

Category Guidelines | Dance Choreography

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY is the act of creating movement. The student submitting the entry must be the choreographer. The choreographer may be the performer or one of the performers but does not have to perform in the entry.

To portray your original choreography, consider the following styles and ensembles: ballet, contemporary, hip hop, jazz, tap, folk Dance, religious dance, dance ensembles (color guard/indoor guard), ice skating/dancing and gymnastics-floor routine.

Whether an entry displays formal dance technique or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses their artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity. Consider use of choreographic style and techniques, background song(s), props and the location to show a clear relation of the dance choreography to the theme.

Copyright: Plagiarized entries will be disqualified. Use of copyrighted material is not acceptable, except for the following:

- If background music is used, *it must be cited on the entry form.*

Submission Requirements

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Entries with added graphics over the video, including lettering, are not accepted.
- Cite background music (if any) on the student entry form.
- Videos must not exceed 5 minutes or 1,000 MB (1,000 megabytes).
- Accepted file formats: MP4, MOV, AVI.
- Submit artwork and student entry form according to your PTA's guidelines.

All participants must also follow the official rules for participation

Arts Category Guidelines | Film Production

FILM PRODUCTION is the process of making a film. The **producer** (student submitting the entry) is not required to appear in the film but if the student chooses to, a tripod may be used. All screenwriting, directing and editing must be done by the student producer. All entries must include original student footage/media/material. *Digital slide presentations (PowerPoint) are not allowed.*

To portray your original work of fiction or nonfiction, consider the following styles:

- Animation: Demonstrates motion by sequencing still objects or using computer-generated graphics.
- Narrative: Tells a fictional story developed by the student.
- Documentary: Presents facts and information.
- Experimental: Explores movement, light and montage.
- Multimedia: Uses a combination of different contents (text, audio, still images, animation, etc.).

Whether an entry displays use of technologies or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses their artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity.

Consider plot and characters, visuals (setting, costumes, animation), sound and background music, editing, etc. to show a clear relation to the theme.

Digital technology and/or software can be used to develop, enhance and/or present an entry but may not provide the primary design and/or concept. Entrants must use the “Additional Details” field to *provide a brief description of the tools and methods used* in the creation process, including any generative elements.

Copyright: Plagiarized entries will be disqualified. Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted cartoon characters, material downloaded from the internet, copyrighted recorded music or copyrighted photographs or stock images, is not acceptable, except for the following:

- If background music is used, *it must be cited on the entry form.*
- Entries 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. The resulting work cannot try to establish an association between the student and the trademark/business/material or influence the purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.
- Entries may include portions of existing copyrighted works, such as photographs, magazine or digital media clippings and/or type cut out of a newspaper, as long as those portions of copyrighted works are used to create a completely new and different work of art.

Submission Requirements

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.

- Cite background music (if any) on the student entry form (title, composer and performer).
- Videos must not exceed 5 minutes or 1,000 MB (1,000 megabytes).
- Accepted file formats: MP4, MOV, AVI.
- Submit artwork and student entry form according to your PTA's instructions.

All participants must also follow the official rules for participation.

Arts Category Guidelines | Literature

LITERATURE is the art of writing. The author (student submitting entry) is a person who expresses their own thoughts and ideas through the use of words. Authors submit a single literary work, handwritten or typed, using grade-appropriate grammar, punctuation and spelling.

To portray your original work of fiction or nonfiction, consider the following literary styles: prose, poetry, drama, reflective essay, narrative, short story. *Collections of literary work are not accepted* (e.g., poems, short stories).

Whether an entry displays formal writing technique or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses their artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity. **Consider plot and characterization, setting and imagery, style, symbolism, etc. to show a clear relation to the theme.**

The following uses of dictation, transcription, illustration and translation are acceptable:

- Illustrated entries, including books, with pictures drawn by the student author are acceptable; however, *only literary content is judged*.
- Entries may be typed by another person if the original work or a copy of the original work is attached.
- If the student artist is unable, entries may be dictated to another person and printed or typed in exact words as provided by the student.
- Students for whom English is not their first language may submit entries in their own language. *An interpretive translation in English must accompany the entry.*
- Translators/transcribers should make every attempt to retain the same level of language and accuracy that is reflected in the student's original work.

