



*Oregon PTA*  
2009-2010  
*Reflections Handbook*  
*"Beauty Is.."*

*Additional rules and information as well as entry forms are available on line  
at [www.oregonpta.org](http://www.oregonpta.org).*

## **About the PTA Reflections Program**

PTA's Reflections Program is designed to enhance quality arts education for students in grades K-12. Over the years this program has encouraged millions of students to explore their artistic talents. The Program helps parents encourage the creativity and lifelong learning of their children. It provides opportunities for children to express themselves creatively, and it provides opportunities to recognize the children's artistic endeavors.

Reflections is a grassroots program in that local PTA units sponsor the program in their schools. Works are selected from the local level to proceed to the Council/Region level. Some from the Council/Region are sent to the State, and some from State are sent to National PTA. Recognition and awards are given at every level. Parents, teachers, and community members all play a critical role in fostering a positive learning environment for the children.

Providing the Reflections Program through your local unit is one way you can promote cultural arts in your home, in your school, and in your community.

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## **2009-2010 Reflections Program Theme: "BEAUTY IS.."**

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### **General Program Information**

This year the Reflections Program will include eight categories of the cultural arts, six of which are National categories, and two of which are Oregon PTA ones. The six National categories are: Literature, Musical Composition, Photography, Visual Arts, Dance Choreography, and File/Video Production. The two Oregon PTA categories are: Theater and Three Dimensional Visual Arts.

### **Establishing a Reflections Program**

We encourage you to establish a Reflections program in your local unit. It is important to carefully read and understand all of the rules for participating and also the procedures for submission of entries to the next level. If you are unfamiliar with the program, you should find out from your council or region director which schools in your region have participated and contact them for guidance and suggestions. You are also welcome to contact the Oregon PTA Reflections Chair. (Contact information is located at the front of the manual.)

The first step in establishing the program is gaining support of school personnel. In addition you will want to gain the support of the parents and the community.

### **Gaining Principal and Staff Support:**

- Meet with your principal to explain the Reflections Program and its benefits for students and staff.
- Staff support is very important to a successful Reflections Program. Ask to attend a staff meeting to describe the Reflections Program.
- The Reflections Program supports all the art areas in the Arts Benchmarks for the State of Oregon and can also be used to support benchmarks in writing.

- Suggest that they may wish to use the program for a classroom project.
- Describe how Reflections can build self-esteem and provide individual fulfillment, as well as supplement the arts program at your school.
- Ask for their opinions as to the best way for students to participate in the program through your PTA.
- Give them a sense of ownership in the program.
- Pass around a sign-up sheet seeking committee members.

### **Gaining Parent and Community Support:**

- Provide information about the program in newsletters and special flyers.
- Conduct a Reflections orientation workshop to explain the rules and deadlines.
- At your first PTA/PTSA meeting, explain the Reflections Program. It only takes one informed person to get Reflections started at your school. Be enthusiastic.
- Describe how Reflections can build self-esteem and provide individual fulfillment, as well as supplement the arts program at your school.
- The Reflections Program supports all the art areas in the Benchmarks for Art Education in the State of Oregon.
- Pass around a sign-up sheet seeking committee members.
- Appoint or elect a chairperson according to the Standing Rules of your local unit.
- Provide a copy of the Reflections portion of this manual to the committee.
- Keep in mind that it takes time to build a solid program. Don't be afraid to ask for assistance from other local units, your council/region director and from the Oregon PTA Reflections Chair.

From the sign up sheets you have passed around, create a Reflections Program Committee. Have the committee read and review all Reflections rules and guidelines, so they are able to answer questions. All information and correspondence needs the approval of the committee and the local unit president prior to publication and distribution. It is also highly recommended that you contact the principal for specific rules he/she may have for content approval and distribution.

Set up a calendar, working backward from your council/region deadline, allowing plenty of time for student participation, sorting of entries, mounting, display, and preparation of entries for shipment to the next level. Be sure the date of each activity does not conflict with other school activities.

