

Dance Choreography Guidance

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY is the act of creating movement. The **choreographer** (student submitting the entry) is a person who expresses their original thoughts and ideas through the use of scripted movement. The choreographer may be the performer or one of the performers, but the choreographer does not have to perform in the entry.

Consider the following styles and ensembles to portray your original choreography: Ballet, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Jazz, Tap, Folk Dance, Religious Dance, Dance Ensembles (color guard/indoor guard), Ice Skating/Dancing, or Gymnastics-floor Routine.

Consider use of background song(s), props, and the location to show a clear relation of the dance choreography to the theme. An explanation of the origin of the dance and/or the significance of the choreography might be a useful addition to the artist statement when submitting a dance choreography entry that involves traditional, cultural or regional dances. Whether an entry displays formal dance technique or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity.

Use of copyrighted music in dance choreography is **acceptable** when the **title, composer, and performer of any music in the submission is credited** on the student entry form. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified.

Tips for Audio/Visual Quality:

- Use a tripod to hold the camera still.
- Make sure there is plenty of lighting, especially if shooting indoors.
- Turn off all noise-making devices in the room (air conditioners, fans, telephones, etc.).
- Record a short test and watch it. If needed, change the recording volume or microphone location.
- Make sure the background music (if any) is audible on the recording.
- Record two seconds of silence at the beginning and end of your production.

Submission Instructions:

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Performance must not exceed 5 minutes in length or 1 GB (one gigabyte) in file size.
- Keep a recording of your entry.
- Accepted file formats are AVI, MOV, and MP4.
- Credit background music (title, composer, lyricist, and performer) on the student entry form.
- Submit electronically as prescribed by Free State PTA

Film Production Guidance

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.

FILM PRODUCTION is the process of making a film. The **producer** (the student submitting the entry) is a person who expresses their original thoughts and ideas through the use of images that change over time. The producer is not required to appear in the film but if the producer chooses to appear, a camera tripod may be used. All screenwriting, directing, camera/filming, and editing must be done by the student producer. ***PowerPoint presentations are prohibited.***

Consider the following styles to portray your original work of fiction or nonfiction:

- **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.).

An explanation of the storyline and/or the significance of the film style might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays use of technologies or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity. Software can be used to create an entry, but only to enhance and present the work, not provide the primary design.

Use of Other Copyrighted Material

Films 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. Use of background music must be credited on the student entry form.

Tips for Audio/Visual Quality

- Use a tripod to hold the camera still.
- Make sure there is plenty of lighting, especially if indoors.
- Turn off all noise-making devices in the room (air conditioners, fans, telephones, etc.).
- Record a short test, listen to it. If needed, change the record volume or microphone location.
- Make sure the background music (if any) is audible on the recording.
- Record two seconds of silence at the beginning and end of your production.

Submission Instructions

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Performance must not exceed 5 minutes in length or 1 GB (one gigabyte) in file size.
- Keep a recording of your entry.
- Accepted file formats are AVI, MOV, and MP4.
- Credit background music (title, composer, lyricist, and performer) on the student entry form.
- Submit electronically as instructed by Free State PTA.

Literature Guidance

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.

LITERATURE is the art of writing. The **author** (the student submitting the entry) is a person who expresses their original thoughts and ideas through the use of words. Authors submit a single literary work, handwritten or typed, using grade-appropriate grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Collections of literary works (such as collected poems or short stories) are not accepted.

Consider the following literary styles to portray your original work of fiction or nonfiction: Prose, Poetry, Drama, Reflective essay, Narrative, or Short story.

An explanation of the storyline and/or the significance of the literature style might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays formal writing technique or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme, originality, and creativity. Illustrated entries, including books, with pictures drawn by the student author are acceptable; however, only literary content is judged.

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 included.
- Students in pre-school, kindergarten or 1st grade may dictate to another person who may print or type exact words as spoken by the student.
- Transcribers should attempt to retain the same level of language and accuracy that is present in the student's original work.

Translation

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

Submission Instructions:

- 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 2000 words.
- Handwritten & typed entries are accepted on 8.5x11 paper (one sided only), and digital entries must be a PDF file.
- Save a copy of your submitted entry.
- Submit electronically as instructed by Free State PTA.

Music Composition Guidance

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.

MUSIC COMPOSITION is the process of creating a new piece of music. The **composer** (the student submitting the entry) is a person who expresses their original thoughts and ideas through the use of sound changes over time. The composer may submit an entry performed by an individual or group and/or make use of a sound library generated performance of a score composed in its entirety by the student. Composers are not required to perform their composition themselves. A recording of the composition must be included. *Primary, Intermediate, and Special Artist divisions do not require musical notation. The student may choose to submit iconic (“made-up”), traditional, or tablature notation, if desired. Middle and high school grade divisions must include music score/notation, either traditional or tablature, or a written reflective statement that provides a musically technical explanation of how the music was created (100 words or less).*

- Notation software may be used to create a score.
- Whether the score is handwritten or computer-generated, appropriate instrumentation and voicing are required for the performance.
- For electronic copies of notation, accepted file type is PDF.

