

REFLECTIONS RULES PACKET



Note Regarding Packet Forms on CD:

This packet is on the service mailing CD and contains these forms in a “fill-in-the-blank” format.

This will allow you to type in repetitive information, i.e., Unit/Council Name, District #, Reflections Chair...

Once you have filled in the blanks, you can print a new original to copy for your students' forms.

Simply: Tab or set cursor over blank line and type in information.

You can print the page with the completed information, but will be unable to save what you typed if you only have Acrobat Reader.

If you have the full Adobe Acrobat program you will be able to save the completed form.

REFLECTIONS RULES PACKET



2007 – 2008 Reflections Program Theme:

“I can make a difference by...”

This Reflections Chairs’ packet includes:

- Information for Unit, Council, and District PTAs
- Theme Search Application for 2009-2010
- General Student Participation Rules
- Arts Area Rules
- Official Entry Form
- Local, Council, District PTA Participation Forms
- District PTA Entry Form

THEME SEARCH FORMS: MAIL DIRECTLY TO STATE PTA OFFICE

Deadline for 2009-2010 Theme Search Forms in State PTA Office: November 1, 2007

- Reflection entries will *not be accepted* unless they are received *through channels*.
- Entries are forwarded from Units to Councils, from Councils to District PTAs, and from District PTAs to the California State PTA office.
- Out-of-Council Units forward entries directly to their District PTA Reflections Chairman.
- Please verify your Council/District PTA deadlines and schedule your program accordingly.

Deadline for entries to unit chairmen on or before: _____

Deadline for entries to council chairmen on or before: _____

Deadline for entries to district PTA chairmen on or before: _____

Deadline for entries in the State PTA office on or before: January 18, 2008

Deadline for entries to National PTA headquarters on or before: March 10, 2008

To maintain the integrity of this packet, the California State PTA Reflections Coordinator *strongly urges* you to *copy the forms* and retain the originals for future use.

It is also recommended that you *fill in the unit/council and district PTA blanks* on the Entry Form *prior* to copying and disbursing to students.

2007–2008 PTA Reflections Program
Theme: I can make a difference by...
LOCAL, COUNCIL, AND DISTRICT PTA INFORMATION:
FAQS AND THE JUDGING PROCESS

The national PTA office receives many inquiries about eligibility, specific arts areas, student information protection, and the judging process. The following information addresses these concerns.

Frequently Asked Questions

Participation

Who is eligible to participate? Participation in the Reflections Program is open to any student through a local PTA/PTSA in good standing. It is the responsibility of the local unit to determine each student's eligibility in the Reflections Program.

May students participate through a local PTA not affiliated with their school? State PTAs may adopt policies regarding this situation. The national PTA organization requires only that national entries come from local PTAs in good standing.

May students no longer attending a PTA school still enter the Reflections Program through their former school? State PTAs establish their own policies regarding this situation. Some states restrict this practice, so it is important to contact the state PTA about its participation policy.

May home-schooled students participate in the Reflections Program? State PTAs may adopt policies regarding this situation. The national PTA organization requires only that national entries come from local PTAs in good standing.

Under what division should developmentally challenged students participate? PTA believes that each child with a disability should be provided a free and appropriate public education. Therefore, the Reflections Program at the national level does not have a special division for students with disabilities. The national PTA organization believes it is the right of parents to place their child in the Reflections Program grade division that best reflects the child's developmental age. However, guidelines for state and local Reflections Programs vary. Check with your state PTA for its guidelines.

May developmentally or physically challenged students receive help from a parent or teacher? Rules or policies regarding developmentally or physically challenged students are left up to the discretion of each state PTA and may be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Use of copyrighted material

May students use copyrighted material as a source for their artwork? Use of copyrighted material is not acceptable in visual arts collages. Photo renderings must be from non-copyrighted material.

Literature

May a student use unacceptable language in an entry? The Reflections Program makes no restriction on content or subject in the literature area. Students who are submitting entries created in a school setting should be mindful of school and/or local or state PTA standards for writing. Judges should be reminded that entries are to be reviewed for creativity, artistic merit, and interpretation of the theme.

Musical composition

May students use notation software for creating musical composition scores? A student may use notation software. Imported MIDI files or files from other sources are not acceptable.

Photography

May students submit computer-manipulated photos? Images may be manipulated conventionally or digitally.

Visual arts

May students submit computer-generated visual artworks? The national PTA organization accepts visual arts pieces generated on a computer.

Dance choreography

Does the choreographer (the student submitting the entry) have to be one of the performers? The choreography must be the work of one student and must demonstrate both creativity and interpretation of the theme. There may be up to three dancers. The choreographer need not be one of the dancers.

Film/video production

Does the student submitting the entry have to appear in the video? The student must be the director, screenwriter, and cameraperson. He or she does not have to appear in the video.

Protection of student information

How does a PTA protect student information on artwork? When artwork is on display, label the back of the piece only with the student's name, school,

and town. Do not attach the Official Entry Form to the back of the artwork in a display setting. No one outside of PTA should have access to student information. Develop a system to easily match and reattach Official Entry Forms to artwork for returning to the artist or sending on to the next judging level.