### **Reflections Committee Responsibilities:**

- Contact your council/region director to let them know you are participating and to learn the council/region deadline to receive entries.
- Propose options for locations where students may complete their entries.
- Programs with staff cooperation may allow entries to be created in the classroom.
- Students can also create their entries at home. You may want to provide art materials to make it possible for all children to participate.
- Consider planning an Arts Day at school or elsewhere during which students can create their Reflections entries.
- Plan to reward ALL participants. Decide what form of recognition they will receive. Suggestions include certificates, ribbons, trophies, plaques, art supplies, or gift certificates to art-related stores.
- Decide if you will have an art show and/or award ceremony. Begin planning the details.

## Kicking off your program:

- Have a general assembly to explain the program to the students or go to each classroom to talk about the program.
- Give the theme (“Beauty Is..”) and discuss it with them.
- Discuss the rules, but keep it simple.
- Tell them what kind of materials they may use, the size limitations, and the deadline date.
- Stress that students should interpret the theme in their own way.
- Do not tell them what to draw, write, compose, photograph, choreograph, or film.
- Titles and artist statements are highly recommended to assist in determining how the theme has been interpreted.

## Preparing entries for submission: VERY IMPORTANT!

- After all entries have been collected, make sure each entry meets the criteria of its category (size, materials, originality, etc.). Also, be sure visual arts and photography are mounted, as specified in the rules. You do not want the children’s project disqualified.
- Use the Local Unit Entry Form to record entries to be forwarded to Council/Region. Keep a copy for the Unit’s records.
- **No student identification may appear on the front of the artwork.** The Official entry form ONLY must be attached to the entry as outlined in the rules.
- **Option** – Create a tracking system to keep track of your school’s art, i.e. Buckman School, Bkman 1, Bkman 2. , and mark this code on the back of each entry. This will make it easier for your region director to get the art back to the correct school.

## Judging:

Most local units will send all of their entries forward to be judged at the next level. This is up to the individual school.

All Council/Region, State, and National entries will be judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme “Beauty Is..”

## What to do with entries:

- Recognize all participants in whatever way you have planned. Publicize selected entries in your local PTA/PTSA newsletter and in the local newspaper.
- Look for opportunities to share the students’ work with the community. **Official entry forms should not be visible when on display.** Display entries in the school’s hallway, display case, or library.
- Contact shopping malls, banks, coffee houses, or the local library to arrange a display of the visual arts and photography entries, or arrange for machines to play a continuous video loop of Reflections entries.
- Ask a local radio station to play recordings of the music entries. Request the local newspaper to feature the literature entries.
- Ask local cable access stations to play video entries from the Oregon PTA Reflections program.
- Shrink-wrapping is highly recommended for visual arts and photography entries going from council/region to the state level. This is the best way to protect them during shipping and handling. **DO NOT LAMINATE.**

- Inform music and literature entries going on to the next level that their entries **will not** be returned if they go on to the National PTA level. Recommend they copy their entry before it is sent.
- Package art work securely. Include all necessary forms and deliver or ship to the next level. Allow ample time to ensure your entries meet the deadline.

### **What to do after the entries for submitted:**

- Send a thank you to everyone who helped with the program.
- Ask for written comments from parents and staff.
- What did they like about the program?
- How could it be improved?
- Write a report of your activities so next year's committee will be able to benefit from your experience.
- Plan to attend the Oregon PTA Convention Reflections Luncheon. Coordinate attendance of any students from your unit whose work had been selected for state recognition.
- Promptly return all entries to the students when the artwork is returned to you.

