

# the VOICE

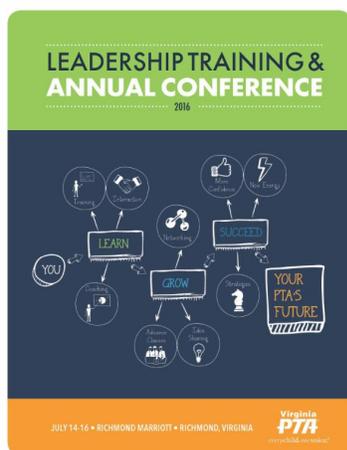
May 15, 2016

**Virginia  
PTA**  
everychild.onevoice.®



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Virginia PTA 2015-2017  
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## [Join Our Mailing List!](#)



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## VAPTA MEMBER LINKS

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Watch for the Local Unit Incoming President's packet, it's been mailed to your school. Pass it on to next year's president. It has information to finish this year and give the new officers a good start to the coming year. For your current year, you'll find the Dues Remittance Form, Good Standing Checklist, Membership Standards Awards and more. Among the items for your 2016-2017 officers, there's the Officers Contact Form, Membership Envelope Order Form, and Treasurer's Calendar.

As we ready for our Leadership Training and Annual Conference in July, you'll see information on Bylaws Amendments. There's still time to take advantage of the **Early Bird Registration** and save \$25.00 per person by registering on or before **May 20th!**

How do you thank and honor those PTA/PTSA officers, volunteers, administrators, teachers and community members that contribute so much to your PTA/PTSA? Present a Virginia PTA Service Award. From Life Membership to Certificate of Appreciation, you can recognize their efforts with these keepsakes. Details are in the mailing. All proceeds go to funding the Virginia PTA Scholarship Program.

The Local Unit Incoming President's Mailing is one more resource for you as we seek to help you grow!

Sincerely,

Jane  
**Grow!**

## Congratulations...

to all the 2016 National PTA Reflections Award **Winners!** Learn more about the [Outstanding Interpretation Winners](#).



An extra special congratulations to 7 Virginia winners:

- Charles Nguyen from Sangster ES, *NOVA District* received the Award of Excellence in Literature for Special Artist Division for his "*Rhythm of the Marching Drums*"
- Leah Baines, Thomas Eaton MS, *Peninsula District*, received the Award of Merit in the Dance Choreography Middle Division for her "*Let Your Imagination Fly and Your Dreams Come True*"
- Eric Poor, Waples Mill ES, *NOVA District* received Award of Excellence in Dance Choreography for the Primary Division for his "*When A Stuffed Puppy Comes to Life*"
- Penelope Arnold from W. W. Gordon ES, *James River District* received the Award of Merit in Literature for the Primary Division for her "*Dobermans, Maltese, Chihuahuas and More: The Day We all Turned into Dogs*"
- Johnathan Petrini from George Washington MS, *NOVA District*

- [501\(c\)\(3\) Letter](#)
- [Officer Contact Form - Print and Mail](#)
- [Officer Contact Form - Online Submission](#)
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### NATIONAL PTA



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### One Voice Blogs

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### PTA Members ONLY



### [PTA Benefits Flyer](#)

received the Award of Excellence in Music Composition for his *"Sonata in E Major: The Humming Bird Sonata"*

- Daniel Choi from J. Michael Lunsford MS, *Hunt District* received the Award of Merit in Visual Arts for the Middle School Division for his *"The Stairway Out of the Limit"*
- Selah Holston from R. O. Nelson ES, *Peninsula District* received the Award of Excellence in Visual Arts for the Intermediate Division for her *"More Than Meets the Eye"*

To see all 30 entries from Virginia that went to the National level visit the Reflections [2015-2016 Gallery](#).

Students of all grades and abilities may participate and explore the arts based on the 2016-2017 theme: *What Is Your Story?* Details will be available on the Virginia PTA Reflections page soon.

## CONFERENCE CORNER

**JUST 5 MORE DAYS TO SAVE \$25!**



Early Bird Registration for our 2016 Leadership Training and Annual Conference ends **May 20th at 11:55pm!**

Don't miss this chance to participate in great training, meet and network with your Districts and connect with other PTA people from around the state!

Plus - if you register THREE or more people from your unit, you will be entered into a drawing to win back all three registration fees! Virginia PTA is all about making the best training available to you at the best price!

The full schedule is on page 4 of the [Call](#) and don't forget when you [Register](#) to add your exclusive Annual Conference [T-shirt](#), only available online this year!