Judging Process

Finding judges

You may already have a judging system in place that works well for your program. However, if you are having difficulty recruiting qualified judges, here are some ideas of others to invite to participate:

- Art, literature, dance, film, journalism, and music educators or college/university professors
- Teachers from other schools participating in the Reflections Program
- Art museum directors, docents, curators, or historians
- Professional photographers and local artisans
- Local symphony orchestra or choral directors, musicians, conductors, or composers
- Local dance conservatories, dance studios, ballets, or theaters
- Local multimedia/video production companies
- Newspaper journalists, editors, or photographers
- Local television stations
- Arts advocacy organization presidents or directors

Inviting professionals in the arts or influential community leaders to participate in Reflections Program judging increases the exposure of the PTA, its work, and the wonderful benefits students derive from participating in the arts.

If a judge knows a student participant, the judge should remove himself or herself from the judging process for that particular arts area to prevent a conflict of interest. Teachers from the host school serving as judges would also have a conflict of interest, so it is better to invite teachers from another school that offers the Reflections Program.

Remember to recognize judges in promotions and thank them for their participation. Some PTAs provide each judge with a small gift or certificate of appreciation.

Judging at the national level

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme. A local, council, or district PTA might want to use a similar process.

- **Literature, musical composition, dance choreography, and film/video production:** The four judges in the arts area each receive entries from one grade division to review. Each judge selects 10 entries from his or her assigned grade division for presentation to the full panel. After the presentation, the judges assign awards of excellence and awards of merit.
- **Photography and visual arts:** Entries are judged from electronic files of the original artwork. The judges view all of the artwork for one grade division and select the pieces that they would like to see in a second round of viewing. In the second round, they pick the top eight and assign awards of excellence and awards of merit. They then repeat the process for the other grade divisions. A state-level judging system could have a similar design.
- **Tiebreakers:** If two entries are judged as equal in all areas, the entry that best interprets the theme receives more recognition.
- **Outstanding Interpretation selection:** All of the award of excellence recipients in each arts area are reviewed together. The one piece that best interprets the theme is selected for the Outstanding Interpretation Award.

Blind judging

It is important to conduct *blind judging*—where judges do not see artists' names—in situations or settings where judges may know the student or the work.

- **Literature:** Distribute photocopies of *only* the front side of each literature entry. However, send the *original* manuscript of each winning entry on to the next level of judging.
- **Musical composition, dance choreography, and film/video production:** For each arts area, prepare a master audiocassette, CD, videotape, or DVD of all of the entries, as well as a list of the entries, using a code for the students' names. Include the grade division, title of work, playing time, and artist statement (if one is submitted) in the list of the entries.
- **Photography and visual arts:** Cover the personal information attached to the artwork.

Beyond the local PTA level, blind judging will need to occur only if there is a chance that the judges will recognize a student's entry. In most situations, judges at the council, district, and state PTA levels should be able to use the original materials for literature, musical composition, dance choreography, and film/video production.



National PTA Reflections Program

Theme Search for 2009–2010

National PTA is looking for a theme for its Reflections Program for 2009–2010. The student who submits the winning entry will receive \$100, and his or her theme will be presented at the 2008 National PTA Convention (June 21–June 23, 2008, in San Diego, California). Use this form to submit theme ideas. Only signed original forms will be considered. Please submit entries to your state PTA office.

State deadline for theme submissions: November 1, 2007

Local PTA/PTSA _____

PTA/PTSA president _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____ Daytime phone () _____

E-mail address _____ Eight-digit National PTA ID 00 _ _ _ _ _

Student's name _____ Grade _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____ Daytime phone () _____

E-mail address _____ School name _____

Theme idea _____

Parent/guardian's signature _____

All entries must be received by November 1, 2007 to be considered.

No Facsimiles will be accepted.

Mail to: California State PTA
Attention: Reflections Coordinator
2327 L Street
Sacramento, CA 95816

Reflections Program Themes 1970-2006 Sorted by Year

Reflections: Children and Youth Mirror Their World	1969-1970
Reflections: Children and Youth Look to Tomorrow	1970-1971
Reflections: America, The Beautiful, The Ugly	1971-1972
Reflections: This is Our Country	1972-1973
From Sea to Shining Sea	1973-1974
Our Heritage—Our Hopes	1974-1975
Spirit of 76’ – Miracle of America	1975-1976
What the World Needs Now	1976-1977
Love Is	1977-1978
Look Out Your Window	1978-1979
Behind the Gates of Tomorrow	1979-1980
What a Family Means to Me	1980-1981
What Makes Me Smile	1981-1982
Life in These United States	1982-1983
I Have a Dream	1983-1984
What Sparks My Imagination	1984-1985
From Liberty’s View	1985-1986
In Celebration: A Past to Remember, A Future to Mold	1986-1987
Wonders of the World	1987-1988
Proud Experiences	1988-1989
Where Does the Sky End?	1989-1990
If I Had a Wish	1990-1991
Exploring New Beginning	1991-1992
Imagine That	1992-1993
If I Could Give the World a Gift	1993-1994
Dare to Discover	1994-1995
Just Open Your Eyes and See	1995-1996
It Could Happen	1996-1997
Wouldn’t it be Great if	1997-1998
Suddenly you turn around and...	1998-1999
Anything is possible...	1999-2000
It would be really strange if...	2000-2001
I hold in my hand...	2001-2002
Signs of Courage	2002-2003
I am really happy when...	2003-2004
A Different Kind of Hero	2004-2005
I wonder why...	2005-2006
My Favorite Place	2006-2007
I can make a difference by...	2007-2008
Wow!	2008-2009

2007–2008 PTA Reflections Program GENERAL STUDENT PARTICIPATION RULES

Theme: I can make a difference by...

