Bulletin of the Kentucky PTA

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Reflections entry deadline for both District PTA Reflections entries and PTAs/PTSAs in districts with no district leadership must be postmarked on or before December 15, 2016.

Send or deliver these to Kentucky PTA. If you have any questions call 502.226.6607 or email reflectionskypta@gmail.com.

A Message from Kentucky PTA President

As 2016 draws to a close, I want to thank you for your hard work and steadfast efforts throughout the year. Together, we’ve strengthened and built upon programs and priorities that are benefiting families and making difference for the education, health and welfare of all children. Thank you for the countless hours you have voluntered and the sacrifices you made on behalf of the children and the families in your school and community. We are grateful and honored to have worked side-by-side with passionate and dedicated individuals who are committed to ensuring every child has the opportunity to reach his/her full potential.

On behalf of the Kentucky PTA Board I wish each of you a wonderful and blessed holiday. I hope you have the opportunity to enjoy a break from work, school and other responsibilities and gather with family and friends to celebrate special traditions and the joys of the season. I look forward to continuing our work together in 2017!

Change and Opportunities

Whenever the holiday season draws close, I can't help but start thinking about the new year. December is a time to reflect on the past 12 months and start looking forward to the year ahead.

We've seen a lot of change in the past year or so - no doubt about it. I'm now 14 months into the job,
these completed items to Kentucky PTA for our records.

our Governor is almost a year into his term, and the President-elect will be sworn into office in January. For the first time in 80 years, one party controls both the executive and legislative branches of state government with a similar arrangement at the national level.

Regardless of how you voted, I think one thing that we all can agree on is that education is a critical component in the progress of our state and our country. It is key for our workforce, our ability to attract new business and jobs, our economic growth, and most importantly the quality of life for our students. [read more]

Membership Corner

December is a great time to review the goals you set for your membership committee at the beginning of the school year.

Then, set a new, short-term goal for the January 15 deadline for the Strive for Five drawing - a 5% increase over your last year’s membership total. Be sure to gather a group of volunteers that can start working on your goals right away in January.

Next, meet with your committee to discuss your goal and theme and decide who is underrepresented in your PTA/PTSA. Fathers? Grandparents? Teachers/Staff? Students? Bilingual families? After you decide who you want to reach, create a fresh membership form using your new theme.

Want more membership tips? Read on!

Every Student Succeeds

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015, calls for parents to be meaningfully involved and consulted in the development of state and school district education plans. Learn more from the national PTA’s resource "Family Engagement in the New Law".

Nearly 1,000 youth and adults attended Children’s Advocacy Day in 2016, and we need you to help pack the rotunda and ask elected officials to prioritize kids in the 2017 legislative session on February 9, 2017.

Important Dates

February is:
African American History Month

February 9, 2017
Children’s Advocacy Day at the Capitol, Frankfort, KY

February 13-17, 2017
National PTA’s Take Your Family to School Week

March is: National Reading Month

April is: Month of the Military Child and National Arab-American Heritage Month

May is: Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month and National Foster Care Month

May 1-5, 2017
Teacher Appreciation Week

May 13, 2017
Student Recognition Program, Lexington, KY

June 22-25, 2017
National PTA Convention, Las Vegas
SAVE THE DATE!
Kentucky PTA Convention 2017
Friday, July 14 - Saturday July 15

Location: Bowen Elementary
1601 Roosevelt Avenue
Louisville, Kentucky 40242

Register now for an excellent opportunity for leadership training, networking with fellow PTA/PTSA leaders from across Kentucky, accepting awards on your association's behalf, and making connections with numerous vendors!

Registration is just $50 per person if you register on or before June 15.

Reminder: the Kentucky PTA Leaders' Notebook is available on the KY PTA website, www.kypta.org.

And if you haven't explored the PTA's Back to School Kit, check it out at PTAkit.org.

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Awards and Scholarships
Following are deadlines for Kentucky PTA Awards and Scholarships.

February 15, 2017
$500 Student Scholarship
$500 Teacher-Member Scholarship
$500 Parent-Member Scholarship
Christa McAuliffe Rising Star Award
Send completed applications to Kentucky PTA

February 15, 2017
SELF ESTEEM Award applications need to be sent to your District President. PTAs/PTSAs with NO district leadership should send application(s) to Kentucky PTA.

Deadlines for District Presidents
Self Esteem - winning entries should be sent to Kentucky PTA by March 1, 2017

March 15, 2017
Applications for Awards for Outstanding Membership Campaign Outstanding Classified Personnel, Outstanding Educator, Outstanding Local Unit Newsletter, Outstanding Male Involvement/Participation, Outstanding Programs/Projects, Outstanding School Nurse, Outstanding Volunteer, Outstanding Local Unit Website, Outstanding Volunteer Participation

Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol

Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol began in 2004 to unite advocates from across the state to raise their voices on behalf of children's safety, health, education, and economic well-being. Hundreds of advocates from counties across Kentucky gather at the Capitol in Frankfort every year to rally on behalf of children and promote priorities on the Blueprint for Kentucky's Children, a coalition of committed agencies that are working together to make Kentucky a place with thriving communities, strong families, and successful kids.

Click here to become a Blueprint partner and a sponsor of the 2017 Children's Advocacy Day.

Kentucky Youth Advocates wants you to have the information and resources you need to take action during the 2017 legislative session. For example, we want you to feel prepared to talk with your legislators about pressing bills that will affect children at Children's Advocacy Day and throughout the session. Please click here to take a survey to tell Kentucky Youth Advocates how we can better equip you to stand up for kids.
For information about Kentucky PTA Awards & Scholarships go to the Kentucky PTA Leaders’ Notebook.

Kentucky PTA and Class Act Federal Credit Union

Kentucky PTA is proud to announce that all Kentucky PTA members are now eligible to join Class Act Federal Credit Union.

For a limited time the credit union will make a free $25 deposit into the savings account for any Kentucky PTA member who simply joins the credit union, and will make an additional gift of $5 to Kentucky PTA for each Kentucky PTA member who joins the credit union (see coupon below).