# NATIONAL PTA® REFLECTIONS®

# WELCOME

**Helena Fischel**

TN PTA Arts In Education Chair

(Reflections, Citizenship Essay, & Theme Search)

## What we'll cover:

- What is Reflections? Why do it?
- Getting started
- Student Recognition
- Theme Search
- Questions?

Tennessee PTA® everychild.onevoice.®

# What is Reflections?

REFLECTIONS is a NATIONAL PTA Program started in 1969.

- Over 10 million participants
- Supplement arts in school
- Each year has a theme
- 6 art areas, plus Special Artist
- Pre-K through 12th Grade

# Why Do REFLECTIONS?

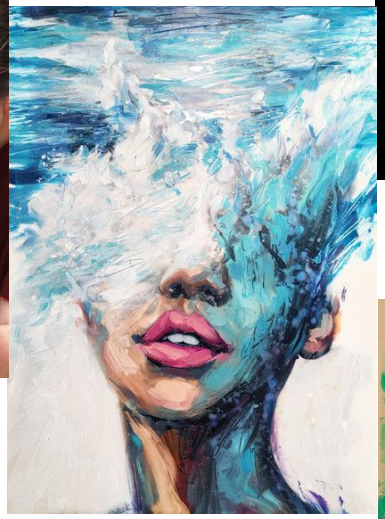
for the young dancer

for the young writer

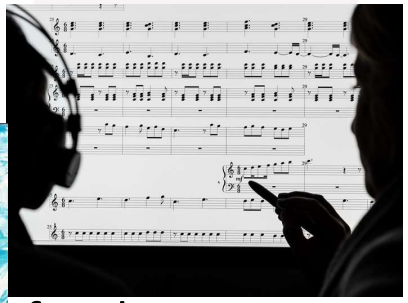
for the young photographer

for the young filmmaker

for the young artist



for the young composer



for the young special creator

IN OTHER WORDS, FOR THE KIDS!

# Category and Division Overview

***DIVISIONS***

| | |
|---|---|
| *Primary:* | *Pre K – 2nd grades* |
| *Intermediate:* | *3rd – 5th grades* |
| *Middle School:* | *6th – 8th grades* |
| *High School:* | *9th – 12th grades* |
| *Special Artist:* | *Pre K – 12th grades* |

**Film Production**

**Literature**

**Dance Choreography**

**Music Composition**

**Photography**

**Visual Arts**

**Special Artist**

***YOU can select which Art Categories you want to offer… one or all!***

# Local Reflections Chair Duties

Local PTAs should run their Reflections program according to their state's requirements. General Local Reflections leader tasks include:

- Registering your Local PTA and connect with your state's Reflections program at **PTA.org/Reflections**
- Editing and distributing program materials
- Recruiting volunteer judges
- Collecting entries and coordinating the art review process
- Advancing finalists to the next review round
- Celebrating and recognizing students

# Key Dates - Local PTAs w/o Councils

## September - October

Promote the contest (National Arts In Education Week: Sept. 10-16th)

Posters, Email, Social Media

Make entry forms available

## November

Collect Entries

Make sure entry forms and entries meet contest requirements

Organize entries

Distribute to judges

## December

Compile judges scores & finalize state level submissions

School Recognition

Create Ceremony Slideshow

Local Student Ceremony

## January 17
State Deadline

Upload all winners to National Reflections Portal to submit to State

State winners announced in Early April

State Student Ceremony

National winners announced in Early May

# Key Dates - Local PTAs w/ Council PTAs

## September - October
Run Local Contest

Promote the contest (National Arts In Education Week: Sept. 10-16th)