Students must adhere to the following general rules as well as the rules for their specific arts area.

1. Theme

The theme for the 2007–2008 program is “I can make a difference by...”. **Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme are acceptable.**

2. Student eligibility through local PTA

Students must participate in the Reflections Program through a PTA/PTSA in good standing. Parent groups not affiliated with 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 Reflections Program.

A student may develop an entry in or outside of school.

3. Grade divisions

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

- Primary: preschool–grade 2
- Intermediate: grades 3–5
- Middle/Junior: grades 6–8
- Senior: grades 9–12

If students do not fall under specific grade divisions, the National PTA suggests that they be grouped as follows:

- Primary: up to age 7
- Intermediate: ages 8–10
- Middle/Junior: ages 11–13
- Senior: ages 14+

It is the responsibility of the local PTA/PTSA to determine the appropriate division if necessary.

4. Arts areas

Students may submit works in any of the six arts areas:

- Literature
- Musical composition
- Photography
- Visual arts
- Dance choreography
- Film/video production

The national PTA organization does not limit the number of entries a student may submit.

5. Children with disabilities

PTA believes that each child with a disability should be provided a free and appropriate public education.

Therefore, the Reflections Program at the national level does not have a special division for students with disabilities. The national PTA organization believes it is the right of parents to place their child in the Reflections Program grade division that best reflects the child’s developmental age. However, guidelines for state and local Reflections Programs vary. Check with your state PTA for its guidelines.

6. Deadlines

Each student must submit his or her work by the deadline established by his or her local PTA/PTSA. Each local PTA/PTSA sponsoring the program will set a deadline for entries in adherence with the state, district, and council needs. These entries are judged, and the selected works are forwarded to the next level of judging (council, district, or state). Direct all questions regarding deadlines or rules to your state PTA or state arts chair. **The national PTA office does not have deadlines for local, council, district, or state PTAs.**

7. Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

The Reflections Program makes no restriction on content or subject in artwork. Students who are submitting entries need to meet school and/or local and state PTA standards. Judges review entries based upon creativity, artistic merit, and interpretation of the theme.

Each PTA determines its own judges for the program. Under no conditions may parents or students contact the judges to dispute the status of an entry. All decisions of judges are final.

8. Award recipient notification

State arts chairs will notify students who receive national recognition. State arts chairs will submit original photography and visual arts pieces to the national PTA office for the creation of the Reflections Program Gallery on the PTA national website.

9. Further information

Only your state PTA office and state PTA arts chair can provide you with information about your state’s Reflections Program rules and deadlines.

2007–2008 PTA Reflections Program LITERATURE RULES

Theme: I can make a difference by...

Students must adhere to the general rules as well as the following Literature Rules.

Description

Literature entries may be works of fiction or nonfiction. Prose, poetry, and drama are all accepted.

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. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.

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. **Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. Literature entrants are not to borrow from copyrighted material.**

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 students.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the **Official Entry Form**. Students who have not completely filled out the form will not be eligible to participate in the program. In situations where the child cannot fill out the entry form or write legibly, a parent may sign his or her child's name.

Students have the option of placing the titles of their works on the Official Entry Form.

Return of Artwork

The national PTA office does not return literature entries.

Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

Presentation

- Entries must not exceed 2,000 words.
- One original and one copy are to be submitted.
- Entries may be handwritten or typed, either on a typewriter or with a computer.

- Number all pages.
- Illustrated entries, including "books," with pictures drawn by the student are acceptable; however, only literary content is judged.
- Entries are to reflect grade-appropriate grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
- Format:
 - Submit entries on any kind of paper, not to exceed 8½ inches by 11 inches in size.
 - Submit the original and one copy in a manila file folder with the Official Entry Form stapled to the back of the folder.
 - Do not mount entries.
 - Write the student's name on the back of each page in case pages become separated.**
- Collections of poems or short stories are not acceptable. A student may submit more than one work, but each one must be submitted separately.

Assistance

Dictation and typing

- Students may have their entries typed by another person as long as the original work or a copy of the original work is attached.
- Students who are physically challenged or students in kindergarten or 1st grade may dictate to another person who may type or write down the original work.
- **Transcribers should make every attempt to retain the same level of language and accuracy that is reflected in the student's original work.**

Translation

- Students for whom English is not their first language may submit literature entries in their own languages. An interpretive translation must accompany the entry.
- **Translators should make every attempt to retain the same level of language and accuracy that is reflected in the student's original work.**

Optional Artist Statement

On the Official Entry Form, describe what inspired you to create this work.

2007–2008 PTA Reflections Program

MUSICAL COMPOSITION RULES

Theme: I can make a difference by...

Students must adhere to the general rules as well as the following Musical Composition Rules.

