

**Inside this Issue**

- 2 Council Awards, Texas PTA Awards, Scholarships
- 3 Slate of Officers Presented, Texas PTA Member Benefits, President's Checklist
- 4 Council's Calendar of Events and Executive Board

**Calendar**

- Apr 7 Council General Meeting, 11:00 am, Admin Bldg. Board Room
- May 2 Run for the Arts, 8:00 am
- May 5 Council General Meeting, 11:30 am, Altharetta Yeargin Art Museum
- May 6 Council Awards Night, 6:30 pm, Admin Bldg. Board Room

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*Mary Kemick, Council President*

Thanks to the Nominating Committee for all their work putting together a Slate of Officers for next year's Council of PTAs. Elections will be held at the April 7th General Council Meeting. We will need a quorum to hold the elections so please be sure to attend or send a representative from your campus.

Please consider accepting a chairmanship or serving on a committee at the Council level. It is a very rewarding experience to get to work with different PTAs and staff from around the district.

Our next Council meeting is Tuesday, April 7th at 11:00 am. Dr. Jennifer Blaine and Ms. Rebecca Fuchs are our keynote speakers. This should be an interesting and informative meeting, so please plan on attending.

The last Council Meeting of the school year will be held at the Altharetta Yeargin Art Museum. Please make plans to attend.

**SBEF HOSTS RUN FOR THE ARTS 2009**



The Spring Branch Education Foundation and the Spring Branch Health Fitness Association are gearing up for the 2009 Run for the Arts (RFA) event to be held on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Proceeds of this 5K/1K family festival will go directly to SBISD schools to support cultural arts field trips for SBISD students, grades one through eight. A portion of the proceeds are also distributed to the Health Fitness Association for student and teacher scholarships.

The event will begin at 8 a.m. for competitive runners; 5K walkers will follow. The Kid's K (1K) non-competitive run for participants in 8<sup>th</sup> grade or younger will begin at 9 a.m. This festival for the entire community will include music, children's activities, breakfast and more.

The RFA kick-off will be Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> in the Board Room of the administration building. Run for the Arts liaisons will be able to pick up their campus packets, including registration forms and detailed information about the event.

In an effort to maximize school and community participation, please start publicizing the Run for the Arts event now. It's certain to be an affair not to be missed!

## **COUNCIL OF PTAs AWARDS**

Each year, the PTA Council hands out numerous awards. Your PTA could be an award winner! But you can only win if you apply.



## Local PTA Awards Overview 2008-2009

Attached to this newsletter are the applications for all Council awards. They can also be obtained online at the Council website: [www.springbranchisd.com/partners/pta/pta.htm](http://www.springbranchisd.com/partners/pta/pta.htm).

The deadline for the following Council awards is March 31, 2009.

- Outstanding Alcohol and Drug Education Program
- Outstanding PTA Communications Award
- Cultural Arts Program Award (elementary school)
- Cultural Arts Program Award (secondary school)
- Outstanding Membership Campaign
- Helen Huey Outstanding Newsletter Award (elementary school)
- Helen Huey Outstanding Newsletter Award (secondary school)
- Parent Education Program
- Outstanding PTA Award (elementary school)
- Outstanding PTA Award (secondary school)

The Following are awards given from Texas PTA. All awards entries are submitted electronically via the Texas PTA Web site at [www.txpta.org](http://www.txpta.org) no later than May 15, 2009. Each award recognizes PTAs at either the Bronze, Silver, or Gold level. Submission forms will be available beginning April 1, 2009.

- Arts in Education Award
- Electronic Newsletter Award
- Healthy Lifestyles Achievement Award
- Legislative Action Award
- Membership Campaign Award
- Newsletter Award
- Parent Education Programming Award
- Parent Involvement Award
- Student Involvement Award
- Web Site Award

Go to [www.txpta.org/members/awardslocal.html](http://www.txpta.org/members/awardslocal.html) to find out information and the criteria for each award.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

Each year, the SBISD Council of PTAs, along with the spring Branch Education Foundation, awards scholarships to:

- Graduating Seniors for college courses to further their education
- SBISD Educators for seminars that directly benefit our students

Scholarship forms can be found online at the PTA Council webpage at [www.springbranchisd.com/partners/pta/pta.htm](http://www.springbranchisd.com/partners/pta/pta.htm). The deadline is March 30.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE PRESENTS SLATE OF OFFICERS**

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of officers for the 2009/2010 school year:

- President: Misty Ellis
- 1st VP-Programs: Camille Tarics
- 2nd VP-Leadership: Jeff Dickerson
- 3rd VP-Membership: Laura Casanover
- Secretary: TBN
- Treasurer: Mike Story

We will be accepting nominations from the floor for the position of Secretary.

