

Reflections Program Overview



Reflections is a National PTA arts in education program. The program was started in 1969 and is the largest arts in education program of its kind in the United States. Students have the opportunity to use their creative talents by expressing themselves through their own original works created around a theme.

2017-18 Theme!

“Within Reach”

Four Rounds of Competition

- Local
- Council
- State
- National

Participation is organized by student age and grade levels. Student works are critiqued against others in the same grade division. This allows recognition and judging of artworks by appropriate developmental age and skill levels. The grade divisions are:

- Primary (Preschool – Grade 2)
- Intermediate (Grades 3 – 5)
- Middle/Junior (Grades 6 – 8)
- Senior (Grades 9 – 12)
- Special Artist (All grades. Refer link for more details)

Young artists get involved through their local PTA or PTSA. A student may submit an entry in any of six arts areas. Only original works of art are accepted.

The six art areas are:

Literature – works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, prose, drama, short stories and lyrics.

Music Composition – original musical composition, with or without words.

Photography: color or black and white, including techniques: photo-gram, retouched, montage, sandwich and multiple exposure.

Visual Arts: drawing, painting in tempera, oil, acrylic, watercolor & t-shirt paints, computer generated art, two-dimensional collage, printmaking, needlework & leather tooling.

Film/Video: original works, with or without sound, of animation, narrative, documentary, experimental or music video/film.

Choreography/Dance: originally choreographed dance composition.

Judging

Entries are judged on creative ability and interpretation of the theme. The program is structured for PTAs to recognize students at the local, council, state, and national levels. Entries are first judged at the local level and selected works are chosen to represent the PTA at each subsequent level. If a PTA is a member of a council, they will send the chosen entries to the council program according to the guidelines established by their council. If a PTA is not a member of a council, they will submit their entries directly to Washington State PTA.

Once entries reach the state level, the state PTA may select up to four entries in each of the six arts areas (a total of 24) to submit to the National PTA. National first, second, and third place, and honorable mention entries are recognized at the National PTA Annual Convention.

All PTAs/PTSAs in good standing may sponsor the program. Students may only submit entries through a PTA/PTSA. Parent groups not affiliated with the National PTA are not eligible to sponsor this program.

THEME SEARCH

The theme for Reflections is determined by National PTA, from student submissions. The due date for submitting a theme search entry for Reflections 2019-2020, is November 1, 2017. Entries are to be emailed to reflections@wastatepta.org or mailed to the WSPTA office. This is not a postmarked date. Please refer the link to the Theme Search Form and Past Themes List if interested.

Participants for Reflections 2017-18-

Refer to detailed rules for each category before preparing your artwork. Fill in the Student Entry Form, attach it to your artwork as instructed, and submit it as per the deadline at the specified drop off location and time. Incorrect entries and entries submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

Thanks,
Reflections Committee, Smith PTSA
reflections@smithptsa.org