## **Oregon PTA Reflections Rules**

Following are the rules for submission of Reflections entries to the State level by local units:

- Entries must adhere to state and National PTA Reflections category rules.
- A completed National or Oregon Official Entry Form, including student and parent signatures, must be submitted with each entry being forwarded to the next level. It is imperative that this form is completed neatly, clearly and completely, as this form is used to communicate with the local PTA/PTSA and the young artist. See the category rules for specific instructions about how to attach the Official Entry Form.
- Students must participate in the Reflections Program through their local PTA Unit of the school they attend. Home School students may submit entries through the school they would attend if they were not being home schooled.
- Local PTA/PTSA Units must meet the following requirements of Oregon PTA to submit entries for consideration at the Council/Region level:
  - ✓ **Officer List** input online at [www.oregonpta.org](http://www.oregonpta.org) November 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year
  - ✓ **Membership fees** received in the state office by November 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year. Membership lists input online at [www.oregonpta.org](http://www.oregonpta.org).
  - ✓ **Insurance fee** paid to AIM or proof thereof received in the state office by November 30<sup>th</sup> of the current school year.
- No student identification may appear on the front or back of the artwork.

**The program aspect of Reflections should always be in the forefront. Any type of competition is discouraged at the local level. It is recommended that all entries at the local unit level be forwarded to the Council/Region level.**

### **The Forwarding Process:**

- Local PTA/PTSA units located in a council territory must submit entries through the council.
- Local PTA/PTSA units in areas without councils must submit entries through the region director.

- Local PTA/PTSA units may not submit entries directly to Oregon PTA or to National PTA.
- Before forwarding, remove all local unit ribbons or awards from entries being forwarded.
- Complete both National and Oregon Entry Tracking Forms. Make a copy to keep for local unit records.
- Complete both National and Oregon Participation Forms. This data is used to track student participation trends.

### **Council/Region Selection Process**

- Entries must adhere to Oregon and National PTA Reflections rules and be accompanied by a completed Official Entry Form.
- Each region is eligible to submit 24 entries, or the equivalent of one entry per local PTA/PTSA unit meeting the participation requirements, whichever number is greater – for the National PTA categories. All entries for the Oregon categories should be submitted to Oregon PTA for selection.
- Complete both the National and Oregon Participation Forms. This data is used to track student participation trends.
- **Entries submitted from Councils/Regions MUST be received by the Oregon PTA Reflections/Cultural Art Chair by February 1, 2010.**
- Once entries have been delivered to the State level, they will remain with the State Reflections Chair until after the Recognition Luncheon at the Oregon PTA Convention in April 2010.

### **Oregon PTA Selection Process**

- Entries for the National PTA Reflections Program submitted to Oregon PTA must adhere to and will be selected in compliance with National PTA Reflections rules.
- Entries for the Oregon PTA Reflections Program must adhere to and will be selected in compliance with Oregon PTA Reflections Program rules.
- An Award of Excellence and an Award of Merit will be chosen for each grade division of each of the eight art categories for the potential of 64 honorees. All of the honorees and an accompanying adult will receive an invitation to attend the Reflections Award Luncheon at Oregon PTA Convention as the guests of Oregon PTA.
- All entries received at the state level will be displayed at the Oregon PTA Convention and returned to students through their council/region director after convention.
- The twenty-four Award of Excellence honorees in the six National art categories will be forwarded to National PTA.

## **Additional Rules and Guidelines**

### **Non-English Entries in Literature, Theater or Video**

If a student's primary language is not English, entries may be submitted in his/her primary language. The original work **MUST** be submitted. However, it needs to be accompanied by a translation. This translation may be done by anyone, but must preserve the vocabulary and grammar 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 designated 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 in the literature, musical composition, visual arts and photography categories.** This includes the use of copyrighted cartoon characters or other such material.

Examples of copyrighted materials:

- Cartoon characters on television, in videos, and in comic books are copyrighted. Even if the character is in a new setting, the character itself is copyrighted and is not to be used.
- Copyrighted Internet material.
- Advertisements – Using print, film, TV or radio advertising ideas is not acceptable.
- Most printed music – Using a musical theme from an existing copyrighted composition is not acceptable.
- Copyrighted recorded music.
- Copyrighted photographs, especially in the print media.
- Copyrighted photographs or stock photographs **may not be used** as a subject for visual arts entries.

