
Contests, Grants, & Awards

Misty Richmond, LAPTA Contests Chair, Contests@LouisianaPTA.org
Jennifer Hale, LAPTA Reflections Chair, Reflections@LouisianaPTA.org

LAPTA Contests (LouisianaPTA.org/contests)

- **Red Ribbon Week Poster Contest** – Louisiana Seymore D’Fair Foundation celebrates the Kiki Red Ribbon Week School Celebration every year from October 23 – 31 with the theme “Don’t Be a Bird Brain! Avoid Drugs!” For the contest, students draw a drug-free poster on white paper. Submit up to 3 winners per Grade Division to LAPTA at LouisianaPTA.org/posters by November 1, 2025. Winners announced November 10.
- **Reflections Arts Program** – This 50+ year old program helps students develop artistic literacy and increase confidence. The different **Art Categories** are Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, and Visual Arts. PTAs decide which categories are available. Each category has specific guidelines that must be followed. The annual theme is “**I Belong**.” Submit three entries per Art Category per Grade Division to LAPTA by January 18, 2026.
- **Reflections Theme Search** – National PTA has students create the theme for Reflections Arts Program in two years. All the PTA does is share the Reflections Theme Search Flyer with their students. LAPTA gets the submissions directly. Five are chosen to advance to National PTA. National PTA gives the final winner \$100! Deadline is November 16, 2025. Winners announced December 1. Entry link at LouisianaPTA.org/theme.

LAPTA Grants (LouisianaPTA.org/grants)

- **\$750 LAPTA Literacy Grants** (4) – for PTAs to host literacy programs at their schools. For possible programs, see PTA.org/Programs. Deadline is November 23, 2025. Winners announced December 1, 2025.
- **\$750 Healthy Minds Grants** (4) – for PTAs to host mental health activities, events, and programs. See programs from National PTA at PTA.org/HealthyMinds. Deadline is March 31, 2026. Winners announced April 14, 2026.
- **\$500 Day of Service Grants** (4) – for PTAs to reach beyond the school and into the community. How can you continue the legacy of PTA? Deadline is March 31, 2026. Winners announced April 14, 2026.
- **\$500 Creative Teacher Grants** (4) – for classroom teachers to fund creative, innovative, and fun programs or projects for students. Deadline is March 31, 2026. Winners announced April 14, 2026.

National PTA Grants (pta.org/Grants) offers many grants to supplement PTAs hosting events and programs. Application is very easy, opening on August 20 and closing quickly. See their award applications, especially the School of Excellence Award (LouisianaPTA.org/programs) which closes on October 15.

LAPTA Awards (LouisianaPTA.org/awards) Due March 31

1. **Joseph F. Seeley Volunteer of the Year Award** (1) – PLEASE recognize and thank that special person.
2. **Advocacy Award for PTA Unit** (2) recognizes PTA advocacy efforts. Every PTA advocates!
3. **Advocacy Award for Students** (2) recognizes a student’s advocacy efforts.
4. **Membership Awards** (LouisianaPTA.org/membership) – Monthly Membership Challenges and Annual Awards

Summary of Dates for Contests, Grants, and Awards

November 1, 2025	Red Ribbon Week Safety Posters due
November 10, 2025	Red Ribbon Week Safety Poster Winners announced
November 16, 2025	Reflections Theme entries due
November 23, 2025	Literacy Grant application deadline
December 1, 2025	Reflections Theme Winners and Literacy Grant Winners announced
January 18, 2026	Reflections Arts Program entries due
March 2, 2026	Reflections Arts Program Winners announced
March 31, 2026	Healthy Minds Grant, Day of Service Grant, Creative Teacher Grant, Volunteer of the Year Award, and Advocacy Award applications deadline
April 14, 2026	Healthy Minds Grant, Day of Service Grant, Creative Teacher Grant, Volunteer of the Year Award, Advocacy Award, and Annual Membership Award winners announced