Elections will be held at the General Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 7 at 11 am.

Please make sure to come or send a representative from your school so we'll have a quorum.

**LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH PTAS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT?**

SBISD Council Of PTAs Has Plenty Of Options! The Nominated Officers for the 2009/2010 Council of PTAs have been slated.

If you are interested, have any questions about the position duties or would like to nominate that special person for a chairmanship, please contact Kay Kurisky at [kkurisky@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kkurisky@sbcglobal.net).

**PRESIDENT'S CHECKLIST**

- Complete the SBISD PTA Council Awards applications. The packet can be found at the end of this newsletter or online on the Council website under Awards. Deadline is March 31st.
- Contact Kay Kurisky if you or someone you know is interested in a chairman position for Council for 2009/2010.
- Nominate your 2009 Life Members.
- Start publicizing participation or sponsorship for Running for the Arts to be held May 2nd.
- Appoint a Budget Committee.
- Nominate your PTA for a Texas PTA or National PTA award. Applications can be found at [www.txpta.org](http://www.txpta.org).

\*\*\*\*\*  
**TEXAS PTA MEMBER BENEFITS**  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Belonging to the Texas PTA has it's benefits. Texas PTA partners with organizations in order to provide discounts on services and products that PTA members might find beneficial.  
 The following companies offer discounts to Texas PTA Members: Nationwide, Enterprise, BarnesandNoble.com, Office Depot, AFLAC, La Quinta, Southwest Vacations, Fiesta Texas, Sea World, Schlitterbahn.  
 Please see [www.txpta.org/benefits.html](http://www.txpta.org/benefits.html) for a complete description of benefits.  
 \*\*\*\*\*

## Council of PTAs Calendar of Events 2009

Date	Time	Location	Program
Tuesday April 7, 2009	11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Board Room Admin. Bldg.	General Meeting; Lunch will be provided by Council
Saturday May 2, 2009	8:00 a.m.	Memorial City Mall	Run for the Arts 5K Walk/Run
Tuesday May 5, 2009	11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Altharetta Yeargin Art Museum	General Meeting; Lunch will be provided by Council
Wednesday May 6, 2009	6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	Board Room Admin. Bldg.	Council Awards Night 6:30 – 7:30 pm Elementary 8:00 – 9:00 pm Secondary
Tuesday May 12, 2009	11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Board Room Admin. Bldg.	Executive Meeting; Council Officers/New President's Orientation and Luncheon

## Council of PTAs Executive Board 2008-2009

Officer	Name	Email
President	Mark Kemick	mkemick@comcast.net
1 <sup>st</sup> VP Programs	Camille Tarics	cnt4456@aol.com
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP Leadership	Lindy Tennet	ltennet@yahoo.com
3 <sup>rd</sup> VP Membership	Laura Casanover	lcasanover@yahoo.com
Secretary	Kay Kurisky	kkurisky@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Mike Story	storytunes@aol.com

### **HELPFUL WEBSITES**

**SBISD PTA Council Website** - [www.springbranchisd.com/partners/pta/pta.htm](http://www.springbranchisd.com/partners/pta/pta.htm)

Check out the Council website – it has been updated and includes more information about Council and PTA in general. One of the additions provides links to resources about PTA and parenting in Spanish. Check it out.

**Texas PTA Web site** - [www.txpta.org](http://www.txpta.org)

Be sure to visit the members' site – you will need the user name and password from the back of your membership card. Find officer and chairman guides, membership information and more.

**National PTA website** - [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)

Check out the "PTA Great Idea Bank" under Leadership Resources – Local Leaders (you will need username and password here as well)

**Spring Branch ISD** - [www.springbranchisd.com](http://www.springbranchisd.com)

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The newsletters are published about the 1st of every month. Copies of published newsletters along with upcoming deadlines, can be found at [www.springbranchisd.com/partners/pta/newsletter.htm](http://www.springbranchisd.com/partners/pta/newsletter.htm).