Use of copyrighted music in dance choreography or film/video productions entries is acceptable. The title, composer and performer of any music used must be credited and documented on the Official Entry Form. Use of any other copyrighted material is prohibited.

Misuse of the above materials constitutes plagiarism – stealing and passing off another's ideas or words or inventions as one's own.

## Plagiarized and Resubmitted Entries

Occasionally, entries submitted to the Reflections Program are ineligible. Two of the most common reasons for declaring an entry ineligible are plagiarism and resubmission. The Reflections Program rules define plagiarism as taking and using another person's ideas, writings or inventions as one's own. The rules also state that only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme are acceptable. If a student submits an entry that was created and submitted the previous year, it is ineligible because all artwork needs to express the current year's theme. Recommended procedures for dealing with both plagiarized and resubmitted entries follow.

Most pieces that are plagiarized are in the Visual Arts category. However, the other categories are vulnerable as well. When students use another artist's work to gain recognition from PTA, a remedy is needed to protect the integrity of the program.

Here's what you can do to maintain the program's integrity:

- Assume that there will be entries that are not original.
- Institute a process to confirm originality.
  1. Alert judges to the possibility that some pieces might not be original.
  2. Seek judges' guidance for determining originality if a piece is questionable.
  3. Check questionable images via the Internet. The Google search engine is a good tool. For example, if the submitted Visual Arts entry or photograph is of a famous person, type in that person's name and search listed websites to see if the image is from a book

cover or a collection of published photos.

The discovery that an artwork is ineligible can be very disappointing. The rules clearly state that plagiarized entries should be disqualified and returned to the student. All levels of the program – local, council/regional, state and national – need to be unified in their efforts to deal with this issue. At the level of discovery, the work will be returned to the student. The student will be told why the piece has been disqualified. If the piece is discovered at the council/regional, state or national level, the local arts chair will be notified that the piece is ineligible and the work will be returned to the student.

**2009–2010 PTA Reflections Program**  
**LOCAL, COUNCIL, AND DISTRICT/REGION PTA INFORMATION:**  
**FAQS AND THE JUDGING PROCESS**  
Theme: “Beauty Is...”

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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/PTSA’s 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. Since some states restrict this practice, please contact your state PTA about its participation policy.

**May home-schooled students participate in the Reflections Program?** State PTAs may adopt their own policies regarding this situation. The national PTA organization requires only that national entries come from local PTAs/PTSA’s 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 may 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.

### **Arts Areas**

#### **Use of copyrighted material**

**May students use copyrighted material as a source for their artwork?** Use of copyrighted material is not acceptable in any submission, with the following exceptions:

Photographs, visual artworks, and 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.

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. A collage should be judged for its whole, not by its parts, and whether the resulting work stands as a creative, *original* work of art on its own.

Dance choreography and film production entries may use copyrighted music. The title, composer, and performer of any music used must be credited and documented on the Student Entry Form.

### **What should an arts chair do if it is discovered that a child has plagiarized an entry?**

Unfortunately, plagiarism is not uncommon. Plagiarized entries should be disqualified and returned to the student. If a plagiarized entry has already received an award, the arts chair needs to determine if the award (including award money, pins, certificates, etc.) should be returned. The arts chair and local unit will need to work with the student and the student's family to help the student understand the seriousness of copying someone else's work and claiming it as their own. School counselors or teachers might also be able to provide assistance in helping the student deal with the discovery and the consequences.

### **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 visual arts pieces generated on a computer?** The national PTA organization accepts visual artworks created digitally.

### **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 production**

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

### **Display of Artworks**

**What student information can be displayed with artworks?** When artwork is on display, label the back of the piece with only the student's name, school, and town. Do not have the Student Entry Form attached 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 Student Entry Forms to artwork for returning to the student 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.

- **Literature, musical composition, dance choreography, and film production:** Each of the four judges in the arts area receives 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 in each grade division.
- **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.
- **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 recipients of awards of excellence in each arts area are reviewed together. The piece in each arts area that best interprets the theme is selected for the Outstanding Interpretation Award.