Description

A musical composition entry may be for voice, instruments, or a combination of voice and instruments. Lyrics may or may not be included in vocal compositions. The composition is not to exceed five minutes.

The use of composition software is permitted. Students are strongly discouraged from submitting highly edited MIDI sequences or audio files. The recording submitted must capture performers in real-time. The entry may not include imported MIDI or other source files, or use algorithmic composition software.

Use of notation software for the purpose of creating scores and printed parts is permitted. Whether the score is handwritten or computer-generated, appropriate instrumentation and voicing are required for the performance.

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. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.

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. **Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. Musical composition entrants are not to borrow from copyrighted material.**

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 students.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the **Official Entry Form**. Students who have not completely filled out the form will not be eligible to participate in the program. In situations where the child cannot fill out the entry form or write legibly, a parent may sign his or her child's name.

Students have the option of placing the titles of their works on the Official Entry Form and must answer a few questions about how they created their works (see Required Information).

Return of Artwork

The national PTA office does not return musical composition entries.

Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

Presentation

- Students must submit musical notation as required by their grade divisions.
 - Primary and Intermediate: No notation is required. Iconic notation may be submitted. Iconic notation is "made-up" notation.

- Middle/Junior and Senior: Notation, either traditional, tablature, or electronic, is required. The notation should aid the listener and serve as a guide through the piece.
- Adults may not assist. Physically challenged students may dictate to another person who may write the notation. The quality or accuracy of the notation and performance support the musical idea, but they are not considered judging criteria.

- Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- Students are not required to perform their own compositions. A student's composed work may be performed by a group.
- Score size
 - Entries should be no larger than 11 inches by 14 inches.
 - Band and orchestra compositions may be 11 inches by 16 inches.
 - Do not mount or bind the scores.
- Recording requirements
 - All grade divisions must submit an audiocassette or CD recording of the composition.
 - Submit the audiocassette or CD in a plastic or cardboard container; identify both the audiocassette/CD and container with the student's name, grade division, state, and year.
 - Pack the audiocassette or CD with the score (if required) in a large envelope.
 - Secure the Official Entry Form to the outside of the envelope with masking tape.

Recommendations for quality recordings

- Make the room you record in as quiet as possible. Close windows and turn off all noise-making devices in the room (air conditioners, fans, telephones, etc.). Do not place the recording device on top of an instrument or speakers.
- If recording on cassette, use *Dolby B Noise Reductions* to reduce background tape hiss.
- Don't record at too loud (in the red zone on the meter) or too soft (meter barely moving) a level.
- Record a short test and listen to it while watching the meter. If needed, improve recording quality by changing the record volume or microphone location.
- If recording on cassette, rewind to the beginning, record 15 seconds of silence, and then begin performing your composition. Finish with another 15 seconds of silence. CD submissions may reduce silence to two seconds.

Required Information

On the Official Entry Form, please answer the following:

- Who performed your composition?
- Did you use traditional instrumentation or a synthesizer?
- If you used MIDI, what software and hardware did you use to compose your work?
- If you included lyrics, how do they work with your composition?

Optional Artist Statement

On the Official Entry Form, describe what inspired you to create this work.

2007–2008 PTA Reflections Program PHOTOGRAPHY RULES

Theme: I can make a difference by...

Students must adhere to the general rules as well as the following Photography Rules.

Description

A photography entry must be an original black-and-white or color image, or a group of images, produced by a photographic process. The entry must relate to the theme.

The entry may incorporate such techniques as montage, 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. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.

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. **Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. This includes the use of copyrighted cartoon characters or other such material.**

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 students.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the **Official Entry Form**. Students who have not completely filled out the form will not be eligible to participate in the program. In situations where the child cannot fill out the entry form or write legibly, a parent may sign his or her child's name.

Students have the option of placing the titles of their works on the Official Entry Form and must answer a few questions about how they created their works (see Required Information).

Return of Artwork

Please contact your state PTA for the artwork return policy. If your entry receives a national-level award, your original artwork will be used to prepare the Reflections Program online gallery. Following the completion of the website, the national PTA office will make every effort to return your artwork by early 2009.

Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

Presentation

- A single print or collage may not exceed 11 inches by 14 inches, including a mat.
- Print the entries on paper or other two-dimensional material.
- Mount all prints on a cardboard mat, poster board, or some other sturdy material.
- Protecting the work with shrink-wrap or a transparent plastic cover is optional but highly recommended.
- Framed entries, original film (negatives or transparencies), and multidimensional pieces are not accepted.
- Place the Official Entry Form in a sheet protector and tape it (with masking tape) to the back of the photograph on top of the shrink-wrap.

Required Information

On the Official Entry Form, give the dimensions of the piece and describe the process used in preparing the piece.

Optional Artist Statement

On the Official Entry Form, describe what inspired you to create this work.

2007–2008 PTA Reflections Program VISUAL ARTS RULES

Theme: I can make a difference by...

Students must adhere to the general rules as well as the following Visual Arts Rules.

Description

A visual arts entry must be an original print, drawing, painting, collage, photographic collage, metal etching or punch work, fiber work, or computer-generated artwork that relates to the theme.

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. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.

