

*Celebrating 50 Years  
of Reflections*

# PTA REFLECTIONS PROGRAM



2019–2020  
NATIONAL PTA REFLECTIONS® THEME  
**LOOK WITHIN**  
Entries from all grades and all abilities welcome.  
[PTA.org/Reflections](https://pta.org/reflections)

 

# **National PTA Reflections Program**



*everychild.one voice.®*

It is with much excitement that we begin another year with the Reflections Program! In 1969, Mary Lou Anderson started the Reflections Program, better known to some as the Cultural Arts program. Many students throughout the years have participated and have earned many awards through their local PTA schools, counties, regions, state and national levels.

All children deserve opportunities to explore and be involved in the arts. The arts play a critical role in students' success in school and beyond, enhancing their reading and language skills, mathematic skills, thinking skills, social skills, motivation to learn and positive school environment.

Entries should represent students' unique creativity – adults are welcome to encourage students but are asked not to assist in any way with their interpretation of the theme or artistic expression.

## **THEME:**

**This year's theme is "Look Within".**

National PTA selects a different theme each year from suggestions submitted by students. Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme are acceptable.

## **SIX ART CATEGORIES:**

Visual Arts (drawings, paintings, etc.)  
Literature (poems, stories, etc.)  
Dance Choreography

Photography  
Musical Composition  
Film Production

## **STUDENT ELIGIBILITY:**

Participation is open to any student through a local PTA or PTSA in good standing. The West Virginia PTA follows the National PTA rules. If you know of a school that does not have a PTA and would like to participate in this program, please email [reflections@westvirginiapta.org](mailto:reflections@westvirginiapta.org).



## **GRADE DIVISIONS:**

Students may enter the program in the appropriate division for their grade listed below:

Primary: Preschool – Grade 2  
Intermediate: Grades 3-5  
Middle School: Grades 6-8

High School: Grades 9-12  
Special Artist: Ungraded

## **SPECIAL ARTIST DIVISION**

The Special Artist Division is a division of the National PTA Reflections Program for students whose physical, cognitive, or mental health challenges meet ADA guidelines.

There are two ways to enter....and the choice is yours!

### **Entering in Traditional Grade Divisions:**

Qualifying students follow all general and arts category rules, but receive accommodation to submit Reflections entries in the grade division most closely aligned to their functional abilities. They are recognized and awarded prizes as part of the general student population without regard to special needs or challenges.

### **Enter in Special Artist Division:**

Qualifying students entering this division create their own artwork but may receive non-artistic accommodation and assistance from an adult. One special artist from across all arts categories will be selected to receive an Outstanding Interpretation Award and will be recognized at the County, State and National PTA awards. Up to five additional Special Artists may be selected to receive National Awards of Excellence.

## **GUIDELINES FOR ALL ENTRIES:**

The following guidelines apply to entries:

- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- A student may develop an entry inside or outside of the school.
- A student may submit multiple projects in all categories.
- There is no limit to entries.
- Each entry must be accompanied by a student entry form, signed by a parent or guardian. This form is attached at the end of this packet.
- Student entry forms must include a title and an artist statement, which explains the artist's inspiration for the work and how it relates to the theme. The statement must include at least one sentence but not exceed 100 words.
- Use of copyrighted material is prohibited, except for recorded music in dance choreography and film production entries.
- Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and returned to the student.

## **JUDGING:**

All entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme. All decisions of judges are final.

Each school is allowed to send four (4) winners in each category and division to the State competition. If you have a County Council in your region that holds an additional countywide Reflections program (potentially Brooke, Wood and Berkeley), the results from your county competition have no impact on the state competition. They are two separate contests with different judges.

Do not put your child's name on the front of the artwork. It can be placed on the back, but should not be seen on the front to ensure fairness in judging.



**“Believe, Dream, Inspire”**

## **THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN ENTERING:**

Make sure that all directions and rules pertaining to specific categories are followed.

**All projects MUST HAVE the student entry form signed by both the student and parent or it will be not accepted (See attached blank student entry form).** Name, address and phone must be properly filled out. Please do not use pencil when filling out this form, dark ink only.

Remember to include a title and an artist statement on the student entry form as mentioned in the Guidelines Section.

Please prepare projects to withstand multiple handling. These projects get moved several times and need to be secured for minimal damage. For example, drawings can be wrapped in cellophane or plastic to protect against damage. Photos and visual art entries can be placed in photo mats purchased at any craft store and will enhance the photos and protect against additional wear and tear.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Four school winners in each category and division move on to the West Virginia PTA competition. State winners will be notified in Late February/Early March and will be invited to the WV PTA Student Recognition Luncheon.

All forms and rules can be found on the West Virginia PTA website by visiting [www.westvirginiapta.org](http://www.westvirginiapta.org) under the Programs tab.

If you have additional questions, please email [reflections@westvirginiapta.org](mailto:reflections@westvirginiapta.org).

## **ATTENTION: REFLECTIONS CHAIRPERSONS:**

Winning entries from your school should be mailed to Spring Mills Primary, Attn: Joi Hilton, 401 Campus Drive, Martinsburg, WV 25404 by **February 1, 2020**. Make sure entry forms are fully completed with school/PTA information!

## WEST VIRGINIA PTA STUDENT INFORMATION

Use the arts to share your personal *Reflections* on this year's theme: **LOOK WITHIN**

Use the following guidelines and official program rules to enter. Contact your school program leader about submission deadlines. Experienced artists will evaluate your work for interpretation of theme (20 points), creativity (10 points), and technique (10 points).

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. See Official Rules for details.

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**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 1 GB in size. Accepted formats: AVI, FLV, WMV, MOV, or MP4. Files must be submitted on a USB device.