Copyright: Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified.

Submission Requirements

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Entry must not exceed 2,000 words.
- Handwritten and typed entries are accepted on 8.5x11 paper (one sided only). Number each page.
- Accepted file format: PDF.
- Include any student information *on back of entry*.
- Submit artwork and student entry form according to your PTA's instructions.

All participants must also follow the official rules for participation.

Arts Category Guidelines | Music Composition

MUSIC COMPOSITION is the process of creating a new piece of music. The composer (student submitting entry) is a person who expresses their own thoughts and ideas through the use of sound. *A recording of the composition must be included.*

To portray your original composition, consider the following musical styles and instruments: A cappella, blues, choral, country, electronic, hip hop, jazz, Latin, musical, orchestral, pop, R&B, religious, rock, symphonic/concert band and traditional. All instruments, sounds, styles and combinations are accepted.

Whether an entry displays formal composition technique or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses their artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity. **Consider structure, melody, rhythm, instruments, lyrics, emotion, etc. to show a clear relation to the theme.**

Digital technology and/or software can be used to develop, enhance and/or present an entry but may not provide the primary design and/or concept. Entrants must use the “Additional Details” field to *provide a brief description of the tools and methods used* in the creation process, including any generative elements.

Audio recording (required for all entries):

- Student composers are not required to perform their composition and may submit an entry performed by an individual, group and/or make use of a sound library generated performance of a composed score.
- Software may be used to produce an audio recording. *Entries containing algorithmic composition techniques are not accepted.*

Music score/notation (required for middle and high school grade divisions only):

- Middle and high school grade divisions must include music score/notation, either traditional or tablature, or a written reflective statement (100 words or less).
- If submitting a reflective statement, *it does not replace the required entry artist statement*. The reflective statement must be distinct from the artist statement and must provide a technical musical explanation of how the music was created. Whereas the artist statement emphasizes the Reflections theme, *a reflective statement emphasizes the musical elements in the creative process*.
- Notation software may be used to create a score. Whether the score is hand-written or software-generated, appropriate instrumentation and voicing are required for the performance.

Copyright: Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified.

Submission Requirements

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.

- Notation is required for the middle and high school divisions. Accepted file formats: PDF.
- Audio recording must not exceed 5 minutes in length and 1,000 MB (1,000 megabytes).
- Accepted file formats: MP3, WAV.
- Submit artwork and student entry form according to your PTA's instructions.

All participants must also follow the official rules for participation.

Category Guidelines | Photography

PHOTOGRAPHY is the process of creating an image. The photographer (student submitting entry) is a person who captures their own thoughts and ideas with a camera. By focusing on objects using various lenses, filters and light sources, photographers may demonstrate the use of photographic techniques conventionally or digitally.

Accepted forms of photography include: A single photo, panoramic, photomontage (one print of multiple original photos), a multiple exposure, negative sandwich or photogram. Original black-and-white and color images.

Non-accepted forms of photography include: Entries with added graphics over the image, including lettering. Collages and collections of photos. Original film (negatives or transparencies) and multidimensional pieces.

Whether an entry displays use of technologies or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses their artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity.

Consider use of objects, lighting and the location to show a clear relation of the photo to the theme.

Digital technology and/or software can be used to develop, enhance and/or present an entry but may not provide the primary design and/or concept. Entrants must use the “Additional Details” field to *provide a brief description of the tools and methods used* in the creation process, including any generative elements.

Copyright: Plagiarized entries will be disqualified. Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted cartoon characters, material downloaded from the internet, copyrighted photographs or stock images, is not acceptable, except for the following:

- Entries 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. The resulting work cannot try to establish an association between the student and the trademark/business/material or influence the purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.