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. **Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. This includes the use of copyrighted cartoon characters or other such material.**

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 students.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the **Official Entry Form**. Students who have not completely filled out the form will not be eligible to participate in the program. In situations where the child cannot fill out the entry form or write legibly, a parent may sign his or her child's name.

Students have the option of placing the titles of their works on the Official Entry Form and must answer a few questions about how they created their works (see Required Information).

Return of Artwork

Please contact your state PTA for the artwork return policy. If your entry receives a national-level award, your original artwork will be used to prepare the Reflections Program online gallery. Following the completion of the website, the national PTA office will make every effort to return your artwork by early 2009.

Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

Presentation

- All art must be flat and may not be more than 3/8 inch thick. This includes all two-dimensional materials and images, including small, flat items (such as string, fabric, and screening) that have maximum surface contact with the face of the image. Nothing three-dimensional (noodles, beans, beads, boxes, etc.) may extend off the surface of a work.
- No art may exceed 24 inches by 30 inches, including a mat.
- Entries may be submitted on paper, canvas board, cardboard, hot or cold pressboard, or canvas (not to exceed 3/8-inch thickness).
- Mount all paper or canvas entries on sturdy cardboard mats, but not in wooden, metal, plastic, or glass frames.
- Protecting the work with shrink-wrap or a transparent plastic cover is optional but highly recommended.
- Lamination is discouraged because it can permanently damage the surface of the artwork.
- Place the Official Entry Form in a sheet protector and tape it (with masking tape) to the back of the artwork on top of the shrink-wrap.

Works Not Accepted

- Sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, and other three-dimensional artwork
- Reproductions or enlargements of other artwork

Required Information

On the Official Entry Form, give the dimensions of the piece and describe the media used to create the piece.

Optional Artist Statement

On the Official Entry Form, describe what inspired you to create this work.

2007–2008 PTA Reflections Program

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY RULES

Theme: I can make a difference by...

Students must adhere to the general rules as well as the following Dance Choreography Rules.

Description

Dance choreography entries must be original choreographed dance composition works recorded on a VHS videotape or DVD. The choreography must be the work of one student and must demonstrate creativity and interpretation of the theme.

There may be up to three dancers performing the choreography. The choreographer may be the performer or one of the performers, but does not have to be. Costumes are not necessary. If costumes are used, however, the choreographer must also create the costumes.

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. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.

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. **Use of copyrighted material other than music is prohibited.**

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 students.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the **Official Entry Form**. Students who have not completely filled out the form will not be eligible to participate in the program. In situations where the child cannot fill out the entry form or write legibly, a parent may sign his or her child's name.

Students have the option of placing the titles of their works on the Official Entry Form and must answer a few questions about how they created their works (see Required Information).

Return of Artwork

The national PTA office does not return dance choreography entries.

Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

Music

The title, composer, and performer of any background music must be credited and documented on the Official Entry Form.

Presentation

- Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- All grade divisions must submit a videotape or DVD of a performance of the choreography.
- The choreographer is not required to be the (or one of the) performer(s).
- Submit the videotape or DVD in a plastic or cardboard container; identify both the videotape/DVD and container with the student's name, grade division, state, and year.
- Pack the videotape or DVD in a large envelope.
- Secure the Official Entry Form to the outside of the envelope with masking tape.

Recommendations for quality recordings

- If recording on videotape, use a *new* high-quality VHS videotape. Rewind to the beginning, record 10 seconds of black, and then begin recording the performance.
- Use a tripod to hold the camera still.
- Turn off all noise-making devices in the room (air conditioners, fans, telephones, etc.). Make sure the background music (if any) is audible on the recording.

Required Information

On the Official Entry Form, state who performed your choreography and credit the background music.

Optional Artist Statement

On the Official Entry Form, describe what inspired you to create this work.

2007–2008 PTA Reflections Program FILM/VIDEO PRODUCTION RULES

Theme: I can make a difference by...

Students must adhere to the general rules as well as the following Film/Video Production Rules.

Description

Film/video production entries must be original works of fiction or nonfiction relating to the current Reflections Program theme. The entries may be with or without sound.

The student submitting the entry must be the director, screenwriter, and cameraperson. If using a computer, the student must do all of the work. If the student chooses to appear in the production, a camera on a tripod may be used. All storyboarding, editing, etc., must be done by the student.

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. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.

Categories

- **Animation:** Animation may be drawn; created from a collection of objects, clay, torn paper, etc.; or computer-generated.
- **Narrative:** A story told through the images created on film, video, or computer. (This is not the same as a storyteller narrating an original story.)
- **Documentary:** Nonfiction documentation using narration, facts, and images.
- **Experimental:** Video that explores movement, light, and montage.
- **Media presentations using computers:** Computer-generated media presentations must be completely original, and the student must do all the work. Cutting and pasting is not permitted. PowerPoint presentations will not be accepted. Students must adhere to copyright laws. Software should be used only to enhance and present the work of the student.

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. **Use of copyrighted material other than music is prohibited.**

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 students.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the **Official Entry Form**. Students who have not completely filled out the form will not be eligible to participate in the program. In situations where the child cannot fill out the entry form or write legibly, a parent may sign his or her child's name.

Students have the option of placing the titles of their works on the Official Entry Form and must answer a few questions about how they created their works (see Required Information).