PTAs – feel free to send articles on your campus events. We welcome your information. Email your articles to [pam@txreynolds.com](mailto:pam@txreynolds.com). Thank you.

**Please note:**

**COUNCIL AWARDS  
DEADLINE  
IS MARCH 31, 2009**

## 2008/2009 SBISD COUNCIL OF PTAs AND TEXAS PTA AWARDS PACKET

Dear PTA Presidents and Volunteers:

Attached are the award applications for this year's PTA awards. I hope your PTA and/or its members will consider applying for at least one of these awards if not for all of them. You are all doing wonderful work at your schools and your PTA members deserve this recognition. Presidents – please delegate the application process out to a volunteer who you know will take the time to submit something on your PTA's behalf. You are all very busy but this is an important process and I am sure you can find a volunteer to take this on.

Please note that there are several categories of awards: Council awards, Texas PTA awards and National PTA awards. Each of these awards has a separate application and each of them has its own deadline for application. Applications for all Council awards are attached and can also be obtained from our website at [www.springbranchisd.com/partners/pta/pta.htm](http://www.springbranchisd.com/partners/pta/pta.htm) and Texas PTA awards applications can be found on the Texas PTA web site at [www.txpta.org](http://www.txpta.org). National PTA award applications can be found on the National PTA web site – [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org). The awards are:

Awards with January 15, 2009 deadline:

- Council – School Bell Award

Awards with March 31, 2009 deadline:

- Council – Outstanding Alcohol and Drug Education Program
- Council – Outstanding PTA Communications Award
- Council – Cultural Arts Program Award (elementary school)
- Council – Cultural Arts Program Award (secondary school)
- Council – Outstanding Membership Campaign
- Council – Helen Huey Outstanding Newsletter Award (elementary school)
- Council – Helen Huey Outstanding Newsletter Award (secondary school)
- Council – Parent Education Program
- Council – Outstanding PTA Award (elementary school)
- Council – Outstanding PTA Award (secondary school)

Awards with May 15, 2009 deadline:

- Texas PTA - Arts in Education Award
- Texas PTA - Electronic Newsletter Award
- Texas PTA - Healthy Lifestyles Achievement Award
- Texas PTA - Legislative Action Award
- Texas PTA - Membership Campaign Award
- Texas PTA - Newsletter Award
- Texas PTA - Parent Education Programming Award
- Texas PTA - Parent Involvement Award
- Texas PTA - Student Involvement Award
- Texas PTA - Web Site Award

All Council awards applications are due to me by the deadline indicated above. All Texas PTA and National PTA awards applications must be submitted as indicated on the awards applications. Please submit your applications to me at the address or e-mail given below. If you have questions, please contact me at the address, e-mail or phone number given below. **If you would like to serve on an award selection committee or have someone to recommend, please contact me as soon as possible.**

Council Awards winners will be announced at the SBISD Council of PTAs Awards Night on Wednesday, May 6, 2009 in the Board Room of the SBISD Administration Building, 955 Campbell Road.

Good luck!

Pam Reynolds and Mary Kemick  
Co-Chairs, SBISD Council of PTAs Awards Committee  
11803 Fidelia Court  
Houston, Texas 77024  
pam@txreynolds.com  
713-977-7172

SBISD COUNCIL OF PTAs  
2008/2009 Outstanding Alcohol and Drug Education Program

**ENTRY FORM**

**DEADLINE: March 31, 2009**

The SBISD Council of PTAs gives an award to the PTA with the most outstanding individual alcohol and drug education program. The award is a certificate.

This award will be presented at the Council's Awards Night ceremony on Wednesday, May 6, 2009

COMPLETE YOUR ENTRY AND MAIL, E-MAIL OR DELIVER TO:

Pam Reynolds  
11803 Fidelia Court, Houston, Texas 77024  
(713) 977-7172  
pam@txreynolds.com

NAME OF LOCAL UNIT PTA: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF PTA (check one):

Elementary \_\_\_\_\_ Middle School \_\_\_\_\_ High School \_\_\_\_\_ Combined \_\_\_\_\_

PTA PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

1. A regular PTA program, a parent education program, or a special meeting or workshop is eligible.
2. The program must deal with one or all of the following subjects:
  - Drug abuse (causes, effects, solutions)
  - Alcohol abuse (causes, effects, solutions)
  - Parent peer group formation
3. Detailed narrative report on all aspects of the program.
4. Results - an evaluation of how your program was received by participants.
5. Supplementary materials including photos, brochures, flyers, handbooks, etc., may be submitted. A collage format may be used to save space.
6. Submission must be no more than 10 pages, front and back, or 20 single-sided pages on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. All entries must include this completed form but this form does not count as a page.
7. The time frame is one school year.