Remember to check us out on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) every Wednesday for featured Workshops!

### You Spoke and We Listened!

Once again we asked you to submit potential themes for the 2017 Citizenship Essay contest. We received many great entries, and are excited to announce next year's theme! Congratulations to Theresa Slayton of **John B. Cary Elementary School, Richmond District** for submitting the winning Citizenship Essay theme "We the people...why vote?" Theresa receives a \$15 PTA Store gift certificate to use at the Virginia PTA Annual Conference in Richmond, July 14-16, 2016. Congratulations again!

### Voice of Membership

Are you counting down to the end of the school year? You're not the only one - BUT, your new officers will need to start planning for next year's membership drive. Why not share your successes with both your incoming officers and the Virginia PTA so we can pass it forward to PTA/PTSA units across the state. Send your great membership growth ideas to [vpmembership@vapta.org](mailto:vpmembership@vapta.org). Your ideas may be discussed at the [2015 Leadership Training and Annual Conference](#) in July. Keep up the good



work and let's plan great membership drives together.

## Help Fight Child Trafficking in Our Schools & Community



Schools are being used by traffickers as venues to scout for and lure vulnerable youth into commercial exploitation. Because of this growing problem, the Virginia legislature signed Senate Bill 259 in 2012 requiring the Virginia State Board of Education to provide awareness and training materials on human trafficking of youth to local school divisions across the Commonwealth as a way to fight this overlooked & covert form of child abuse. Schools are now mandated to provide education to their staff on human trafficking, including strategies for the prevention of trafficking of youth. The Virginia PTA, in their 2012 Resolution on Child Trafficking, is "encouraging its constituent organizations to support their public schools and communities in providing awareness training and advocate for prevention strategies.

As a way to advocate for prevention, IMPACT, People Against Child Trafficking, a local nonprofit committed to fighting domestic minor trafficking in American schools, is hosting a first-in-the-nation Summit on Saturday, June 11th, at the Virginia Commonwealth University, entitled "Trafficking of Minors in America's Schools : Why Prevention Education is Necessary." All are invited to learn about domestic minor trafficking and how prevention education plays a critical role in keeping students safe from the deceptive & manipulative tactics of traffickers. There are over 30 teen trafficking prevention curricula being used successfully in schools across the United States - all empowering students to make safer choices for themselves and their peers. FIND TEEN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION CURRICULUM THAT FITS YOUR SCHOOL DEMOGRAPHIC on [NESTeducators.org](http://NESTeducators.org) (National Educators To Stop Trafficking). Learn why one Virginia school district decided to incorporate a 90-minute teen trafficking prevention program into their high school curriculum. Angella Alvernaz, human trafficking specialist for Prince William County Schools, will share the successful results that their grant-supported prevention program has had on the lives of their students, teachers, staff, and community at large.

Be inspired. Join the fight. Awareness is Prevention. [Register now](#) for the June 11th Summit. Email your questions to Fay Chelmow at [faychelmow91@gmail.com](mailto:faychelmow91@gmail.com).

## Virginia PTA: Welcome to Ticket Monster Perks!

A frequently asked question regarding PTA Membership is, "What are the benefits from businesses?" [Ticket Monster Perks](#) is our new entertainment benefit platform that offers you exclusive discounts on ALL sports, concerts, theater, movie tickets and theme park tickets nationwide. Follow these three easy steps below and start saving today!



1. Go to [ticketmonsterperks.com](http://ticketmonsterperks.com)
2. Sign up & save \$10 on your first order!
3. Start searching for discounted sports, concert and theater tickets nationwide

\* If prompted, use your company identifier: VAPTATix1

## PTA School of Excellence

### Final Application Deadline



Local PTAs are encouraged to demonstrate their commitment to building strong family-school partnerships and visit [PTA.org/Excellence](http://PTA.org/Excellence) to enroll by **October 1**.

Current enrollees may need your encouragement in completing their final application by **June 1**. [Apply](#) to be recognized as a [National PTA School of Excellence](#) today!



### Kindle 2017 PTA Family Reading Experience!

In March 2017, thousands of schools will transform their National Reading Month event into a PTA Family Reading Experience - an interactive event engaging whole families in reading activities. Parents take part in the fun with their kids and leave the event with a deeper understanding of the simple ways they can support.

Plan your March 2017 National Reading Month. [Apply](#) for a classroom of Kindle E-readers to support your Family Reading Experience next March. Application **closes June 1**.

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