Submission Requirements

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Print images: between 3x5 to 8x10 inches. Digital images: at least 640x960 pixels and 300 dpi resolution.
- Mounted prints must not exceed 11x14 inches, including matting. Framed photos are not accepted.
- Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, PNG.
- Include any student information *on back of entry*.

- Submit artwork and student entry form according to your PTA's instructions.

All participants must also follow the official rules for participation.

Arts Category Guidelines | Visual Arts

VISUAL ARTS include many art forms that are visual in nature. The artist (student submitting entry) is a person who captures their own thoughts and ideas to create a visual piece of art.

Accepted forms of visual art include: Architecture (2D/3D), carpentry, ceramics, collages, photographic collages (multiple photos cut/pasted), digital art and graphics (drawings/paintings/illustration), crafts, design, dioramas, drawing, fiberwork, jewelry, kites, metal etching/punch work, mobiles, painting, printmaking, sculpture and wind chimes. *Reproductions or enlargements of other artwork are not accepted.*

Whether an entry displays use of formal technique or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses their artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity. **Consider art form, use of color, texture, shape, proportion etc. to show a clear relation to the theme.**

Digital technology and/or software can be used to develop, enhance and/or present an entry but may not provide the primary design and/or concept. Entrants must use the “Additional Details” field to *provide a brief description of the tools and methods used* in the creation process, including any generative elements.

Copyright: Plagiarized entries will be disqualified. Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted cartoon characters, material downloaded from the internet, copyrighted photographs or stock images, is not acceptable, except for the following:

- Entries 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. The resulting work cannot try to establish an association between the student and the trademark/business/material, or influence the purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.
- Entries may include portions of existing copyrighted works, such as photographs, magazine or digital media clippings and/or type cut out of a newspaper, as long as those portions of copyrighted works are used to create a completely new and different work of art.

Submission Requirements

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- *2D artwork (e.g., painting)* must include at least one digital image of artwork for judging. Dimensions must not exceed 24x30 inches, including matting. Paper entries must be mounted on sturdy material. Framed artwork is not accepted.
- *3D artwork (e.g., sculpture)* must include at least 3 photos of artwork at different angles. Artwork containing loose materials and/or requiring assembly/repair from transporting is not accepted.
- Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, PNG.

- Include any student information *on back of entry*.
- Submit artwork and student entry form according to your PTA's instructions.

All participants must also follow the official rules for participation.

Division Guidelines | Accessible Arts

ELIGIBILITY. The National PTA Accessible Arts Division is an option for students who identify as having a disability and may receive services under IDEA or ADA: Section 504. The division welcomes students of all ages and offers division-specific accommodations to ensure that every student has the chance to participate fully in the program.

Who qualifies as a disabled individual under the law? The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines an individual with a disability as a person who: (1) Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of that person; (2) Has a record of such an impairment; or (3) Is regarded as having such impairment.

HOW TO ENTER. To participate, students check the box on the Student Entry Form and select an arts category and grade-level division. When relevant, students compete against other students based on the selected grade-level division. By participating in the division, students

- Compete against other students in the Accessible Arts Division and are awarded as part of the division.
- Participate in the Accessible Arts Division for all entries submitted.
- Follow the general rules and arts category guidelines specific to their submissions, modified only by accommodations for individuals with disabilities.

ACCOMMODATIONS. Any accommodation should be both specific and limited to the student's disability and should not impact the artistic process. The following provides a non-exhaustive list of allowable accommodations:

- **Allowed Non-Artistic Accommodations**
 - Use of adaptive technology or assistive devices is allowed.
 - While the artist directs the process, assistants (a parent, teacher, other adult) may help with executing the artist's vision with typing, transcribing, etc.
- **Allowed Division-Specific Accommodations**
 - Use the "Additional Details" field to provide details about how the student's disability and/or support needs impacted their entry (10 to 100 words, optional).
 - As necessary, students may select the grade-level division most closely aligned to their support needs. Contact local PTA and/or state PTA for additional details.