**PLEASE NOTE: ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE  
MARCH 31 DEADLINE TO BE ELIGIBLE.**

SBISD COUNCIL OF PTAs  
2008/2009 Outstanding PTA Communication Award

**ENTRY FORM**

**DEADLINE: March 31, 2009**

The SBISD Council of PTAs gives an award to the PTA with the most outstanding and effective communication with its members and community.  
The award is a certificate.

This award will be presented at the Council's  
Awards Night ceremony on Wednesday, May 6, 2009.

COMPLETE YOUR ENTRY AND MAIL, E-MAIL OR DELIVER TO:  
Pam Reynolds  
11803 Fidelia Court, Houston, Texas 77024  
(713) 977-7172  
pam@txreynolds.com

NAME OF LOCAL UNIT PTA: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF PTA (check one):

Elementary \_\_\_\_\_ Middle School \_\_\_\_\_ High School \_\_\_\_\_ Combined \_\_\_\_\_

PTA PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Description of how the PTA has established programs that encourage and strengthen parent involvement, that inform parents of clearly defined goals and priorities, that inform and work with the community on those goals and priorities, and that communicate effectively with PTA members and the community.
2. Detailed narrative report on all aspects of the program.
3. Describe all forms of communication used.
4. Supplementary materials including photos, brochures, flyers, handbooks, etc., may be submitted. A collage format may be used to save space.
5. Submission must be no more than 10 pages, front and back, or 20 single-sided pages on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. All entries must include this completed form but this form does not count as a page.
6. The time frame is one school year.

**PLEASE NOTE: ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE  
MARCH 31 DEADLINE TO BE ELIGIBLE.**

SBISD COUNCIL OF PTAs  
2008/2009 Cultural Arts Program Award

**ENTRY FORM**

**DEADLINE: March 31, 2009**

The SBISD Council of PTAs gives two awards, one to an elementary and one to a secondary PTA, for an outstanding individual cultural arts program.  
The award is a certificate.

This award will be presented at the Council's  
Awards Night ceremony on Wednesday, May 6, 2009.

COMPLETE YOUR ENTRY AND MAIL, E-MAIL OR DELIVER TO:  
Pam Reynolds  
11803 Fidelia Court, Houston, Texas 77024  
(713) 977-7172  
pam@txreynolds.com

NAME OF LOCAL UNIT PTA: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF PTA (check one):

Elementary \_\_\_\_\_ Middle School \_\_\_\_\_ High School \_\_\_\_\_ Combined \_\_\_\_\_

PTA PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Activity/project beginning and ending date.
2. Detailed narrative report on all aspects of the program.
3. Describe all forms of communication used.
4. Supplementary materials including photos, brochures, flyers, handbooks, etc., may be submitted. A collage format may be used to save space.
5. Submission must be no more than 10 pages, front and back, or 20 single-sided pages on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. All entries must include this completed form but this form does not count as a page.
6. The time frame is one school year.

**PLEASE NOTE: ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE  
MARCH 31 DEADLINE TO BE ELIGIBLE.**

SBISD COUNCIL OF PTAs  
2008/2009 Outstanding Membership Campaign

**ENTRY FORM**

**DEADLINE: March 31, 2009**

The SBISD Council of PTAs gives an award to the PTA with the most outstanding membership campaign. The award is a certificate.

This award will be presented at the Council's Awards Night ceremony on Wednesday, May 6, 2009.

COMPLETE YOUR ENTRY AND MAIL, E-MAIL OR DELIVER TO:

Pam Reynolds  
11803 Fidelia Court, Houston, Texas 77024  
(713) 977-7172  
pam@txreynolds.com

NAME OF LOCAL UNIT PTA: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF PTA (check one):

Elementary \_\_\_\_\_ Middle School \_\_\_\_\_ High School \_\_\_\_\_ Combined \_\_\_\_\_

PTA PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Detailed narrative report on all aspects of the membership campaign.
2. Describe all forms of communication used.
3. Supplementary materials including photos, brochures, flyers, handbooks, etc., may be submitted. A collage format may be used to save space.
4. Submission must be no more than 10 pages, front and back, or 20 single-sided pages on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. All entries must include this completed form but this form does not count as a page.
5. The time frame is one school year.