A local, council, or regional PTA might want to use a similar judging process.

## Blind Judging

It is important to conduct *blind judging*—where judges do not see the artists' names—in situations or settings where judges may know a student or a 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 production:** For each arts area, prepare a CD or DVD of all 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 in the list of 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, regional, and state PTA levels should be able to use the original materials for judging.

# DEADLINES

Local units must coordinate with the Council/Region Director for deadlines at that level.

Council/Region entries **must** be received by the Oregon PTA Reflections Chair by February 1, 2010.

Arrangements may be made with the Oregon PTA Reflections Chair to deliver entries early.

## 2008-2009 Oregon PTA Reflections Program Requirements Checklist

This requirements checklist is for your use in preparing your Reflections Program packet for submission to the next level (local to council/region, council/region to Oregon PTA). Please keep this list for your records. **If the packet is incomplete, the entries may be disqualified.**

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\_\_\_\_\_ **Confirmed all entries are from PTAs in good standing**

### **FORMS**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Official Entry Forms, either National or Oregon forms, completely and legibly filled out, including National PTA ID number (found in upper left corner of mailing labels)  
Original signatures of student and parent
- \_\_\_\_\_ Verified that student names are **not** visible on front of entries
- \_\_\_\_\_ Oregon PTA Participation Form completely filled out for all applicable levels
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tracking Form completely filled out (may use hand copy or spread sheet)

### **Literature Entries**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Student's name written on the **back** of each page
- \_\_\_\_\_ One original and one copy of the entry included in a manila file folder
- \_\_\_\_\_ Original National entry form stapled to the back of the folder

### **Musical Composition Entries**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Each CD packed must be in a plastic or cardboard container – not to exceed five minutes. (CD and container both identified with the student's name, grade, division, state and year) and placed in a manila envelope
- \_\_\_\_\_ Scores included for middle/junior and senior entries
- \_\_\_\_\_ Original National entry form attached to outside of envelope

### **Photography Entries**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Mounted on a cardboard mat, poster board or some sturdy material  
**(Frames not acceptable)**
- \_\_\_\_\_ Size must not exceed 11 X 14 inches, including the mat
- \_\_\_\_\_ Original National entry form placed in a clear plastic sheet protector and attached to the back of the artwork with masking tape

### **Visual Arts Entries**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Must be flat and may not exceed 24 X 30 inches, and may not be more than 3/8 inch deep. (If work exceeds 3/8 inch depth, enter it into the Oregon Three-Dimensional Visual Arts Category)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Original National entry form placed in clear plastic sheet protector and attached to the back of the artwork with masking tape

### **Dance/Choreography Entries**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Each DVD packed in a plastic or cardboard container – not to exceed five minutes. (DVD and container both identified with the student's name, grade, division, state and year) and placed in a manila envelope
- \_\_\_\_\_ Original National entry form attached to the outside of each envelope

### **Film/Video Production Entries**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Each DVD or computer disk packed in a plastic or cardboard container (DVD/disk and container both identified with the student's name, grade, division, state and year) and placed in a manila envelope
- \_\_\_\_\_ Original National entry form attached to the outside of each envelope

### **Theater Entries**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Each DVD or computer disk packed in a plastic or cardboard container (DVD/disk and container both identified with the student's name, grade, division, and year) and placed in a manila envelope
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Original Oregon entry form** attached to the outside of each envelope

### **Three-Dimensional Visual Art Entries**

- \_\_\_\_\_ CD packed in a plastic or cardboard container (CD and container both identified with the student's name, grade, division and year) and placed in a manila envelope
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Original Oregon entry form** attached to the outside of each envelope

#### Additional information:

- The student must sign the entry form as well as the parent/guardian.
- Grade level must be shown.
- Please encourage the students to title the piece of work, as well as complete the "artist's statement" portion of the entry form.
- The dimensions of the piece of work must be indicated by Photography and Visual Arts entrants.
- Visual Arts entrants must also indicate the type of media they used.
- Film/Video production entrants must be the director, screenwriter and cameraperson; and may appear on the DVD, not to exceed five minutes.
- Any omission in the above areas could leave the entry as a non-winner.

