

# Welcome to 2022 Leadership Convention

Session will begin soon





# ***Utah PTA Awards***

Connecting Great Programs and Great Volunteers



Ann Howden  
Utah PTA Awards Specialist



# Awards Categories

- School Administrator
- Advocacy
- Development
- Elementary Educator
- Engagement
- Sprit of Inclusivity
- Secondary Educator
- Spirit of PTA
- Support Staff
- Volunteer



## Utah PTA Awards

Recognition is a key factor in any successful business/organization as well as a key factor in retaining quality volunteers. Awards and recognition are a necessary priority in PTA at all levels. You will find that awards and recognition will provide your PTA with many great benefits.

Utah PTA is here to help assist you and your school in providing opportunities to recognize greatness at your school. While there are endless ways this can be done, we are happy to provide you with this meaningful opportunity.



### Award Due Dates

Council: Councils set due date (Guideline: awards submitted online on or by January 14)

Region: Regions set due date (Guideline: awards submitted on or by February 7)

Utah PTA: March 1st (Awards will not be accepted late to Utah PTA)

### Apply Online Here

[Utah PTA Advocacy Award](#)

[Utah PTA Development Award](#)

[Utah PTA Engagement Award](#)

[Utah PTA Outstanding Elementary Educator Award](#)

[Utah PTA Outstanding Secondary Educator Award](#)

[Utah PTA Outstanding School Administrator Award](#)

[Utah PTA Outstanding Support Staff Award](#)

[Utah PTA Outstanding Volunteer Award](#)

[Utah PTA Spirit of Inclusivity Award](#)

[Utah PTA Spirit of PTA Award](#)

### Board Member



**Ann Howden**

Awards Specialist

[awards@utahpta.org](mailto:awards@utahpta.org)

**<https://www.utahpta.org/utah-pta-awards>**

Get access to awards requirements, online applications, updated information guides and important dates.



# Awards Process Timeline



**May**

Attend a training at the Utah PTA Leadership Convention. Learn about the awards process, the current year winners and the great PTA projects happening in Utah's Schools.

**2 August - September**

Develop a team to work on awards at the school level. Review awards from previous years if accessible. Determine a plan of action for your school's awards process including how to nominate and write awards and to recognize individuals at the school level.

**3 October - November**

Find individuals willing to help write and organize awards. Learn the requirements for each award and set a goal for how many awards to submit to council. Get the dates from your Region for award submissions.

**4 December - January**

Collect all materials and information for awards. Ask for help with letters of recommendation and supplemental materials. Become familiar with the online submission process and submit awards by the correct deadline.

# Awards Judging

Awards are judged by members of the Utah PTA Board of Directors.

Each award category is judged using a rubric created by Utah PTA.

State winners are not necessarily evenly dispersed through categories, rather the awards with the highest scores overall win at the state level.



# What Do Winners Get?



All award nominees *should* be recognized at the school level by the local PTA that nominated them AND at the region level.

Award winners at the state level are awarded a gift card from Mountain America Credit Union, celebrated at an awards breakfast at the Utah PTA Leadership Convention, & recognized on the stage during a general session of convention.

Outstanding winners and programs will be highlighted on the Utah PTA Awards webpage.



## ***Outstanding Administrator***

Lance Robins  
Heritage Elementary

Jed Johansen  
Syracuse Elementary

Jennifer Moore  
Windsor Elementary

These administrators:

- Attend monthly PTA meetings, attend and help with PTA sponsored activities.
- Work with parents from all backgrounds with respect and great concern for their children.
- Provide guidance and support for children, parents and teachers.
- Provide approachable leadership, in the event of triumph or tragedy.



## ***Advocacy***

Chera Fernelius  
Bountiful High School



Created, implemented and leads a Multi-Cultural club and committee at Bountiful High School.

# Award Winners 2022

## ***Development***

Kami Huntsman  
Calvin Smith Elementary

Jessica Ellison  
Mountain Shadows Elementary

Kristel Dickson  
Bonnevile Elementary

- Kami and the Smith Elementary PTA created "SOAR together" week to create a new sense of community when school was back to in-person learning.
- Jessica Ellison and her PTA team organized a successful school Wellness Fair inviting experts in wellness and mental health to the school to provide resources for parents and the community.
- Kristel Dickson and her PTA created the "Rider's Reading Challenge" for all the students at Bonneville Elementary to encourage reading. They are now using their data to see how their program is influencing reading scores of students in the school.

## ***Elementary Educator***

Mei-Dai Griffin  
Calvin Smith Elementary

Debbie Smith  
Northridge Elementary

Lauren Rawe  
Bonneville Elementary

- Mrs. Griffin teaches Chinese Dual- Immersion. She is a member of Smith Elementary PTA, loves the students and activities and is in charge of the Lion Head Dance Club.
- Ms. Smith fills her students with love through daily affirmations, "I am smart and I am capable", exciting class programs and even visits to their homes during Covid.
- Ms. Rawe is raved about for helping with everything at school and for being kind, compassionate, helpful and organized.

