



National PTA® Reflections

Judging Guidelines



Welcome Reflections Judge!

We thank you for supporting the arts and cultural exploration of our students by serving as a volunteer judge for the PTA Reflections program! As an expert in your arts area, your enthusiasm contributes to the vibrancy and creativity of our school community.

Before you begin your review, please familiarize yourself with the following judging criteria, Reflections theme, program rules and helpful tips.

All PTA Reflections program entries are judged on three criteria:

1. **Interpretation of Theme (20 pts.)**
2. **Creativity (10 pts.)**
3. **Technique (10 pts.)**

Notice how “Interpretation of Theme” is weighted? This is what makes the National PTA Reflections Arts Program unique. A well-developed concept is more important than technique. **If two entries are tied, the entry with the higher score for interpretation of theme receives more recognition.** Use the judging rubric on the next page to help you guide your review.

Entries should be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme: **“What Is Your Story?”**

The following entry information will be provided to you during your review:

- **Title of Artwork** and student’s **Artist Statement**: This may provide insight on the student’s artistic style/genre and materials used when exploring the arts category. Look for personal meaning and reflection on the theme that contribute to the student’s *Interpretation of Theme*.
- **Grade Division**: The student’s division may provide insight on student’s range of technical skill, ability and competences displayed in their submission.
- **Additional Artwork Details**: If noted, artwork details will offer information related to cited material, submission size/length, etc.

Please record your points for each entry on the provided score card. To flag questionable entries, contact your PTA Reflections Chair immediately. When your review is complete, please submit your scores to the PTA Reflections Chair.



Judging Rubric

Criteria / Level	Beginning	Developing	Proficient	Accomplished	Advanced
Interpretation	1-4 pts.	5-8 pts.	9-12 pts.	13-16 pts.	17-20 pts.
How closely the piece relates to the theme, based on the artwork 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	1-2 pts.	3-4 pts.	5-6 pts.	7-8 pts.	9-10 pts.
How creative and original the piece is in its conception of the theme and its presentation.	Artwork is somewhat original and reflects the theme using very conventional ways.	Artwork is somewhat original and reflects the theme using conventional ways.	Artwork is original and reflects the theme using conventional ways.	Artwork is primarily original and reflects the theme using imaginative ways.	Artwork is highly original and reflects the theme using un-conventional, interesting, imaginative and new ways.
Technique	1-2 pts.	3-4 pts.	5-6 pts.	7-8 pts.	9-10 pts.
The level of skill demonstrated in the basic principles/ techniques of the arts area.	Artwork demonstrates very limited skill of the arts area.	Artwork demonstrates limited skill of the arts area.	Artwork demonstrates capable skill of the arts area.	Artwork demonstrates expertise of skill of the arts area.	Artwork demonstrates mastery of skill and knowledge of the arts area.