

# PTA matters

The newsletter of the Escambia County Council of PTAs/PTSA's



**Brigette Brooks**  
President

(850) 291-5577  
president@  
eccpta.org

## TEACHER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

- Tim Deloge, Escambia High
- Caroline Gray, Tate High
- Melissa Harold, Beulah Elem.
- Allison Hartzog, Montclair Elem.
- Kristy Imhof, Ransom Middle

The Teacher of the Year will be announced at the Golden Apple Awards ceremony on Feb. 25.

On Feb. 19, we will celebrate the **119th birthday of PTA**. When Alice McLellan Birney and Phoebe Apperson Hearst organized a meeting of more than 2,000 people in 1897 with the goal of eliminating threats to children, they started an organization that continues to work toward making such improvements in the lives of children. Like then, it is through the work of committed PTA/PTSA volunteers like you that we continue to make a difference for children in the areas of education, health and safety.

This month, several of our local PTA volunteers attended the **PTA Legislative Conference** in Tallahassee. During this conference, legislative priorities regarding testing, guns on campus, and recess, among others, were discussed, and attendees got to meet with their legislators to share input regarding these issues that impact our children.

We also had the opportunity to encourage our students at the **Reflections Awards Ceremony** on Jan. 21. PTA believes that the arts support student success, and throughout our county, our local unit PTA Cultural Arts Chairs encouraged record student participation in this program. This year's theme, "Let Your Imagination Fly," was eloquently demonstrated by our student participants. We applaud and wish success to the 42 whose work will be advancing to state competition.

While PTA recognizes and encourages full family participation in learning throughout the year, we especially encourage this during the National PTA **"Take Your Family to School Week"** Feb. 15-19. Celebrate your PTA, families, and schools working together to support your student rock star. For great ideas to make your PTA Rock the Week, visit [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org).

Through your daily efforts, the efforts of PTA continue to top the chart for making a difference in the lives of children. PTA Rocks!

— Brigette

## ECCPTA Board, 2015-16

**President** – Brigette Brooks  
**1st Vice President** – Michelle Salzman  
**2nd Vice President** – Anessa Flannigan  
**Secretary** – Nichole Collins  
**Treasurer** – Amber Graham  
**Area Vice Presidents** – Leticia Dennis,  
Deanna Neal, Pamulia Nelson  
**Immediate Past President** – Sally Bergosh

[www.EscambiaPTA.org](http://www.EscambiaPTA.org)

## Register for Founders' Day!

**Friday, February 19**  
**11 a.m.-1 p.m.**  
**The Wright Place**  
**First United Methodist Church**  
**\$20 per person**

**Deadline to register: Feb. 12**  
**Registration form: Page 3**

**Speaker: Ashton Hayward**  
**Mayor, City of Pensacola**



## Spotlight on: Hellen Caro PTA

**Hellen Caro PTA President Janet Hamilton** reports that they hosted a Mardi Gras Teacher's Tea where they had a photo booth, desserts, and gave prizes to the teachers. Also, last fall the PTA presented a \$5,000 check to the school to help fund a new electronic sign for the school which will be installed soon. (See more PTA spotlights on page 4.)



## 2014-15 Awards

*These awards were presented at ECCPTA's Awards Banquet on May 15.*

**Outstanding Principal of the Year:**  
Monica Silvers,  
Beulah Elementary

**Volunteer of the Year:**  
Debbie Malsberger,  
West Florida High

**Promoting Communications Excellence:**  
N.B. Cook Elementary

**Outstanding Mentors of the Year:**  
Cordova Park Elementary

**Local Unit Volunteer Hours:** Beulah Elementary

**Outstanding Newsletter:**  
Ferry Pass Middle,  
"Eagle's Eye"

**Health and Safety:**  
Warrington Middle

**Outstanding Program of the Year:**  
Warrington Middle

**Local Unit of the Year:**  
R.C. Lipscomb Elementary

**Outstanding Citizen of the Year:** Michelle Salzman,  
Warrington Middle

**ECCPTA "Sharp Shooter" of the Year:**  
Brigette Brooks

**ECCPTA "Major Mission Accomplished" Award:**  
Sally Bergosh for the  
Leadership Boot Camp

*Be thinking about your award entries all year! Brag about what great things your PTA has done!*

*Be thinking about your award entries for this year! Stay tuned for more information!*

# Reflections ceremony awards 42 students

Our county Reflections Awards Ceremony was held Jan. 21 at the Hall Center. Congratulations to all our winners who are moving on to state! And thank you to Reflections Chair Samarys Kervin for all her hard work with this program!