## ***Engagement***

David and Alexandris Sandberg  
Bountiful High School

Jodi Larson  
Upland Terrace Elementary

Kami Huntsman  
Calvin Smith Elementary

Chari Hardman  
Oak Canyon Junior High

- The Sandbergs, for years, have provided outstanding service and support running the Battle of the Bands and making it accessible for all students.
- Ms. Larson runs the school musical and created a safe and healthy opportunity for all the students in the school to participate in Aladdin Jr. following Covid restrictions.
- Smith Elementary in conjunction with Bennion Junior High threw an amazing Chinese New Year celebration for the community.
- Ms. Hardman runs and organizes, "Oak Canyon Has Talent", a project that involves teachers, students and the community to showcase talents and abilities, including students with developmental and learning disabilities.



# Chinese New Year – Smith Elementary and Bennion Jr High

Utah PTA Engagement Award | Supplemental Material | Combined CNY Celebration Photos



## ***Inclusivity***

Lisa Williams  
Centennial Elementary



Lisa is known in her community as a kind, organized and inclusive leader. All activities at the school are planned for the community, including former students and their families. She is an excellent fundraiser, organizing a yearly carnival, and using that money to best meet the needs of a diverse student body.

## ***Secondary Educator***

Vennie Della Cioppa  
Timpanogos High School

Heidi White  
South Hills Middle School

Devon Murphy  
Riverton High School

Jakob Garlick  
Oak Canyon Junio High

- Ms. Della Cioppa has single handedly increased the quality and number of computer science/IT classes offered at Timp HS and within the district. She is loved by all.
- Ms. White is a PE teacher who participates with her students, creates a safe space for all and wants the kids to know that she loves and cares for them.
- Mr. Murphy teaches math during school, does ACT prep after school, makes math as fun and relatable as he can, thinking that math is a foreign language he is teaching his students to understand.
- Mr. Garlick gave up a career path in medicine to teach science to 7th graders. He is fun and inviting, using music to help students with concepts. He is passionate about learning and helping all students to succeed.

## ***Spirit of PTA***

Lachelle Thompson  
Windsor Elementary

Crystal Bartlett  
Orem High School

Lara Gordon  
Centerville Junior High

Olivia Goldman  
Spring Creek Elementary

Hallie Wilkins  
Edgemont Elementary

- Lachelle donates her time and energy to the PTA/PTSA of 4 different schools. She volunteers with school pantries, getting teachers "grants" from the PTA, counseling centers and helps to organize and empower all the PTA's she works with.
- Crystal loves volunteering in elementary and secondary schools and works hard to boost the PTA participation in her local middle school.
- Among other things, Lara volunteer and runs the service club, providing all students the opportunity to do a monthly service project.
- Olivia is a champion of diversity and strives to include all children and families in her school and local community.
- Hallie volunteers everywhere inside the school, picks up the slack when programs need help, plans a party for any class that needs one and spends a lot of time encouraging dads to participate in PTA.



## ***Support Staff***

Diana Lehwalder  
Calvin Smith Elementary

Teresa Bigelow  
McMillian Elementary

Stephanie Kolan  
Lehi Elementary

- Diana is a school counselor at Smith elementary. She was instrumental in setting up a counseling center website with resources for staff and parents and creating a wellness room at the school.
- Teresa has been the administrative secretary at McMillian for 15 years. She saves the day regularly, knows every student by name, and helps and supports the PTA.
- Stephanie is an aide at Lehi elementary and single handedly created the "pitstop" room for students to take a mental health break during the day.

# Lehi Elementary Pit Stop Room



## ***Volunteer***

Lora Wright  
Calvin Smith Elementary

Nate Leishman  
Bountiful High School

Jana Keen  
Lakeridge Junior High

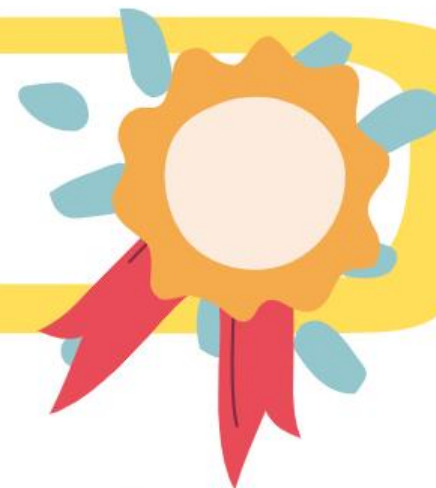
- Lora is instrumental in helping teachers and students at Smith Elementary. She organized "Stock the School" and with the help of Amazon lists got the community involved to donate to teachers all the supplies they needed for the year.
- Nate has been involved with so many activities: Battle of the Bands, theatre programs, band concerts, choir concerts, assemblies, school dances. He has DJ'd the Senior All night Party every year since 2011 whether he had a senior or not.
- Jana is a natural leader who is involved in PTA/PTSA and her local community councils. She is always willing to volunteer and help in any capacity.



## **DATES** *to remember*

- 1** Awards to council - January 2023
- 2** Awards to region - mid February 2023
- 3** Awards to state - March 1, 2023

*Need Help?*



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## Facebook

Groups you can join:

- Utah PTA Advocacy
- Utah PTA Super Secondary
- Utah PTA Excellent Elementary
- Utah PTA Treasurers
- Utah PTA Reflections
- Utah School Community Councils



Twitter



Pinterest



YouTube



Instagram



Utah PTA One Voice App