2009-2010 PTA Reflections Program  
LITERATURE  
Theme: “Beauty Is...”

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

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**Description**

A literature entry may be a work of fiction or nonfiction. Prose, poetry, and drama are all accepted. The entry must relate to the current Reflections Program 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. 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.

**Student Entry Form**

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the Student Entry Form. Each participant is also required to submit an artist statement to describe how his or her piece relates to the theme. While there is no required length, the artist statement is mandatory for all entries. Students who have not completely filled out the entry 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 Student Entry Form. If the entry has no title, please write “Untitled.”

**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. Due to the diversity of literary genres, the interpretation of the theme is weighted very heavily in judging.

**Presentation**

- Entries must not exceed 2,000 words.
- One original and one copy of the entry 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 of the entry in a manila file folder with the Student Entry Form stapled to the back of the folder.
- Do not mount entries.
- Do not offer entries with printed text on both sides of the page.
- 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.

## **Required Artist Statement**

On the Student Entry Form, describe what inspired you to create this work and how it relates to the theme. This is required for all grade divisions.

2009-2010 PTA Reflections Program  
MUSICAL COMPOSITION  
Theme: "Beauty Is.."

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

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### **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 entry must relate to the current Reflections Program theme.

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.

### **Student Entry Form**

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the Student Entry Form. Each participant is also required to submit an artist statement to describe how his or her piece relates to the theme. While there is no required length, the artist statement is mandatory for all entries. Students who have not completely filled out the entry 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 Student 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. Due to the diversity of musical genres, the interpretation of the theme is weighted very heavily in judging.

## **Presentation**

Whether a student must submit musical notation is determined by his or her grade division:

- 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.

## **Format**

- 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**

1. All grade divisions must submit a CD recording of the composition.
2. Submit the CD in a plastic or cardboard container; identify both the CD and the container with the student’s name, grade division, state, and year.
3. Pack the CD with the score (if required) in a large envelope. Write the student’s name on the back of each page of the score in case pages become separated.
4. Secure the Student 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.
- 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.
- Return to the beginning of the CD and record two seconds of silence; then start performing your composition. Finish with another two seconds of silence.

## **Required Information**

On the Student 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?

## **Required Artist Statement**

On the Student Entry Form, describe what inspired you to create this work and how it relates to the theme. This is required for all grade divisions.

2009-2010 PTA Reflections Program  
PHOTOGRAPHY

Theme: "Beauty Is.."

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

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**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 current Reflections Program 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.

**Student Entry Form**

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the Student Entry Form. Each participant is also required to submit an artist statement to describe how his or her piece relates to the theme. While there is no required length, the artist statement is mandatory for all entries. Students who have not completely filled out the entry 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 Student 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 its artwork return policy. If your entry receives a national-level award, your original artwork will be used to prepare the Reflections Program online gallery. Your artwork may also be chosen to participate in other shows or exhibits; if so, the national PTA office will contact you to inform you of the approximate date of the return of your artwork. If your work is not chosen for additional display outside the online gallery, the national PTA office will make every effort to return your artwork by early 2010.

**Judging**

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme. Due to the diversity of photographic processes and treatments, the interpretation of the theme is weighted very heavily in judging.

### **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 Student 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 Student Entry Form, give the dimensions of the piece and describe the process used in preparing the piece.

### **Required Artist Statement**

On the Student Entry Form, describe what inspired you to create this work and how it relates to the theme. This is required for all grade divisions.

2009-2010 PTA Reflections Program  
VISUAL ARTS  
Theme: "Beauty Is.."

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

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**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 current Reflections Program 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.