## 2015-16 ESCAMBIA COUNTY REFLECTIONS WINNERS

### VISUAL ARTS CATEGORY PRIMARY DIVISION

1st: Madyson Stone, Lipscomb Elementary  
2nd: Kristen Gaubert, Lipscomb Elementary  
3rd: William Kent, Cordova Park

### INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

1st: Malcolm Chainey, N.B. Cook Elementary  
2nd: Olivia Sarikaya, Lipscomb Elementary  
3rd: Lara Endacott, N.B. Cook Elementary

### MIDDLE DIVISION

1st: Cynthia Anderson, Beulah Academy  
2nd: Oliviaanna Spivey, Beulah Academy  
3rd: Amanda Jones, Ferry Pass Middle

### PHOTOGRAPHY PRIMARY DIVISION

1st: Lillian Banno, Scenic Heights Elementary  
2nd: Tommy Harvey, Hellen Caro  
3rd: Walton Kent, Cordova Park

### INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

1st: Quinn Fogarty, Pleasant Grove Elementary  
2nd: Holden Clark, McArthur Elementary  
3rd: Chloe Throckmorton, Lipscomb Elem.

### MIDDLE DIVISION

1st: Cora Smithkey, Jim C. Bailey Middle  
2nd: Victoria Halstead, Beulah Academy  
3rd: Holly Phillips, Ferry Pass Middle

### SENIOR DIVISION

1st: Noah Van Sickle, West Florida High  
2nd: Halyley Seligman, Washington High



Students from all over Escambia County came to receive their awards Jan. 21. Photo: Deanna Neal.

### DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY PRIMARY DIVISION

1st: Desmond Anzaldo-Satterwhite, N.B. Cook Elementary

2nd: Yvaine Knight, Hellen Caro Elementary

### INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

1st: Lauran Bryan, Lipscomb Elementary

2nd: Ava McCall, N.B. Cook Elementary

3rd: Sierra Knight, Hellen Caro Elementary

### MIDDLE DIVISION

1st: Alicianna Smiley, Ferry Pass Middle

### SENIOR DIVISION

1st: Haley Mroz, West Florida High

2nd: Christopher Mandel, West Florida High

### LITERATURE

#### PRIMARY DIVISION

1st: William Kent, Cordova Park Elementary

2nd: Sophia Senarosa, A.K. Suter Elementary

3rd: Vivian R. Fernandez, Beulah Elementary

#### INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

1st: Sara Branch, Scenic Heights Elementary

2nd: Liv Morehouse, Lipscomb Elementary

3rd: Christina Hayes, Lipscomb Elementary

### MIDDLE DIVISION

1st: Kento Nutter, Ferry Pass Middle

2nd: Makayla Brazwell, Beulah Academy

3rd: Taylor Riddle, Beulah Academy

### FILM PRODUCTION

#### INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

1st: Andrew Walker, Lipscomb Elementary

2nd: Reece Parish, N.B. Cook Elementary

3rd: Maya Alvoid-Zanardi, Beulah Elementary

### MUSICAL COMPOSITION

#### PRIMARY DIVISION

1st: Landon Fernandez, Pleasant Grove Elem.

#### INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

1st: Caden Fernandez, Pleasant Grove Elem.

2nd: Lindsey Lawrence, Cordova Park Elem.

3rd: Gabriel McLendon, N.B. Cook Elementary

## Free dental day for kids is Feb. 27

Give Kids a Smile 2016 is set for Feb. 26-27 at the Pensacola State College Warrington Campus, 5555 West Hwy. 98. Sponsored by EscaRosa Dental Society and Pensacola State College, this is a free Dental Day for underserved children in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties up to age 16 who cannot otherwise afford dental treatment. Voluntary pre-screening is noon



to 5 p.m. Feb. 26 (being pre-screened may significantly cut down your wait time for Saturday!); the event is 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 27.

ECAT will be providing free rides to the Pensacola State College campus for patients and their

families on Feb. 27.

For more information please contact: Allie Simmons, GKAS Day Coordinator, dralliepkd@gmail.com.

## PTA Scholarships

Florida PTA offers four scholarships in these categories: University, Fine Arts, Community College, and Vo-Tech, to a student graduating in the 2015-2016 school year. This is a one-time award of \$2,000 and will be awarded to students who are interested in pursuing higher education. Students must be a member of their high school's PTA/PTSA or the Sunshine State PTSA. For requirements and application, visit [floridapta.org/programs/scholarship](http://floridapta.org/programs/scholarship). **Deadline is May 1.**

## 2015-16 Board

### President

Brigette Brooks  
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### 1st Vice President

Michelle Salzman  
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### Area Vice Presidents

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### Treasurer

Amber Graham  
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### Secretary/Hospitality Chair

Nichole Collins  
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### Community Involvement

Jo McArthur  
(850) 469-5676

[jmcarthur@escambia.k12.fl.us](mailto:jmcarthur@escambia.k12.fl.us)

### Immediate Past Pres.

Sally Bergosh  
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[sbergosh@escambia.k12.fl.us](mailto:sbergosh@escambia.k12.fl.us)

### Health & Safety

Susan Kennedy  
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[skennedyhealthykids@gmail.com](mailto:skennedyhealthykids@gmail.com)

### Ways & Means

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[debbie.pta@cox.net](mailto:debbie.pta@cox.net)