Return of Artwork

The national PTA office does not return film/video production entries.

Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

Music

The title, composer, and performer of any background music must be credited and documented on the Official Entry Form.

Presentation

- Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- Submissions should be in one of the following file formats.
 - **.MPG / .MPEG**
 - **.MOV / .QT** (Quicktime Video)
 - **.WMV** (Windows Media Video)
- Entries should be submitted on CD or DVD. In case of DVD, the submission should be saved as a file on the disc, not as a DVD movie.
- The student submitting the entry is not required to appear in the video.
- Submit the CD or DVD in a plastic or cardboard container; identify both the CD/DVD and container with the student's name, grade division, state, and year.
- Pack the CD or DVD in a large, catalog-style envelope, such as a 10" x 13" envelope.
- Secure the Official Entry Form to the outside of the envelope with masking tape.

Recommendations for quality recordings

- Use a tripod to hold the camera still.
- Make sure there is plenty of lighting, especially if shooting indoors.
- Think about sound. Use an extra microphone (boom mike) if needed. Turn off all noise-making devices in the room (air conditioners, fans, telephones, etc.).

Required Information

On the Official Entry Form, please answer the following:

- Who appears in your video?
- Was a computer used? If so, name the software and hardware.
- Was any background music used? If so, credit the music.

Optional Artist Statement

On the Official Entry Form, describe what inspired you to create this work.

Council Name _____

DISTRICT # _____

2007–2008 National PTA Reflections Program

Theme:

Official Entry Form

I can make a difference by...

Directions: Please print clearly. Completely fill out the form down to and including the required signatures. Leave the boxed area for local PTA information blank. If you need more space, use the back of this form or an extra sheet of paper.

Grade _____	_____	Grade Division (check one)	_____	Arts Area (check one)
Age _____	_____	Primary: Preschool–Grade 2	_____	Literature
	_____	Intermediate: Grades 3–5	_____	Musical Composition
	_____	Middle/Junior: Grades 6–8	_____	Photography
	_____	Senior: Grades 9–12	_____	Visual Arts
			_____	Dance Choreography
			_____	Film/Video Production

Title of work (if any) _____

Optional artist statement _____

Required Information

Photography and Visual Arts: Give the dimensions of the work in inches, including mat. _____

Photography: Describe the process used in preparing the piece. _____

Visual Arts: Describe the media (crayons, oil on canvas, etc.). _____

Dance Choreography: Who performed your choreography? _____

Film/Video Production: Respond to the following:

Who appears in your video? _____

Was a computer used? If so, name the software and hardware. _____

Dance Choreography and Film/Video Production: Credit the background music below.

Musical Composition: Respond to the following:

Circle one: Traditional instrumentation Synthesizer

Who performed your composition for your recording? _____

Was a computer used? If so, name the software and hardware. _____

Are lyrics included? If so, how do your lyrics complement your composition? _____

Fold here

Student's first name _____ Middle name _____ Last name _____

Address 1 _____ Address 2 _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone () _____ E-mail address _____

National PTA includes the state, district, council, or local PTA/PTSA organization or unit. I grant PTA permission to use my works for commercial or noncommercial use, including but not limited to public presentation of the work and reproduction of the work in print, electronic, and multimedia formats to promote the Reflections Program. National PTA may continue to use my work as long as it has access to a copy or to a slide. National PTA is not responsible for lost or damaged works. Entries may not be returned. I understand that I must participate in the Reflections Program through a PTA/PTSA in good standing. I affirm that this is my own original work. **I understand that the submission of my entry into the Reflections Program constitutes acceptance of the above conditions.**

Signature of student _____ Signature of parent/legal guardian (*necessary if child is under 18 years*) _____

To be completed by local PTA		Circle one: PTA PTSA
Local chair first name _____	Local chair last name _____	Phone () _____
E-mail _____	PTA/PTSA name _____	
PTA address _____	City _____	State _____ ZIP _____
Local Eight-Digit National PTA ID <u> 00 </u>		

Local PTA good standing status	Membership dues date paid _____	Insurance paid date _____	Bylaws approval date _____
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FORM A

UNIT

NATIONAL PTA 2007-2008 REFLECTIONS PROGRAM

PTA PARTICIPATION FORM

“I Can Make a Difference By...”

This form must accompany entries. Please complete this form and forward with your entries to the council or district level of judging. If you do not have accurate figures, please give your best estimate of the number of students who participated in the Reflections Program from your Unit.

Name of Unit _____

Council _____ District _____

Reflections Chairman _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____ E-Mail _____

Total number of entries (by age division) submitted by students belonging to your Unit:					
ENTRIES	Primary (Preschool–2)	Intermediate (3–5)	Middle/Jr. (6–8)	Senior (9–12)	TOTAL RECEIVED
Literature					
Visual Arts					
Photography					
Musical Composition					
Dance Choreography					
Film/Video Production					
TOTAL entries per grade					

Total number of student entries (by age division) forwarded to your Council (or District if you have no Council).						
ENTRIES	Primary (Preschool–2)	Intermediate (3–5)	Middle/Jr. (6–8)	Senior (9–12)	RECEIVED	FORWARDED
Literature						
Visual Arts						
Photography						
Musical Composition						
Dance Choreography						
Film/Video Production						
TOTAL entries per grade						

This form must accompany entries for the Council/District level of judging. Check student entry forms to see that all information on the Official Entry Form is complete.

