



National PTA Reflections® Program Visual Arts Rules



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: original print, drawing, painting, collage (cut and pasted materials such as clippings and photos), metal etching or punch work, fiber work or computer-generated artwork.*

*Note these guidelines are specific to Texas PTA. While other states have decided to incorporate additional 3D art mediums, Texas PTA has made the decision to accept only 2D Visual Arts entries.

Reflect on the 2015-2016 Theme: *Let Your Imagination Fly*

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.

Copyright: Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted cartoon characters or likeness thereof, 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:

- The student or at least one person from their primary household must be a current member of the Local PTA/PTSA where the student is participating. Each Local PTA/PTSA may determine a date by which the member must join.
- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Artwork must not exceed 24x30 inches, including matting.
- Paper entries must be mounted on sturdy material such as cardboard.
- Artwork must be flat and not more than 1 inch. Framed artwork not accepted.
- Label back of entry with student name, title of artwork, arts category and grade division.
- Protecting the work with butcher paper is highly recommended. Tape the paper to the back/edge of the artwork on one side and fold the butcher paper the front of the artwork to protect it during travel.
- Lamination is discouraged because it can permanently damage the surface of the artwork.
- Place the 2 copies of the Student Entry Form in a sheet protector and secure it with masking tape to the back of the artwork so that it is still accessible for photocopying. Do not tape over the opening of the sheet protector.

Return of Artwork:

- Entries that win at local levels will be forwarded to the next level of judging. If an entry is forwarded to the state level, it will not be returned until the end of the school year. **Seniors should preserve a copy of their artwork to include in their portfolio.** Final judging of winning entries occurs at the national level where all entries are received in an electronic format. Entries awarded at the National level will be included in their online and traveling exhibit. The original artwork may not be returned for 1-3 years.

All participants must also follow General Participation Rules.