Make entry forms available

Collect Entries

Make sure entry forms and entries meet contest requirements

## November
Judge & Award Local Winners

Organize entries

Distribute to judges

Compile judges scores & finalize council level submissions

School Recognition, Slideshow & Local Student Ceremony

## December
Judge & Award Council Winners

Submit winners to Council

Council Judging

Create Ceremony Slideshow

Council Student Ceremony

## January 17
State Deadline

Upload all winners to National Reflections Portal to submit to State

State winners announced in Early April

State Student Ceremony

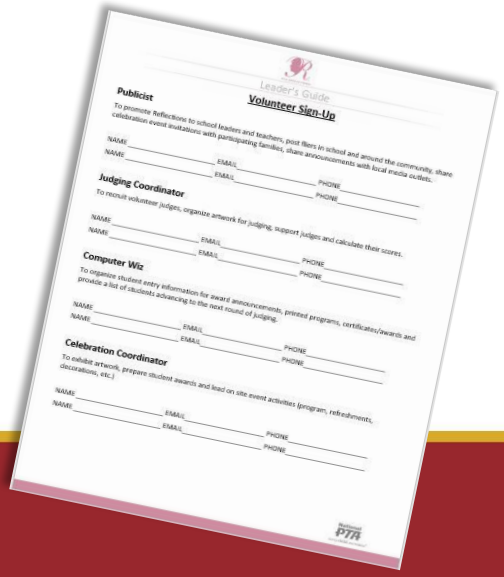
National winners announced in Early May

# Timeline Best Practice Example

- **Beg Aug:** Announce Reflections Theme in first week of school packet & social media
- **Week of Sept 4th:** TN PTA Reflections Virtual Training Webinar
- **Sept 10-16th**: Promote Reflections contest in your school during National Arts In Education Week
- **Oct 27th:** Students submit entries to local school PTA based
- **Nov 17th:** Local Unit Winners are announced
- **Dec 1st:** Local Unit first place submissions are due to Council PTAs
- **Dec/Jan:** Local & Council PTA Student Awards Ceremony based on timeline set by school/council PTA - Council Winners are announced if applicable
- **Jan 17th:** Local & Council winners due to TN PTA
- **Mar 15th:** TN PTA Winners announced
- **Apr 21st**: TN Student Awards Celebration (Knoxville)
- **May 1st:** National PTA Winners announced

# 1. Register, Connect, Recruit

- ❑ Register your PTA in the National PTA Reflections program at **PTA.org/Reflections.**
- ❑ Connect with your State PTA's Reflections program to confirm deadlines and state requirements
- ❑ Promote Reflections by Celebrating
  - ❖ National Arts in Education Week - beginning the second Sunday in September
  - ❖ National Arts and Humanities Month - October
- ❑ Recruit Volunteers for your Reflections Committee and delegate tasks:
  - ❖ Promote Program
  - ❖ Coordinate Judging
  - ❖ Host Celebration Events


Leader's Guide

Volunteer Sign-Up

**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 _____

# Tennessee Registered PTAs

- ❑ **Towne Acres Elementary School PTA** - *Alli Bowling*
- ❑ **Science Hill High School PTSA** - *Misty Potter*
- ❑ **Lakeland Elementary PTA** - *Heather House*
- ❑ **Johnson City Council PTAs** - *Allison Athon*
- ❑ **Collierville Elementary PTA** - *Cristina Ayala Smith*
- ❑ **Crosswind Elementary PTA** - *Julie Gentry*
- ❑ **Ruby Major Elementary PTA** - *Helena Fischel*
- ❑ **Tennessee PTA** - *Helena Fischel*

# Tennessee PTA Reflections Network

BAND is an all-in-one group communication app that can help make managing your Reflections program easier and more impactful.

All Reflections Leaders at Local and Council Units may request to be added by Helena Fischel at hfischel@tnpta.org.

# Tennessee Enhancement Grant

To enhance your Reflections program, you may apply for a grant through TNPTA Arts Enhancement Grant Application.

**Grant Overview:** The Tennessee PTA Arts Enhancement Grant Program complements PTA's long-standing commitment to quality arts education by providing funds to local PTAs and councils to establish or enhance arts programs in one or more arts areas: visual arts, photography, music, dance, film production, and literature (including theater).

**Funding Available:** Tennessee PTA expects to fund grants in the amount of $250 to be awarded for use towards National PTA Reflections program and the Tennessee PTA Arts in Education programs.

**Deadline:** Applications are due in the state office on or before March 1, 2024.

# Step 2. Customize and Distribute

- ❑ Edit program materials to include
  - ✔ Available arts categories for participation
  - ✔ Program deadlines
  - ✔ Directions for submitting entries
- ❑ Distribute to program participants
  - ✔ Student Entry Forms

**Include additional details in the Student materials like:**

- Contact information
- Packaging instructions (e.g., physical vs. digital)
- Additional rules for student eligibility

# Entry Form

Complete before distribution - >

Student Information - >

Student & 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)

