

NATIONAL PTA®  
**REFLECTIONS®**

**2021-2022  
CALL FOR  
ENTRIES!**

Learn more  
and get involved!  
[PTA.org/Reflections](https://www.pta.org/Reflections)

**I WILL  
CHANGE  
THE WORLD  
BY...**

**EXPLORE THE ARTS AND  
EXPRESS YOURSELF!**



DANCE  
CHOREOGRAPHY



FILM  
PRODUCTION



LITERATURE



MUSIC  
COMPOSITION



PHOTOGRAPHY



VISUAL ARTS

# Reflections' Promise

- National PTA's Reflections Program provides opportunities for recognition and access to the arts which boost student confidence and success in the arts and in life.
- Each year over 300,000 students in PreK through Grade 12 create original works of art in response to a student-selected theme.
- This 50+ year-old program helps students explore their own thoughts, feelings and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful in school and in life.

## How does it work?

- **REFLECT** and **CREATE**: First, students **reflect** on the common theme and use their imagination to **create** original works of art.
- **CELEBRATE** : Afterwards, we **celebrate** all participants and share their artistic works with their family, school and community.

**NOTE: PTAs must be in good standing to participate in the program. If you are unsure if your PTA is in good standing, check with your local unit president.**

## Step 1. Getting Started

- ★ Register your PTA in the National PTA Reflections Program at **[PTA.org/Reflections](https://www.pta.org/Reflections)**.
- ★ Coordinate with your **State PTA** to gather program materials, deadlines and instructions.
- ★ Understand available **arts categories and divisions**.
- ★ Recruit a **committee** of 4-6 parents and teacher volunteers.
- ★ Recruit a team of 6 or more **arts experts** to review student submissions.

# Keep track of important dates!

Customise your **checklist**:

- ❖ Submission deadline
- ❖ Judging period
- ❖ Celebration event date



## Leader's Guide

### Leader's Checklist

#### Step 1. Getting Started

- Enroll in the national program at [PTA.org/Reflections](https://www.pta.org/Reflections).
- Visit your [state's Reflections website](#) to confirm student eligibility and gather important deadlines and materials.
- Determine which arts categories and grade divisions your PTA will offer. New program leaders may consider getting started with one or more arts category and division.
- Plan and budget for your awards, prizes and recognition activities.
- Recruit a committee to help you promote participation, coordinate judging and host events.
- Recruit experienced artists to review student works.
- Share your program plans with your PTA and school leaders.

#### Step 2. Promote Your Program

- Distribute program rules and entry forms to students and teachers.
- Promote your submission deadline and instructions on how to enter. Don't forget to include any available awards, scholarships and prizes!
- Use #PTAReflections to share how your school participates in Reflections during National Arts & Humanities Month this October.

#### Step 3. Review Submissions

- Collect and organize submissions by category and division.
- Qualify entries according to each arts category rules.
- Share judging materials and submissions with your volunteer judges.
- Collect scores from judges and rank submissions.
- Gather awards and prizes and prepare works for exhibition.

#### Step 4. Celebrate Participants

- Announce awardees to the whole school community.
- Host a Reflections Celebration Event to showcase student work and distribute certificates/awards.
- Offer state and national opportunities for student recognition by sending your finalists to the next judging round.

#### Step 5. Wrap Up

- Return non-advancing submissions to students.
- Recognize volunteers, community partners, and judges.
- Evaluate your program to consider future improvements.



## Leader's Guide

### Volunteer Sign-Up

# Recruit Volunteers!

Delegate tasks to your committee:

- Promote your program
- Coordinate the review of student submissions
- Coordinate recognition
- Host celebration event

#### Publicist

To promote Reflections to school leaders and teachers, post fliers in school and around the community, share celebration event invitations with participating families, share announcements with local media outlets.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

#### Judging Coordinator

To recruit volunteer judges, organize artwork for judging, support judges and calculate their scores.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

#### Computer Wiz

To organize student entry information for award announcements, printed programs, certificates/awards and provide a list of students advancing to the next round of judging.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

#### Celebration Coordinator

To exhibit artwork, prepare student awards and lead on site event activities (program, refreshments, decorations, etc.)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

## Step 2. Promote Your Program

- ★ Download and distribute student materials including **official guidelines and entry form**. It is important to make sure that every student has the opportunity to participate.
- ★ Offer one or more of the available **categories** and **divisions**.