FORM A

COUNCIL

NATIONAL PTA 2007-2008 REFLECTIONS PROGRAM

PTA PARTICIPATION FORM

“I Can Make a Difference By...”

This form must accompany entries. Please complete this form and forward with your entries to the district level of judging. If you do not have accurate figures, please give your best estimate of the number of students who participated in the Reflections Program from all of your units and at the council level.

Name of Council _____ District _____

Reflections Chairman _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____ E-Mail _____

Number of units in your Council _____ Number of units submitting entries to your Council for judging _____

Total number of entries (by age division) submitted by students <u>to member units belonging to your Council</u> (total of all Unit Form A's):					
ENTRIES	Primary (Preschool-2)	Intermediate (3-5)	Middle/Jr. (6-8)	Senior (9-12)	TOTAL RECEIVED
Literature					
Visual Arts					
Photography					
Musical Composition					
Dance Choreography					
Film/Video Production					
TOTAL entries per grade					

Total number of student entries (by age division) <u>received from all units</u> by your Council and the total number of entries <u>forwarded to District</u> by your Council:						
ENTRIES	Primary (Preschool-2)	Intermediate (3-5)	Middle/Jr. (6-8)	Senior (9-12)	RECEIVED	FORWARDED
Literature						
Visual Arts						
Photography						
Musical Composition						
Dance Choreography						
Film/Video Production						
TOTAL entries per grade						

This form must accompany entries for the District level of judging. Please attach all Unit Form A's, even if they do not have entries being forwarded for further judging. Please check student entry forms to see that all information on the Official Entry Form is complete.

FORM A

DISTRICT

NATIONAL PTA 2007-2008 REFLECTIONS PROGRAM

PTA PARTICIPATION FORM

"I Can Make a Difference By..."

This form must accompany entries. Please complete this form and forward with your entries to the state level of judging. If you do not have accurate figures, please give your best estimate of the number of students who participated in the Reflections Program from all of your units and councils.

DISTRICT _____

Reflections Chairman _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____ E-Mail _____

Total number of Units _____ Total number of Councils _____ Total number of out-of-council Units _____

Total Units participating _____ Total Councils participating _____ Total out-of-council Units participating _____

TOTAL	ENTRIES	Primary (Preschool-2)	Intermediate (3-5)	Middle/Jr. (6-8)	Senior (9-12)	RECEIVED	FORWARDED
UNIT	Literature						
	Visual Arts						
	Photography						
	Musical Composition						
	Dance Choreography						
	Film/Video Production						
	TOTAL	entries per grade					
COUNCIL	Literature						
	Visual Arts						
	Photography						
	Musical Composition						
	Dance Choreography						
	Film/Video Production						
	TOTAL	entries per grade					
DISTRICT	Literature						
	Visual Arts						
	Photography						
	Musical Composition						
	Dance Choreography						
	Film/Video Production						
	TOTAL	entries per grade					

This form must accompany entries forwarded to the state level for judging.

DISTRICT ENTRY FORM

DEADLINE: JANUARY 18, 2009

DISTRICT REFLECTIONS PROGRAM CHAIRMAN _____ DISTRICT # _____

ADDRESS _____ E-MAIL _____ PHONE (____) _____

Number of entries forwarded by district: Literature ____ Music ____ Photography ____ Visual Arts ____ Dance ____ Film/Video Prod. ____

***DIVISION:** **Primary:** Pre-school- Grade 2 ❖ **Intermediate:** Grades 3-5 ❖ **Junior / Middle:** Grades 6-8 ❖ **Senior:** Grades 9-12

<i>PHOTOGRAPHY</i>		<i>PHOTOGRAPHY</i>		<i>PHOTOGRAPHY</i>	
STUDENT NAME	AGE	GRADE	HOME ADDRESS	CITY, ZIP CODE	AREA CODE/PHONE
DESCRIPTION (print, collage, etc.)			SCHOOL	COUNCIL	*DIVISION
1.					PRIMARY
2.					INTERMEDIATE
3.					JUNIOR / MIDDLE
4.					SENIOR

<i>VISUAL ARTS</i>		<i>VISUAL ARTS</i>		<i>VISUAL ARTS</i>	
STUDENT NAME	AGE	GRADE	HOME ADDRESS	CITY, ZIP CODE	AREA CODE/PHONE
DESCRIPTION (drawing, watercolor, collage, etc.)			SCHOOL	COUNCIL	*DIVISION
1.					PRIMARY
2.					INTERMEDIATE
3.					JUNIOR / MIDDLE
4.					SENIOR

<i>LITERATURE</i>			<i>LITERATURE</i>		<i>LITERATURE</i>	
STUDENT NAME	AGE	GRADE	HOME ADDRESS	CITY, ZIP CODE	AREA CODE/PHONE	
DESCRIPTION (poem, story, etc.)			SCHOOL	COUNCIL	*DIVISION	
1.					PRIMARY	
2.					INTERMEDIATE	
3.					JUNIOR / MIDDLE	
4.					SENIOR	

