

Report to FSMTA Executive Board
From Mark Repasky, Chairman of Community Service Awards
June 3, 2009

2009 WINNER

There were no applicants for the Local Presidents Community Service Award in 2009. There were three countywide winners of the LeRoy Greenspan Memorial Community Service Award. Three judges reviewed these three applicants and selected Elizabeth Sierocinski as the State Winner. She and her teacher were notified in late April. A plaque, check for \$500.00 and certificates of recognition as Broward County Winner and State Winner will be presented at the FSMTA Conference, Third General Session on Saturday morning, June 13, 2009. FSMTA member Mary Beth Portis will accept the award since Elizabeth cannot attend this event. Elizabeth has expressed her appreciation for being honored with this award.

ENCOURAGE GREATER PARTICIPATION

There have been no applicants for the Local Presidents Community Service Award the last two years and only four applicants for the LeRoy Greenspan Award during that time.

How can we help our teachers to inspire their students to apply for these annual awards? Our local chapters should each have a Community Service Awards chair or representative. Every year they can make announcements or write articles to encourage teachers to involve their students. Teachers should become familiar with the application forms for these awards. They are available from the FSMTA website (www.fmta.org). Students should be encouraged to keep a log of their volunteer activities involving music. Teachers can show students how to set this up. For the Local Presidents Community Service Award, students need to list their activities during their 7th, 8th and 9th grades. The Greenspan Award spans 10th through 12th grade activities. When applying for college, such lists are valuable. These days, student volunteerism is an important part of many college entrance applications.

Service to the community through music can cover a wide range of activities. Examples could include singing in a school, community or church choir, performing at recitals, at retirement centers, at community functions, playing in a band or orchestra, accompanying, serving as a music leader or teacher. If you volunteer your time and it serves the needs of the community, mark it down! A \$500.00 award goes to the State Winner of the Greenspan Award each year, and \$200.00 goes to the Local Presidents Winner. Winning one of these awards reflects very positively on the student and their teacher!

Later this summer, I will submit an article to *The Florida State Music Teacher* announcing Elizabeth as the 2009 state winner of the LeRoy Greenspan Award.