**6 CATEGORIES:** Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts.

**5 DIVISIONS:** Special Artist, Primary, Intermediate, Middle School, High School.

**NOTE:** Students may enter in every category and have up to six art entries. However, they cannot enter one category twice. If it happens, please contact the parent to determine which entry they would like to move forward.

# Entry Form

Complete before distribution

Student information

Student and Parent Signatures

Submission Category & Division

Title & Details of Submission

Artist Statement



## Entry Form

### To be completed by PTA before distribution.

Local PTA \_\_\_\_\_ Local PTA ID \_\_\_\_\_

Local Program Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Council PTA \_\_\_\_\_ District PTA \_\_\_\_\_ Region PTA \_\_\_\_\_ State PTA \_\_\_\_\_

Member Dues Paid Date \_\_\_\_\_ Insurance Paid Date \_\_\_\_\_ Bylaws Approval Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Classroom \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Ownership in any submission shall remain the property of the entrant, but entry into this program constitutes entrant's irrevocable permission and consent that PTA may display, copy, reproduce, enhance, print, sublicense, publish, distribute and create derivative works for PTA purposes. PTA is not responsible for lost or damaged entries. Submission of entry into the PTA Reflections program constitutes acceptance of all rules and conditions. I agree to the above statement and the National PTA Reflections Official Rules.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Grade Division (Check One)

- Primary (Pre-K-Grade 2)
- Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
- Middle School (Grades 6-8)
- High School (Grades 9-12)
- Special Artist (All Grades)

### Arts Category (Check One)

- Dance Choreography
- Film Production
- Literature
- Music Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts

Title of Work \_\_\_\_\_ Details \_\_\_\_\_

If background music is used in dance/film, citation is required. Include word count for literature. List musician(s) or instrumentation for music. List dimensions for photography/visual arts.

**Artist Statement** (In 10 to 100 words, describe your work and how it relates to the theme)



# Announce Your Call For Entries

Include your program's

- Submission deadline and location
- Where to find rules and forms
- Who to contact with questions
- Save the Date for Celebration Event



## Step 3. Coordinate the Review of Student Submissions

### ★ Qualifying Submissions:

Submissions are reviewed by arts **category and division**.

Scan and flag incomplete entry forms and submissions.

### ★ Reviewing Submissions:

Give judges a **welcome letter, instructions, rubric and score card**.

It is important for the reviewers to notice Reflections **review criteria** which can be found in the local leader's guide.

# Coordinating Judging - Important Tips

- Ask art teachers to help you identify working professionals in your local arts community.
- Set your local PTA submission deadline approximately one month before submissions are due to the next round.
- Conduct “**blind judging**” where reviewers do not see student info.

Consider both online and in-person review session ideas.

**ONLINE:** Assign numbers to each submission. Share digital copies of student work using a cloud based file sharing platform.

**IN-PERSON:** Display works on tables. Tri-fold entry forms to hide student info and instruct judges to rotate around the room to complete their score card.

# Categories-



## Dance Choreography

Solo and ensemble works of all dance styles are accepted. The entrant must be the choreographer and may also be the performer, or one of the performers. If background music is used, cite it on the entry form.

**Video** File must not exceed 5 min and 1 GB in size.

Accepted formats: AVI, FLV, WMV, MOV, MP4.

# Categories-



## Film Production

Accepted short film styles include: Animation, narrative, documentary, experimental or media presentation. The entrant must be the screenwriter, cinematographer, editor and producer. If background music is used, cite it on the entry form.

**Video** File must not exceed 5 min and 1 GB in size.

Accepted formats: AVI, FLV, WMV, MOV, MP4.

Use of PowerPoint is prohibited.