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

National PTA

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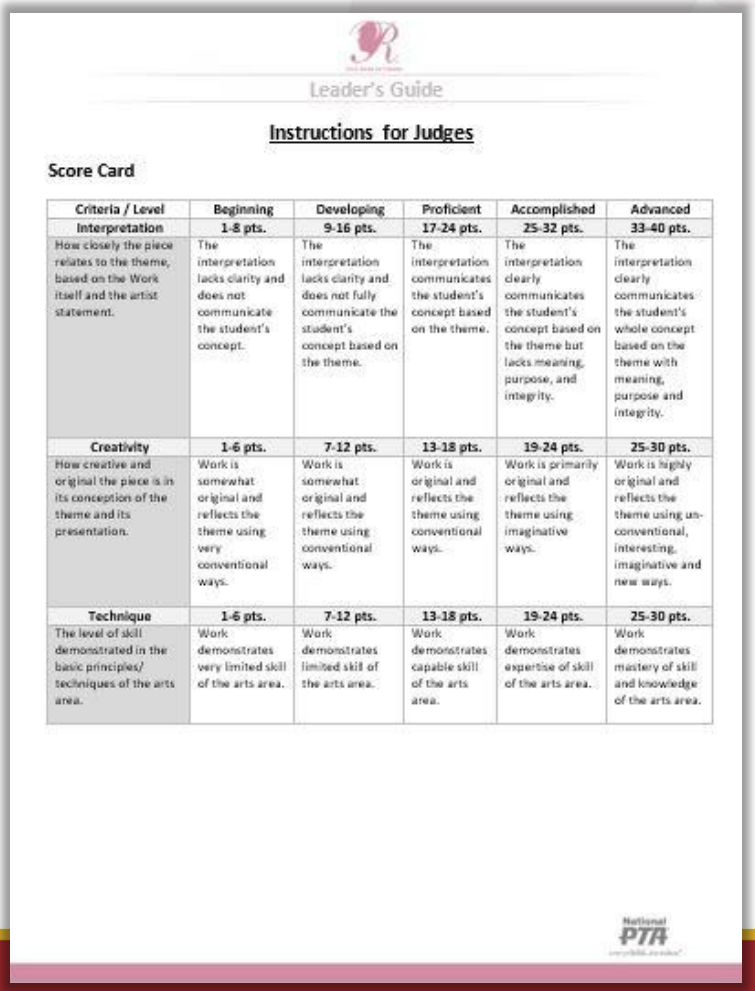
# Step 3. Coordinate Judging

- ❑ Recruit a **team of experienced arts judges** to review student works
- ❑ Tap into your local connections and resources
  - ✔ Parents
  - ✔ School/District Administrators
  - ✔ Local Art Professionals
  - ✔ Former participants or judges



Leader's Guide

**Instructions for Judges**

**Score Card**

| Criteria / Level | Beginning | Developing | Proficient | Accomplished | Advanced |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Interpretation** | **1-8 pts.** | **9-16 pts.** | **17-24 pts.** | **25-32 pts.** | **33-40 pts.** |
| How closely the piece relates to the theme, based on the Work itself and the artist statement. | The interpretation lacks clarity and does not communicate the student's concept. | The interpretation lacks clarity and does not fully communicate the student's concept based on the theme. | The interpretation communicates the student's concept based on the theme. | The interpretation clearly communicates the student's concept based on the theme but lacks meaning, purpose, and integrity. | The interpretation clearly communicates the student's whole concept based on the theme with meaning, purpose and integrity. |
| **Creativity** | **1-6 pts.** | **7-12 pts.** | **13-18 pts.** | **19-24 pts.** | **25-30 pts.** |
| How creative and original the piece is in its conception of the theme and its presentation. | Work is somewhat original and reflects the theme using very conventional ways. | Work is somewhat original and reflects the theme using conventional ways. | Work is original and reflects the theme using conventional ways. | Work is primarily original and reflects the theme using imaginative ways. | Work is highly original and reflects the theme using un-conventional, interesting, imaginative and new ways. |
| **Technique** | **1-6 pts.** | **7-12 pts.** | **13-18 pts.** | **19-24 pts.** | **25-30 pts.** |
| The level of skill demonstrated in the basic principles/ techniques of the arts area. | Work demonstrates very limited skill of the arts area. | Work demonstrates limited skill of the arts area. | Work demonstrates capable skill of the arts area. | Work demonstrates expertise of skill of the arts area. | Work demonstrates mastery of skill and knowledge of the arts area. |

# Dance Choreography

Solo and ensemble works of all dance styles are accepted. 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 1000MB in size
- Accepted formats: AVI and MP4

# Film Production

Accepted short film styles include: Animation, narrative, documentary, experimental or media presentation. All screenwriting, directing and editing must be done by the student producer. If background music is used, cite it on the entry form.