Assistants to student artists may not, in any way, involve themselves in the actual artistic process or act without direction from the artist. The following provides a non-exhaustive list of **accommodations that are not allowed**:

- Personally selecting a title for artwork and/or writing, editing or interpreting a student's artist statement.
- Drafting/editing language for literature or film; creating/editing footage or music.
- Composing music, writing lyrics, combining sounds; choreographing dance moves.
- Creating/editing visual arts; selecting subjects, edits and camera angles for photos.

All participants must also follow the official rules for participation.

National PTA Reflections Program

By submitting 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).

Official Rules

1. **ELIGIBILITY.** Students must participate through a local PTA/PTSA. **Each student's eligibility is determined by the state and local PTA/PTSA.** A student may develop an entry inside or outside of school.
2. **HOW TO ENTER.** Entrants must submit their artwork and student entry form to their local PTA/PTSA program according to local and state PTA procedures. Contact local PTA programs for deadlines and additional information.
3. **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS.** Entrants must follow requirements and instructions specific to each arts category and, if applicable, Accessible Arts Division rules.
 - a. Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the current year's theme may be submitted.
 - b. Each entry must be the original work of one student only. Only one student may be recognized as the award recipient for each entry. 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 Accessible Arts 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.
 - c. Each entry must contain a 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.
 - d. Digital technology and/or software can be used to develop, enhance and/or present an entry but may not provide the primary design and/or concept. Entrants must use the "Additional Details" field to provide a brief description of the tools and method used in the creation process, including any generative elements (10 to 50 words).
4. **ARTS CATEGORIES.** There are six arts categories and students may enter the National PTA Reflections program in one or more arts categories. See additional entry requirements and further details outlined in arts category rules.
 - a. **Dance Choreography:** Solo and ensemble works of all dance styles are accepted. Entrant must be the original choreographer and may also be the performer, or one of the performers. Entries with added graphics in the video are not accepted. If used, cite background music on the entry form (title, composer and performer). **Videos** must not exceed five minutes or 1,000 MB (1,000 megabyte). Accepted file formats: MP4, MOV, AVI.
 - b. **Film Production:** Accepted short film styles include: Animation, narrative, documentary, experimental or media presentation. All entries must include original student footage/media/material. PowerPoint/digital slide presentations are not allowed. Entrant must be the screenwriter, cinematographer, editor and producer. If used, cite background music on the entry form (title, composer and performer). **Videos** must not exceed five minutes or 1,000 MB. Accepted file formats: MP4, MOV, AVI.
 - c. **Literature:** Accepted forms of fiction and nonfiction include: prose, poetry, reflective essay, screen play and play script, narrative and short story. Collections of literary work are not accepted. Entrants may write in their primary language as long as an interpretive English translation is provided. Original illustrations are accepted, but only the writing is judged. **Writing** can be handwritten or typed (8.5x11, one-sided) and up to 2,000 words. Number pages. Accepted file format: PDF.
 - d. **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. Software may be used to produce an audio recording. Entries containing algorithmic composition techniques are not accepted. **Audio recording** is required and must not exceed five minutes or 1,000 MB. Accepted file formats: MP3, WAV. **Notation** (score/tablature/reflective statement) is required for

middle and high school divisions only and does not replace the required entry artist statement. Accepted file format: PDF.
See guidelines for accepted notation details.

- e. **Photography:** Photo must be a single print/digital image. Collages, collections of photos and/or photos with added graphics are not accepted. Entrant must be the photographer and may use a variety of digital editing techniques. **Print** images: between 3x5 to 8x10 inches. **Digital** images: at least 640x960 pixels and 300 dpi resolution. Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, PNG.
- f. **Visual Arts:** Works of both fine and design arts in 2D or 3D formats are accepted. See guidelines for specifics. **2D** artworks must not exceed 24x30 inches, including matting and must include at least one digital image of artwork. **3D** artwork must contain 3 digital images of artwork at different angles. Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, PNG.

