



National PTA Reflections® Program Photography Rules

Student Eligibility:

Students must participate in the National PTA Reflections® Program through a local PTA/PTSA in good standing. Parent groups not affiliated with National PTA are not eligible to sponsor this program. It is the responsibility of the state and local PTA/PTSA to determine each student's eligibility in the National PTA Reflections® Program. A student may develop an entry in or outside of school.

Grade Divisions:

Students may enter the National PTA Reflections® Program in the appropriate division for their grade. The divisions are as follows:

Primary: preschool – grade 2; **Intermediate:** grades 3 – 5; **Middle School:** grades 6 – 8;
High School: grades 9 – 12; **Special Artist:** ungraded

Student Entry Process:

Students enter the National PTA Reflections® Program at local levels. Program dates, deadlines, and local procedures are determined at State and Local levels. Students are advised to check with local programs for information specific to local procedures and program deadlines.

Upon completion of the local program, students whose winning entries are selected to move to the next level of the National PTA Reflections competition will complete an online entry process that will include an upload of their artwork.

National PTA Reflections® Theme: “The Magic of a Moment”

The theme for the 2012 – 2013 National PTA Reflections® Program “The Magic of a Moment.” Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.

All entries must contain a Title.

All entries must include an Artist Statement. The artist statement communicates what inspired the work and how it relates to the theme, and also describes the content of the work. The statement must include at least one sentence, but may not exceed 100 words.

Originality:

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.

Plagiarism is defined as taking and using another person's ideas, writings, or inventions as one's own. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and returned to the student. Music Composition entrants may not borrow from copyrighted material.

Use of copyrighted material, including copyrighted cartoon characters or other such material, is not acceptable in any Photography submission, with the following exceptions: Photographs may include public places, well-known products, trademarks, or certain other copyrighted material as long as that copyrighted material is incidental to the subject matter of the piece and/or is a smaller element of a whole.

Photography Description:

Photography entries must be an original black-and-white or color image produced by a photographic process. The entry must relate to the current National PTA Reflections® Program theme. The entry may incorporate such techniques as photomontage, multiple exposure, negative sandwiches, and photograms. Images may be manipulated conventionally or digitally. Images should demonstrate the student's proper use of photographic techniques such as depth of field and exposure. The images may be created using various lenses, filters, and light sources. Photographs with added graphics over the image, including lettering, are not acceptable. Whether an entry uses a variety of techniques or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme.

Presentation:

- A single print or collage may not exceed 11 inches by 14 inches, including a mat.
- The photographic image should directly relate to the theme.

Format:

Students entering the National PTA Reflections® Program at Local levels should follow submission rules provided by their local programs. Upon completion of the local program, students whose winning entries are selected to move to the next level of the National PTA Reflections competition will complete an online entry process that will include an upload of their artwork.

The National PTA Reflections Program accepts most common file formats for online entry, including any of the following:

- **Images:** JPEG, GIF, PNG, BMP
- **Upload File Size:** 1GB (one gigabyte)

Online Student Entry:

Only those students whose entries are selected to move past the local level of the National PTA Reflections® competition will complete an **Online Student Entry** process that will include uploading an electronic version of their entries and any other criteria required by grade division or included by choice.

Browser Recommendations: (To access the National PTA Website)

The National PTA Reflections website can be accessed using any of the following browsers:

- Chrome 12 and greater,
- Firefox 3 and greater,
- Safari 4 and greater,
- Internet Explorer 6 and greater.

Judging:

All national entries are judged on Interpretation of the National PTA Reflections® Theme, Artistic Merit, Creative Merit, and Technical Merit. The National PTA Reflections® Program makes no restrictions on content or subject matter in artwork. Each PTA/PTSA determines its own judges for the program. Under no condition may parents or students contact the judges to dispute the status of any entry. **All decisions of judges are final.**