**VIDEO**

- ❑ Video must not exceed 5 min.
- ❑ File must not exceed 1000MB in size
- ❑ Accepted formats: AVI and MP4
- ❑ Use of PowerPoint is prohibited

# 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 if 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 ½x11” paper
- PDF file

# Music Composition

All music styles and combinations of instrumentation are accepted. 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 1000MB in size
- Accepted formats: MP3 and WAV

**NOTATION**

- Only required for middle and high school divisions
- In place of a notated score a written reflective statement that provides a musically technical explanation of how the piece was composed (100 words or less).
- Notation in PDF format

# Photography

Photo must be a single print/digital image. Collages and collections of photos are not accepted. 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
- Include one digital image of artwork with your submission (Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, PNG)

**DIGITAL IMAGE**

- Dimensions must be at least 640x960 (pixels) and 300 dpi (resolution)
- Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, PNG

# 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**

- Mounted on sturdy material
- No larger than 24x30 inches with matting
- Framed entries are not accepted
- Include one digital image of artwork with your submission (Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, PNG)

**3D WORKS**

- Include 3 digital images of artwork at different angles. (Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, PNG)

# Special Artist Division

This **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.**

**ACCOMODATIONS**

- 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.)

**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. Advancing and Celebrating Your Students

- ❑ Assign awards by category and division
- ❑ Advance finalists to the next level according to State PTA guidelines and deadlines
- ❑ Celebrate your students:
  - a) Announce winners on school websites and social media and tag us @NationalPTA and **#PTAReflections**
  - b) Offer awards from **ShopPTA.com** and donated prizes from community supporters
  - c) Host a student recognition event for families
  - d) Showcase student works at school and in the community

# National PTA Awards and Exhibits

**Student Arts Showcase and Exhibit**
January

**National Winners Announcement**
May 1
PTA.org/Reflections

**Celebration Event and Exhibit**
Annual National PTA Convention

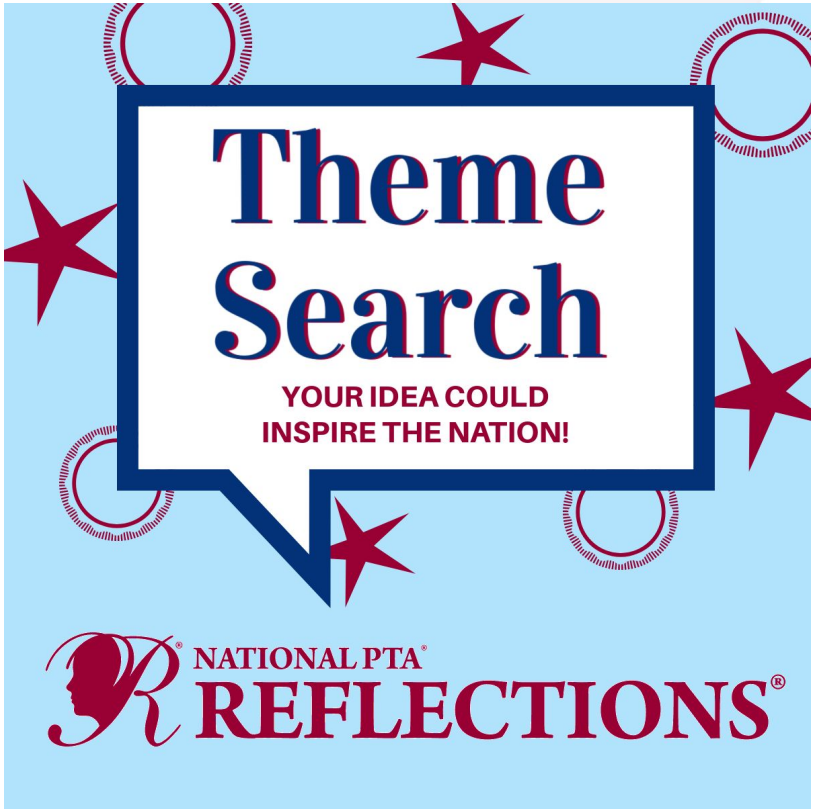
# Theme Search: Reflections

## Inspire hundreds of thousands of student artists each year

The Reflections program theme is **student-selected** and changes annually.

Students submit their themes in the **Annual Theme Search Contest** according to their State PTA and National PTA's Reflections theme search guidelines. **One national winner** is selected by the National PTA in February.

The winner's theme **inspires students across the country and in U.S. schools overseas** that participate in the Reflections program. The winning student will also receive a $100 award and national recognition.



# Don’t Forget to Wrap Up!

- ❑ Make sure to thank student and parent leaders, school personnel, submission reviewers and community businesses for their support
- ❑ Return non-advancing works and contact students who are advancing in the competition
- ❑ Host a debrief with your volunteers committee
- ❑ Record notes and contacts for next year’s Reflections Chair

Questions?

Ideas?

Needs?

Concerns?

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