5. DIVISIONS. Students select the appropriate division for their grade:

- a) Primary (PreK-Grade 2)
- b) Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
- c) Middle School (Grades 6-8)
- d) High School (Grades 9-12)
- e) Accessible Arts (All grades welcome)

Accessible Arts Division is open to students who identify as having a disability and may receive services under IDEA or ADA: Section 504. By participating, students compete against other students in the Accessible Arts Division and are awarded as part of the division. Participating students may receive division-specific accommodations and non-artistic accommodations as outlined in the division guidelines. Students who choose to participate in the Accessible Arts Division must also select an arts category and grade division. See division guidelines for details.

Students with disabilities that do not wish to enter the Accessible Arts Division may compete in their relevant grade-level and will follow the general rules and arts category guidelines specific to their submissions, modified only by non-artistic accommodations specific and limited to the student's disability.

6. COPYRIGHT. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified. Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted cartoon characters, material downloaded from the internet, copyrighted recorded music or copyrighted photographs or stock images, is not acceptable, except for the following:

- Entries 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. The resulting work cannot try to establish an association between the student and the trademark/business/material or influence the purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.
- If background music is used in dance choreography and film production entries, it must be cited on the entry form (title, composer and performer).
- Visual arts, photography and film production entries may include portions of existing copyrighted works, such as photographs, magazine or digital media clippings and/or type cut out of a newspaper, as long as those portions of copyrighted works are used to create a completely new and different work of art.

7. FINALIST SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION. Entries are reviewed at local, regional, 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 submitted by the local, regional or state levels. National PTA reserves the right to use its sole discretion in selecting the submissions to be recognized at the national level. 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. National awards are announced May 1 at PTA.org/Reflections.

8. 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.

9. 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.

Local PTA Information			
LOCAL PTA	NORTH BEND ELEM PTA		NATIONAL PTA ID
		00029626	
LOCAL PROGRAM CHAIR	Janice Cavanaugh	EMAIL	NBReflections26@gmail.com

STUDENT NAME	GRADE	AGE
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PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME(S)	EMAIL	PHONE
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MAILING ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
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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. Signatures (typed or handwritten) are required for all entries.

STUDENT SIGNATURE (Required for all entries) _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (Required for all entries) _____

CATEGORY AND DIVISION (All entrants must select a grade-level division and arts category.)	GRADE DIVISION (Check one)	ARTS CATEGORY (Check one)
	☐ PRIMARY (PreK-Grade 2) ☐ INTERMEDIATE (Grades 3-5) ☐ MIDDLE SCHOOL (Grades 6-8) ☐ HIGH SCHOOL (Grades 9-12)	☐ DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY ☐ MUSIC COMPOSITION ☐ FILM PRODUCTION ☐ PHOTOGRAPHY ☐ LITERATURE ☐ VISUAL ARTS

ACCESSIBLE ARTS DIVISION PARTICIPATION	
Students who identify as having a disability and may receive services under IDEA or ADA: Section 504 may also select to participate in the Accessible Arts Division to receive division-specific accommodations and non-artistic accommodations as outlined in the division guidelines. Participating students may use the "Additional Details" field to provide information about how their disability and/or support needs impacted their entry (10 to 100 words, optional). Participating students compete against other students in the division and are awarded as part of the division. See division guidelines for details.	
☐ I will participate and compete in the Accessible Arts Division.	☐ I will NOT participate and compete in the Accessible Arts Division.

ARTWORK DETAILS (As relevant or required based arts category and/or division)

Medium and Materials (Visual Arts)			Dimensions (Visual Arts/ Photog.)	
Word Count (Lit.)		Editing software, if used. (All categories)		
Cite background music, if used. (Dance/Film)		List musician(s) or instrumentation (Music)		

TITLE (Required for all entries)

ARTIST STATEMENT (Required for all entries) In 10 to 100 words, describe your work and how it relates to the theme.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS If technology is used, describe the platform's use in the creation process, including any generative elements (required for all entries, 10 to 50 words). Students participating in the Accessible Arts Division may provide details about how their disability and/or support needs impacted their entry (Optional, 10 to 100 words).
