

Congressional Record

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House of Representatives Recognizing the 2021 Northern Virginia District PTA Annual Award Recipients HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY OF VIRGINIA

MR. CONNOLLY: Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the 2021 Northern Virginia District PTA Annual Award recipients. Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) and Parent Teacher Student Associations (PTSAs) in Northern Virginia serve a critical role in helping to provide the best possible educational environment for our students.

The Northern Virginia District PTA represents 225 school PTAs representing 5 school divisions. Maintaining a healthy and strong organization is an important part of allowing these groups to have the greatest possible impact on the students they serve. To encourage such strength, it is important to note the individual PTAs that excel in this mission, as well as the volunteers and educators who support them. It is my honor to enter their names into the Congressional Record.

2021 NOVA District PTA Elementary Volunteers of the Year Honorees: **Rebecca Stebbins, Camelot ES PTA; Erin Anderson, Hollin Meadows Science & Math Focus PTA; Jen Blackford, Little Run ES PTA.**

2021 NOVA District PTA Secondary Volunteers of the Year Honorees: **Shirley Alexander, Kilmer MS PTA; Samantha Mulvaney, Mark Twain MS PTA; Sherry Nachnani, Mount Vernon High School PTSA.**

2021 NOVA District PTA Outstanding Educator and Staff Member of the Year Honorees: **Ann Jopke, Hollin Meadows Science & Math Focus PTA, Educator; Charlotte Quigley, Little Run ES PTA, Educator; Marion Hawthorne, Arlington Science Focus School PTA, School Counselor; Brittany Belscher, Little Run ES PTA, School Counselor.**

2021 NOVA District PTA Excellence in Communications Award Honorees: **Jennifer King, Laurel Ridge ES PTA; Andrea Kramer, Thoreau MS PTA; Monique Roberts-Rabil, Oakton HS PTSA; Kara Jenkins, Fairfax County Council PTA.**

2021 NOVA District PTA Excellence in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Honorees: **Jefferson-Houston PreK-8 IB School PTA; Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy PTA; Union Mill ES PTA.**

2021 NOVA District PTA STEM/STEAM PTA of the Year Award Honorees: **Arlington Science Focus School PTA; Hollin Meadows Science & Math Focus PTA.**

2021 NOVA District PTA Excellence in Outstanding PTA of the Year Award Honorees: **Camelot ES PTA; Great Falls ES PTA; Hollin Meadows Science & Math Focus PTA; Laurel Ridge ES PTA; Union Mill ES PTA; Mount Vernon High School PTSA.**

2021 New PTA Charter: **Innovation ES PTA, Arlington County.**

Congratulations to NOVA District PTA Students earning 2021 National PTA Reflections Awards for this year's theme "I Matter Because....": **Claire Moon, Outstanding Interpretation, Visual Arts, Rachel Carson MS PTA; Julia Drolet, Award of Merit, Visual Arts, Wolftrap ES PTA; Manya Yellepeddy, Award of Excellence, Dance Choreography, Rachel Carson MS PTA; Isabelle "Trini" Rogando, Award of Excellence, Literature, Thomas Jefferson HSST PTSA; Charles Nguyen, Award of Excellence, Literature, Special Artist, Lake Braddock SS PTSA; Jake Sizemore, Award of Excellence, Music Composition, Special Artist, Lake Braddock SS PTSA.**

A special note of appreciation for dedicated service during 2020-2021 is extended to **Hamid Munir, NOVA District Director; Debbie Kilpatrick, Assistant Director; Jason Morgan, Secretary/Treasurer; Julie Shepard, Advocacy Chair; Mary Gauvin, Communications Chair; Mike Woltz, Diversity, Outreach, and Inclusion Chair; Tony Shivers, Education Chair; Denise Bolton, Programs Chair; Martha Coleman, Events Coordinator; Patricia Franck, Special Projects Chair; Kara Jenkins, Fairfax County Council PTA President; Emily Vincent, Arlington County Council PTA President; Bill Pfister, Alexandria City Council PTA President; Pam Croom, Virginia PTA President; and Anna King, National PTA 57th President.**

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the outstanding achievements of the individuals, PTAs and PTSAs that are being honored. Dedicated involvement from so many reflects a strong commitment to public education and community service that students in our schools are fortunate to experience. I offer my strong support for these organizations and their dedicated members and volunteers.