<i>MUSIC</i>			<i>MUSIC</i>		<i>MUSIC</i>	
STUDENT NAME	AGE	GRADE	HOME ADDRESS	CITY, ZIP CODE	AREA CODE/PHONE	
DESCRIPTION (tape, CD, with/without notation)			SCHOOL	COUNCIL	*DIVISION	
1.					PRIMARY	
2.					INTERMEDIATE	
3.					JUNIOR / MIDDLE	
4.					SENIOR	

<i>DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY</i>			<i>DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY</i>		<i>DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY</i>	
STUDENT NAME	AGE	GRADE	HOME ADDRESS	CITY, ZIP CODE	AREA CODE/PHONE	
DESCRIPTION (# of dancers, theme)			SCHOOL	COUNCIL	*DIVISION	
1.					PRIMARY	
2.					INTERMEDIATE	
3.					JUNIOR / MIDDLE	
4.					SENIOR	

<i>FILM/VIDEO PRODUCTION</i>			<i>FILM/VIDEO PRODUCTION</i>		<i>FILM/VIDEO PRODUCTION</i>	
STUDENT NAME	AGE	GRADE	HOME ADDRESS	CITY, ZIP CODE	AREA CODE/PHONE	
DESCRIPTION (animation, narrative, documentary, etc.)			SCHOOL	COUNCIL	*DIVISION	
1.					PRIMARY	
2.					INTERMEDIATE	
3.					JUNIOR / MIDDLE	
4.					SENIOR	

DISTRICT PRESIDENT _____ PHONE (_____) _____

ADDRESS _____ E-MAIL _____

2008 Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Arts Enhancement Grant Program

Description of Program

A limited number of matching grants of up to \$1,000 are awarded each year to local PTAs for student-centered programs focused on arts education. Special consideration is given to programs that reach large numbers of students, especially students who are at risk. *At risk* is the term applied to children whose environmental, familial, and/or socioeconomic situation may affect their academic success or ability to learn.

The grant program complements PTA's long-standing commitment to quality arts education in public schools by providing funds to local PTAs to establish or enhance school arts programs in one or more arts areas: visual arts, photography, music (including dance), and literature (including theater). Local PTAs must submit complete applications and provide funds that match the amount they are requesting from the national PTA organization.

Program Objective

To enhance arts education for students in the classroom or other learning environments through activities; materials; introduction of new technologies, techniques, or methods; visiting artists; or programs.

Requirements

To be considered for a grant, interested applicants must submit the following:

- A completed application form
- Responses to the Selection Criteria listed on the application form
- A letter of commitment with the local PTA president's original signature stating the amount and source of matching funds from the local PTA

Restrictions

Grant money will be given to a local PTA for the management and implementation of a program such as a visiting artist program.

Grant money and matching funds *may not* be used for any overhead costs. *Overhead costs* refer to the cost of doing business (rental of space, teacher salaries, utilities, etc.). Funds may not be used for capital improvements, construction, or the purchase of permanent equipment. Funds *may* support the purchase of software.

Selection of Award Recipients

A panel of judges selected by and including one or more members of the PTA national board of directors will determine the grant recipients.

Timeline for Grant Application and Awards

Completed applications must be received by the national PTA office on or before **May 1, 2008**, for consideration. Grant recipients will be notified in early June, and grants will be distributed beginning in October 2008. All applicants will be notified of the status of their applications by the end of July 2008.

Mail all application materials to:

PTA Office of Programs and Public Policy
Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Arts Enhancement Grant Program
1400 L Street NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005

No faxed applications will be accepted.

Grant Application Form Instructions

The application form is designed so that text may be entered electronically or typed in using a typewriter.

To complete the form:

1. On a typewriter
 - a. Print it.
 - b. Fill it out using a typewriter.
 - c. Mail the completed form with the grant application narrative.
2. Electronically (on a computer)
 - a. Save the document to your hard drive and fill it out electronically by clicking on the gray cells to enter information. You will be able to enter information only in the gray cells. The cells will expand to accommodate the text.
 - b. Print out the completed form.
 - c. Mail the completed form with the grant application narrative.

Completed applications must be received at the PTA Office of Programs and Public Policy on or before **May 1, 2008**, for consideration.

2008 Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Arts Enhancement Grant Program

Application Checklist (for applicant's personal use)

Yes No

Local PTA in good standing

An application set, totaling up to six (6) pages, that includes

- A **one-page** letter of commitment of funds from the local PTA president, with the president's original signature
- A **one-page** completed application form:
 - Word processed or typed
 - Correct eight-digit local PTA ID number
 - Original signature of PTA president
 - Original signature of applicant
- A **four-page** (maximum) response to Selection Criteria questions:
 - Word processed or typed
 - In black ink and standard 12-point or larger computer font, or equivalent typewriter pitch
 - Double-spaced, single-sided pages
 - On white paper
 - 1-inch margin on all sides
 - Responses to questions numbered and in the order the questions appear on the application

Original application set and two copies (on white paper); each set paper clipped—no staples or binders

Shipped/mailed in time to ensure delivery to the PTA Office of Programs and Public Policy by the May 1, 2008, deadline