Consider the following musical styles and instruments to portray your original composition: 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. Software may be used to produce an audio recording. Entries containing algorithmic composition techniques are not accepted. An explanation of the origin of the music and/or the significance of the music style might be a useful addition to the artist statement when submitting a music composition that involves traditional, cultural, or regional instruments. Whether an entry displays formal composition technique or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme, originality, and creativity. Use of copyrighted material is prohibited.

Tips for Audio Quality

- Do not place the recording device on top of an instrument(s) or speakers.
- Turn off all noise-making devices in the room (air conditioners, fans, telephones, etc.).
- Record a short test and listen to it. If needed, change the recording volume or microphone location.
- Make sure the music is audible on the recording.
- Record two seconds of silence before and after performing your composition.

Submission Instructions:

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Performance must not exceed 5 minutes in length or 1 GB (one gigabyte) in file size.
- Keep a recording of your entry.
- Accepted file formats are MP3 and WAV. Video files are not accepted.
- Submit electronically as instructed by Free State PTA

Photography Guidance

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.

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** types include single photographic print, panoramic, photomontage (one print of multiple original photos), multiple exposure, negative sandwich, or photogram. Black-and-white and color are accepted.
- **Non-accepted** forms include entries with added graphics over the image (including lettering) (Consider submitting this as Visual Arts.). Film (negatives or transparencies) and multidimensional pieces are not accepted. Collages or collections of photos are not accepted.

Special note for Free State PTA entrants: Submissions may not be created using artificial intelligence software (such as DALL-E rotor, hotpot AI, deep AI, Craiyon, nightcafe, or other text-to-art software tools) to generate any part of the content or composition. Content generation, including composition and arrangement, must be the result of student exercise of skills and tools. This does not preclude the use of image painting and editing software such as photoshop, gimp, paint or similar software tools to filter, crop, rotate, or adjust brightness / contrast or color for photography entries. Retouching or compositing may result in photography submissions being re-categorized from Photography to Visual Art.

Consider use of objects, lighting and the location to show a clear relation of the photo to the theme. An explanation of the photography process/form might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays use of technologies or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme, originality, and creativity.

Use of Copyrighted Material

Use of copyrighted material, including copyrighted cartoon characters or other such material, is not acceptable in any photography submission, with the following exception: 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. 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 Instructions:

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- **Non-digital photo:** If the submission was produced with a non-digital camera and developed by traditional process, submit an image of your photo in JPEG, JPG, and PNG
- Photo may not be smaller than 3 x 5 or larger than 8 x 10
- Accepted file formats are JPEG, JPG, and PNG.
- Digital images must be high resolution not less than 640 x 960 pixels and 300 dpi
- The digital file may not exceed 1 GB (one gigabyte) and keep a copy of your submitted entry. Submit electronically as directed by Free State PTA

Visual Arts Guidance

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.

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 includes but is not limited to: architecture (2D/3D), carpentry, ceramics, collages, photographic collages (multiple photos cut/pasted), computer-generated image, crafts, design, dioramas, drawing, fiber work, jewelry, kites, metal etching/punch work, mobiles, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and wind chimes. Reproductions or enlargements of other artwork are not accepted.

An explanation of the art form might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays use of formal technique or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity.

Special note for Free State PTA entrants: Submissions may not be created using artificial intelligence software (such as DALL-E rotor, hotpot AI, deep AI, Craiyon, nightcafe, or other text-to-art software tools) to generate any part of the content or composition. Content generation, including composition and arrangement, must be the result of student exercise of skills and tools. This does not preclude the use of image painting and editing software such as photoshop, gimp, paint or similar software tools for Visual Arts entries.

Copyright: Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted cartoon characters or likeness, is not acceptable in any visual arts submission, with the following exceptions:

- Visual artwork 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.
- Visual arts collages may include portions of existing copyrighted works, such as photographs, magazine clippings, internet images, and 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)
 - Dimensions must not exceed 24 inches x 30 inches, including matting.
 - Submit photo of the entry
- 3D artwork (e.g. sculpture)
 - Must be able to be moved for display purposes.
 - Submit 3 photos of the entry (a combination of angles) for judging, ID, and exhibition purposes.
- Accepted file formats are JPEG, JPG, and PNG.
- Images must be high resolution not less than 640 x 960 pixels and 300 dpi
- The digital file may not exceed 1 GB (one gigabyte) and keep a copy of your submitted entry. Submit electronically as directed by Free State PTA