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Washington State PTA Honors Award Recipients and Installs New Officers at 108th Annual Convention

Tacoma, WA (May 24, 2021): Washington State PTA held its second virtual convention May 18 – May 23 and accommodated over 800 attendees with participants covering all regions in the state as well as participants from across the country. Each day attendees could attend professional development webinars using the Zoom platform which worked through Whova, an event app new to WSPTA convention. The app provided a myriad of engagement options as well as access to all webinars, meetings and event materials.

Convention attendees were able to participate in over 90 sessions, affording them the opportunity to learn about position-based skills, managing a nonprofit business, diversity and inclusion, advocacy and so much more. In addition, attendees could sign up for one-on-one coaching sessions to help them with specific issues and also participate in several separate social networking and game activities.

The business of the association was conducted on Saturday, May 22. The delegates approved three amendments to the *WSPTA Uniform Bylaws*. In addition, candidates nominated for the WSPTA board of directors were elected, and they were installed during the final general session of convention. The new board of directors will convene for the first time June 4-6, 2021, in a setting that is designed to strengthen leadership and provide support to the newly installed officers.

Each general session included highlights from our student programs: Reflections, WSPTA Essay Contest, and the WSPTA Game Development Competition. Also featured were keynote and inspirational speeches by leaders in the field sharing messages about diversity and inclusion. Awards for local PTAs, councils, and individuals were presented. WSPTA awarded their prestigious honors to individuals for Outstanding Advocate, Susan Baird-Joshi; Outstanding Service, Michelle Nims; Honorary Lifetime Membership, Connie Andrews and the Friend of Children Award was given to the team at the Governor’s Office of the Education Ombuds.

About Washington State PTA: Washington State PTA is the state’s oldest and largest child advocacy organization founded in 1905 by Abby Williams Hill of Tacoma, an artist who saw the need for an organization to support Washington’s children. Thanks to her leadership and vision—and current members who continue to carry her vision forward—Washington State PTA has been a leading voice for children in Washington for more than 110 years. To learn more about the Washington State PTA, please visit www.wastatepta.org.

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