

IN EDUCATION ARTS!



Overview:

- **2017-2018 Themes:**
 - **Citizenship Essay – “The most important thing about America”**
 - **Safety Poster – “Safety Can Be Fun”**
 - **Safety Multi-Media – “Look to the Signs”**
- **Theme search entries are due to the state by November 1, 2017**
- **Entries due to state (in state office) on or before: Friday, February 16, 2018**
- **Arts in Education and Scholarship Chairman – Larry Davis who may be reached at ldavis@tnpta.org**

WHY IS ART EDUCATION IMPORTANT FOR YOUR CHILD?

Art is both an important tool for learning, as well as a basic part of human nature. It is as old as the paintings on the walls of caves by our early ancestors. Art is not an educational “frill” but a form of expression and a way to convey feelings. PTA recognizes the many ways a quality arts education can benefit all children. The organization has set a goal to establish the arts as a basic component in the curriculum of every public school and to ensure that every child receives a quality arts education.

Local units can do many things to assist with arts programs in schools or to enhance the ones the school has. Local units can also introduce some programs that Tennessee PTA offers such as the annual Citizenship Essay Program and the Safety Poster/Multi-Media Program as well as the program run by National PTA, the Reflections Program. This year the themes for each are:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Theme</u>
Citizenship Essay	The most important thing about America
Safety Poster	Safety can be fun
Safety Multi-Media	Look to the signs
Reflections	Within Reach (See Reflections Guide at tnpta.org/reflections.html)

All of these programs can go a long way to encouraging students to use art in their daily lives and school activities. While the Reflections Program is a National PTA program, the others

are Tennessee PTA programs and are described below. The program has its own theme search each year (ideas are due to the state office by November 1st) with entries for the program due to the state office by February 16, 2018.

CITIZENSHIP ESSAY PROGRAM

The Citizenship Essay Program provides students in grades pre-school through 12 an opportunity to learn more about being a citizen of the United States of America by introducing a theme (submitted by a student in Tennessee) each year that is used as the inspiration for an essay. There are six divisions, each with its own age group and essay length, in which entries are judged for interpretation of the theme, as follows:

DIVISIONS	GRADES	ESSAY LENGTH (minimum)
1	Preschool through Kindergarten	25 words
2	Grades 1 through 2	50 words
3	Grades 3 through 5	100 words
4	Grades 6 through 8	200 words
5	Grades 9 through 12	350 words
6	Special Education (all grades)	50 words

SAFETY POSTER PROGRAM

The Safety Poster Program provides student in grades pre-school through 8 the opportunity to design a poster using this year's theme (submitted by a student in Tennessee). There are five divisions, as follows:

- 1 – Preschool through Kindergarten
- 2 – Grades 1 through 2
- 3 – Grades 3 through 5
- 4 – Grades 6 through 8
- 5 – Special Education (all grades)

SAFETY MULTI-MEDIA PROGRAM

The Safety Multi-Media Program provides students in grades 6 through 12 to develop artwork in three categories: music composition, visual arts, and film production, which demonstrate this year's theme (submitted by a student in Tennessee). There are two divisions, as follows:

- 1 – Grades 6 through 8
- 2 – Grades 9 through 12

PROGRAM GUIDANCE

Guidance for these programs can be found in the [Arts in Education Handbook for 2017-2018](#).