# Categories-



## Literature

Accepted forms of fiction and nonfiction include: Prose, poetry, reflective essay, screenplay and play script, narrative, and short story. Entrants may write in their primary language as long as an interpretive English translation is also attached. Use of copyrighted material is prohibited.

## Writing

Must not exceed 2,000 words.

May be handwritten or typed.

Single-sided print on 8 ½ x 11” paper.

PDF file.

# Categories-



## Music Composition

All music styles and combinations of instrumentation are accepted. The entrant must be the composer and may also be the performer, or one of the performers. Use of copyrighted material is prohibited.

**Audio** File must not exceed 5 min and 1 GB in size.

Accepted formats: MP3, WMA, WAV, ACC, FLAC.

**Notation** Only required for middle and high school divisions.

Score/tablature in PDF format.

# Categories-



## Photography

Photo must be a single print/digital image. Collages and collections of photos are not accepted. The entrant must be the photographer and may use a variety of digital editing techniques including but not limited to, multiple exposure, negative sandwich and photogram.

**Print** Must be no smaller than 3x5 inches and no larger than 8x10 inches.

Accepted print formats: Mounted on mat or poster board no larger than 11x14 inches.

Framed prints are not accepted. If you receive a framed print, please remove the frame and contact the parent or guardian to return the frame.

**Digital Image** Dimensions must be at least 640x960 (pixels) and 300 dpi (resolution).

Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, GIF, PNG.



# Categories-



## Visual Arts

Works of both fine and design arts are accepted, including but not limited to:

Architectural drawing and models, ceramics, collage, computer generated images and graphics, crafts, drawing, fashion clothes and jewelry, fiber work, mixed media, painting, printmaking and sculpture.

**2D Works** Need to be mounted on sturdy material.

No larger than 24x30 inches with matting.

Framed entries are not accepted. If you receive a framed print, please remove the frame and contact the parent or guardian to return the frame.

Include one digital image of artwork with your submission.

**3D Works** Include 3 digital images of artwork at different angles.

# Special Artist Division (1)

The **Special Artist Division** welcomes students from all grades and offers non-artistic accommodations for students to participate fully in PTA Reflections. **Student recognition and awards are announced as part of the Special Artist Division.**

## Accommodations

- **Non-artistic accommodations (e.g. adaptive technology; transcribing; holding a camera)**
- **Assistants must refrain from being involved in the artistic process (e.g. developing an artist statement, choreography, music lyrics, storyboards, etc.)**

## **Special Artist Division (2)**

**Students who identify as having a disability and may receive services under IDEA or ADA: Section 504 may enter in the Special Artist Division or grade division most closely aligned to their functional abilities.**

## Step 4. Celebrate Your Students

- Assign awards by category and division.
- Celebrate Student Achievement:

Announce winners on PTA/school website, newsletters, social media.

Host a student recognition event for families.

Award certificates, ribbons or prizes donated by local businesses.

Showcase student works at school.

Advance finalists to the next level according to State PTA guidelines and deadlines.

# Opportunity for Regional, State and National Awards and Recognition!

Submissions are advanced to the next level according to deadlines and guidelines provided by your **State PTA's Reflections Program**.

For more information on council, district and region level programs, visit your **State PTA** program page.

## Step 5. Wrap Up

- ★ Recognize Partners and Volunteers : After your Reflections Program concludes, please use the **Thank you letter** at [PTA.org/Reflections/StartYourProgram](https://www.pta.org/Reflections/StartYourProgram) to thank student and parent leaders, school personnel, submission reviewers and community businesses for their support.
- ★ Return non-advancing works.
- ★ Meet with your Reflections Committee and other team members to reflect on the program, gather feedback and document successes and areas needing improvement.
- ★ Share your success with your State and National PTA. Your feedback is important for the improvement of Reflections Program for future students.



**Thank you for your attention!**

**Questions?**

**[PTA.org/Reflections](https://pta.org/reflections)**

**[#PTAReflections](https://twitter.com/PTAReflections)**

**[reflections@huntsvillepta.org](mailto:reflections@huntsvillepta.org)**