**Film Production:** Accepted short film styles include: Animation, narrative, documentary, experimental or media presentation. Use of PowerPoint is prohibited. 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, or MP4. Files must be submitted on a USB device.

**Literature:** Accepted forms of fiction and nonfiction include: Prose, poetry, reflective essay, screen play 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 and may be handwritten or typed. Accepted formats: Single-sided print on 8 ½x11" paper or a PDF file on a USB device.

**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 1 GB in size. Accepted formats: MP3, WMA, WAV, ACC, or FLAC. **Notation** (score/tabature) in PDF format is only required for middle and high school divisions. Files must be submitted on a USB device.

**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. Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. **Print** image dimensions 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. **Digital** image dimensions must be at least 640x960 (pixels) and 300 dpi (resolution). Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, GIF, or PNG on a USB device.

**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. Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. **2D** artworks must be mounted on sturdy material and no larger than 24x30 inches with matting. Framed entries are not accepted. Include one digital image of artwork with your submission on a USB device. **3D** artwork submissions must contain 3 digital images of artwork at different angles. Image(s) are used for artwork identification, judging and exhibition purposes. Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, GIF, or PNG on a USB device.

Local Unit Contact Information:

## OFFICIAL STUDENT RULES

By submitting an artwork to the “**National PTA Reflections Program**,” entrants accept and agree to be bound by the official rules for participation as well as the entry requirements for their specific arts category and division. Additional state program requirements may apply. Any violation of these rules may, at PTA’s discretion, result in disqualification. All decisions of the reviewers regarding this program are final and binding in all respects. (The “PTA” referred to in these rules include all PTAs reviewing the submission).

- 1. ELIGIBILITY.** Students must participate through a local PTA/PTSA. Each student’s eligibility is determined by the state PTA. A student may develop an entry inside or outside of school.
- 2. ARTS CATEGORIES.** There are six arts categories—dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography and visual arts. Students may submit one entry into the National PTA Reflections Program in one or more arts categories. See each arts category rules for additional entry requirements.
- 3. GRADE DIVISIONS.** Students may enter in the appropriate division for their grade (Primary: Preschool-Grade 2; Intermediate: Grades 3-5; Middle School: Grades 6-8; High School: Grades 9-12; Special Artist: All grades welcome).

The **Special Artist Division** welcomes students from all grades and abilities and offers non-artistic accommodations (e.g. adaptive technology; transcribing; holding a camera) for students to participate fully in PTA Reflections. Assistants must refrain from being involved in the artistic process (e.g. developing an artist statement, choreography, music lyrics, storyboards, etc.) Student recognition and awards are announced as part of the Special Artist Division.

- 4. HOW TO ENTER.** Entrants must submit their artwork and student entry form to their local PTA/PTSA program according to local, county and state PTA procedures. Entrants must follow requirements and instructions specific to each arts category and division. Contact local PTA programs for deadlines and additional information.
- 5. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS.** (All participants must also follow arts category and if applicable, Special Artist Division rules)
  - Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the current year’s theme may be submitted.
  - Each entry must be the original work of one student only. An adult may not alter the creative integrity of a student’s work. Because the program is designed to encourage and recognize each student’s individual creativity, help from an adult or collaboration with other students is not allowed except in the Special Artist Division. Other individuals may appear in or perform a student’s work, but the work itself must be the creative product of one student only. Only one student may be recognized as the award recipient for each entry. See *the specific arts category rules and special artist division rules for details*.
  - Each entry must contain an original title and all entries must include an artist statement. The artist statement communicates what inspired the work, how it relates to the theme, and the content of the work. The statement must include at least 10 words and not exceed 100 words.
  - Use of copyrighted material is prohibited, except for background music in dance choreography and film production entries. If used in dance choreography and film production entries, background music must be cited on the entry form. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified. Use of PowerPoint templates are prohibited.
  - Students may submit one entry under one grade division per arts category. (Example: Joey is 1st grade. He may enter the Primary division and create 1 photography, 1 visual arts, 1 literature, 1 music comp, 1 dance choreography, and 1 film production.)
  - One entry form per artwork, per student. The form must be completed in its entirety and both student and parent/guardian must sign.
- 6. FINALIST SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION.** Entries are reviewed at local, county, state and national levels. Each PTA determines its own reviewers for the program. Entries will be reviewed primarily on how well the student uses their artistic vision to portray the theme, their originality and creativity. **The National PTA Reflections® program makes no restrictions on content or subject matter in artwork.** Under no condition may parents or students contact a reviewer to dispute the status/score of any entry. Each PTA in its sole discretion will select finalists for exhibition and provide awards/prizes. Awards are announced per local and state procedures. Florida PTA awards are announced March 31. National awards are announced May 1.
- 7. OWNERSHIP AND LICENSE.** 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.
- 8. PARTICIPATING ENTITIES.** This program is administered by the National Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and PTA affiliates. Parent groups not affiliated with National PTA are not eligible to sponsor this program.



# STUDENT ENTRY FORM

*This box is to be completed by PTA/PTSA before distribution.*

PTA LEADER NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ PTA ID \_\_\_\_\_ STATE WV \_\_\_\_\_

PTA NAME (NO ABBREVIATIONS) \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY COUNCIL PTA (NO ABBREVIATIONS) \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER DUES PAID DATE \_\_\_\_\_ INSURANCE PAID DATE \_\_\_\_\_ BYLAWS APPROVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State WV \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email \_\_\_\_\_

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 (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_

**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 and process for **photography/visual arts**. \_\_\_\_\_

**ARTIST STATEMENT** (In 10 to 100 words, describe your work and how it relates to the theme): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_