**PLEASE NOTE: ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE  
MARCH 31 DEADLINE TO BE ELIGIBLE.**

SBISD COUNCIL OF PTAs  
2008/2009 Helen Huey Outstanding Newsletter Award

**ENTRY FORM**

**DEADLINE: March 31, 2009**

The SBISD Council of PTAs gives two awards, one to an elementary PTA and one to a secondary PTA, for an outstanding newsletter. The award is a certificate.

This award will be presented at the Council's Awards Night ceremony on Wednesday, May 6, 2009.

COMPLETE YOUR ENTRY AND MAIL, E-MAIL OR DELIVER TO:

Pam Reynolds  
11803 Fidelia Court, Houston, Texas 77024  
(713) 977-7172  
pam@txreynolds.com

NAME OF LOCAL UNIT PTA: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF PTA (check one):

Elementary \_\_\_\_\_ Middle School \_\_\_\_\_ High School \_\_\_\_\_ Combined \_\_\_\_\_

PTA PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit 3 examples of newsletters from this school year in a folder marked with your school's name on the outside. Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Newsletters should include news from the following sources:
  - All grade levels
  - Students, parents, teachers and administrators
  - PTAs - Local Unit, Council, District, State, National
2. Newsletters should have an attractive appearance.
3. Newsletters should be legible.
4. Newsletters should communicate to all parents.

**PLEASE NOTE: ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE  
MARCH 31 DEADLINE TO BE ELIGIBLE.**

SBISD COUNCIL OF PTAs  
2008/2009 Parent Education Program Award

**ENTRY FORM**

**DEADLINE: March 31, 2009**

The SBISD Council of PTAs gives an award to the PTA with the most successful Parent Education Program using the study/discussion format. The award is a certificate.

This award will be presented at the Council's Awards Night ceremony on Wednesday, May 6, 2009.

COMPLETE YOUR ENTRY AND MAIL, E-MAIL OR DELIVER TO:

Pam Reynolds  
11803 Fidelia Court, Houston, Texas 77024  
(713) 977-7172  
pam@txreynolds.com

NAME OF LOCAL UNIT PTA: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF PTA (check one):

Elementary \_\_\_\_\_ Middle School \_\_\_\_\_ High School \_\_\_\_\_ Combined \_\_\_\_\_

PTA PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

1. A detailed narrative report on all aspects of the program including a list of topics, speakers and their qualifications, and parent involvement.
2. Supplementary materials including photos, brochures, flyers, handbooks, etc., may be submitted. A collage format may be used to save space.
3. Submission must be no more than 10 pages, front and back, or 20 single-sided pages on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. All entries must include this completed form but this form does not count as a page.
4. The time frame is one school year.

**PLEASE NOTE: ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE  
MARCH 31 DEADLINE TO BE ELIGIBLE.**

SBISD COUNCIL OF PTAs  
2008/2009 Outstanding PTA Award

**ENTRY FORM**

**DEADLINE: March 31, 2009**

The SBISD Council of PTAs gives two awards to an elementary PTA and to a secondary PTA who demonstrate outstanding parent volunteerism, PTA programs, parent education, PTA membership, community involvement, PTA leadership training, student involvement and Council participation. The award for each PTA is a certificate.

This award will be presented at the Council's  
Awards Night ceremony on Wednesday, May 6, 2009.

COMPLETE YOUR ENTRY AND MAIL, E-MAIL OR DELIVER TO:

Pam Reynolds  
11803 Fidelia Court, Houston, Texas 77024  
(713) 977-7172  
pam@txreynolds.com

NAME OF LOCAL UNIT PTA: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF PTA (check one):

Elementary \_\_\_\_\_ Middle School \_\_\_\_\_ High School \_\_\_\_\_ Combined \_\_\_\_\_

PTA PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Detailed narrative report on all aspects of the PTA year.
2. Supplementary materials including photos, brochures, flyers, handbooks, etc., may be submitted. A collage format may be used to save space.
3. Submission must be no more than 10 pages, front and back, or 20 single-sided pages on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. All entries must include this completed form but this form does not count as a page.
4. The time frame is one school year.

**PLEASE NOTE: ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE  
MARCH 31 DEADLINE TO BE ELIGIBLE.**