### Reflections Chair

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[samarys.kervin@amec.com](mailto:samarys.kervin@amec.com)

### Teachers Matter Chair

Deidre Young  
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[dyoung2342@gmail.com](mailto:dyoung2342@gmail.com)

### Legislative Chair

Jenny Dyess  
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[jd Dyess1@cox.net](mailto:jd Dyess1@cox.net)

### Communications Chair

Kirsten Efir  
(850) 494-2982

[ksefir@aol.com](mailto:ksefir@aol.com)

### Web Design/Web Master

Larry Brooks  
(850) 291-2876

[larryb@thinkai.com](mailto:larryb@thinkai.com)

# Founder's Day 2016

Escambia County Council of PTAs/PTSAs  
Has Selected You!  
Founder's Day Luncheon

### The Set

The Wright Place  
80 East Wright St  
Pensacola, FL 32501

### The Release Date

Friday, February 19, 2016  
11:00 am  
\$20 per person

### Special Guest Star

Ashton Hayward  
Mayor, City of Pensacola

### The Script

Local units donate a themed basket for the "Battle of the Baskets" silent auction. The basket with the most tickets sold wins a prize. Everyone come prepared to donate (\$1 to \$1 million) to the FPTA Kathie Lasky Scholarship

### R.S.V.P.

R.S.V.P. by Friday, February 12, 2016  
ECCPTA 1st V.P. Michelle Salzman  
850.207.5024  
michelle@sysctl.net

**Cast (School) / Name(s) of Actors** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount** \_\_\_\_\_ **Check#** \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit to ECCPTA Treasurer  
30 E. Texar Dr.  
Rm 140a  
Pensacola, FL 32503



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\*Early Bird Registration will be entered into a drawing for a \$200 Starbucks gift basket.

## ECCPTA Events Calendar

### February

- 12 Founders' Day reservation deadline
- 13 History Fair Awards Ceremony
- 15 Teacher planning day; no school for students
- 16 ECCPTA Board meeting, 11:30 a.m., Hall Center, room 140
- 16 School Board meeting, 5:30 p.m., Hall Center, room 160
- 19 Founders' Day lunch, 11 a.m., The Wright Place, First UMC, downtown
- 25 Golden Apple Awards

### March

- 10 PTA Leaders Roundtable, 9-11 a.m.
- 15 ECCPTA Board meeting, 11:30 a.m., Hall Center, room 140
- 15 School Board meeting, 5:30 p.m., Hall Center, room 160
- 21-25 Spring Break

### Save the Date!

- ECCPTA Awards and Officer Installation, 6 p.m. May 6, Heritage Hall, Seville Quarter
- National PTA Convention, June 30-July 3, Walt Disney World's Swan and Dolphin Resort, Orlando
- Florida PTA Annual Leadership Convention, July 14-17, Innisbrook Resort

## Spotlight on the local units

■ **Pleasant Grove Elementary** is enrolled in the **National PTA School of Excellence program**. The National PTA School of Excellence is a recognition program that supports and celebrates partnerships between PTAs and schools in order to enrich the educational experience and overall well-being of the students.

■ **Ensley Elementary PTA** has been conducting a blanket drive for Sacred Heart Children's Hospital.

■ **West Florida High School PTSA** held a four-part Financial Literacy Course in partnership with Junior Achievement in October. This program focused on earning money, spending money wisely through budgeting; saving and investing money; using credit cautiously; and protecting one's personal finances. The application of these lessons will allow students to set specific goals for their lifelong financial needs and desired quality of life. The response was so great that the PTSA plans to repeat the program this spring.

■ **Beulah Elementary PTA** helped fund the "Innovation Center" in the library. PTA also purchased a new slide to replace a broken one on the playground. *Submit news to kirstenefirdpta@gmail.com.*

## Apply for Family/Community Involvement Award!

This month, all principals and volunteer coordinators received an application to apply for the Family/Community Involvement Award. While PTAs can't submit directly, we can contact our volunteer coordinators and make a suggestion for submission based on programs they have completed this year. More information on this program is on the FPTA website as well at [floridapta.org/programs/family-community-engagement#](http://floridapta.org/programs/family-community-engagement#)

**Entries must be postmarked by Feb. 15.** Contact Jo McArthur for more information at [jmcarthur@escambia.k12.fl.us](mailto:jmcarthur@escambia.k12.fl.us) or 469-5676.

Winners are published in **Spark-plugs**, which is circulated statewide by PTA leaders and volunteer coordinators and is a great resource for all PTAs.

The award is sponsored by Florida PTA, Florida Department of Education and State Farm.

To view last year's publication, go to: [www.floridapta.org/programs/family-community-engagement/sparkplugs](http://www.floridapta.org/programs/family-community-engagement/sparkplugs)

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Mayor, City of Pensacola

RSVP by Feb. 12  
to Michelle Salzman  
(850) 207-5024 or  
[michelle@sysctl.net](mailto:michelle@sysctl.net)

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