**Student Entry Form**

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the Student Entry Form. Each participant is also required to submit an artist statement to describe how his or her piece relates to the theme. While there is no required length, the artist statement is mandatory for all entries. Students who have not completely filled out the entry 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 Student 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 its artwork return policy. If your entry receives a national-level award, your original artwork will be used to prepare the Reflections Program online gallery. Your artwork may also be chosen to participate in other shows or exhibits; if so, the national PTA office will contact you to inform you of the approximate date of the return of your artwork. If your work is not chosen for additional display outside the online gallery, the national PTA office will make every effort to return your artwork by early 2010.

**Judging**

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme. Due to the diversity of artistic media, the interpretation of the theme is weighted very heavily in judging.

## **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 Student 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 Student Entry Form, give the dimensions of the piece and describe the medium (crayons, oil on canvas, etc.).

## **Required Artist Statement**

On the Student Entry Form, describe what inspired you to create this work and how it relates to the theme. This is required for all grade divisions.

2009-2010 PTA Reflections Program  
DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY  
Theme: "Beauty Is.."

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

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**Description**

Dance choreography entries must be original choreographed dance composition works recorded on a DVD or CD. The choreography must be the work of one student and must demonstrate creativity and interpretation of the current Reflections Program 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 or directly note that the costumes are not the original work of 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. Therefore, it is very important that the student show a clear relation of the dance choreography to the theme. The connection should be made evident through the use of song, props, or the dance itself.

**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.

**Student Entry Form**

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the Student Entry Form. Each participant is also required to submit an artist statement to describe how his or her piece relates to the theme. While there is no required length, the artist statement is mandatory for all entries. Students who have not completely filled out the entry 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 Student 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. Due to the diversity of dance styles, the interpretation of the theme is weighted very heavily in judging.

## **Music**

The title, composer, and performer of any background music must be credited and documented on the Student Entry Form. If the entry's connection to the theme is expressed in the song choice, this should be explained in the artist statement.

## **Presentation**

- Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- All grade divisions must submit a DVD or CD of a performance of the choreography.
- The choreographer is not required to be the (or one of the) performer(s).
- The performance should directly relate to the theme.
- Submissions should be in one of the following file formats:
  - .MPG / .MPEG
  - .MOV / .QT (Quicktime Video)
  - .WMV (Windows Media Video)
- The recorded performance should be saved as a file on the DVD/CD, not as a DVD/CD movie.
- Submit the DVD or CD in a plastic or cardboard container; identify both the DVD/CD and the container with the student's name, grade division, state, and year.
- Pack the DVD/CD in a large envelope.
- Secure the Student 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.
- 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 Student Entry Form, state who performed the choreography and credit the background music.

## **Required Artist Statement**

On the Student Entry Form, describe what inspired you to create this work and how it relates to the theme. This is required for all grade divisions.

2009-2010 PTA Reflections Program  
FILM PRODUCTION

Theme: "Beauty Is.."

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

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### Description

A film production entry must be an original work of fiction or nonfiction relating to the current Reflections Program theme. 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 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:** Computer-generated media presentations must be completely original, and the student must do all the work. Cutting and pasting from other sources 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. Due to the fact that most graphic elements of PowerPoint presentations are copyrighted clip art, use of this program is prohibited.

### 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.

### Student Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the Student Entry Form. Each participant is also required to submit an artist statement to describe how his or her piece relates to the theme. While there is no required length, the artist statement is mandatory for all entries. Students who have not completely filled out the entry 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 Student 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 production entries.

### **Judging**

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme. Due to the diversity of film styles, the interpretation of the theme is weighted very heavily in judging.

### **Music**

The title, composer, and performer of any background music must be credited and documented on the Student Entry Form. If the connection to the theme is expressed in the song choice, this should be explained in the artist statement.

### **Presentation**

- Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- The film should directly relate to the theme.
- The student submitting the entry is not required to appear in the video.
- 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. The entry should be saved as a file on the CD/DVD, not as a CD/DVD movie.
- Submit the CD or DVD in a plastic or cardboard container; identify both the CD/DVD and the container with the student's name, grade division, state, and year.
- Pack the CD/DVD in a large envelope.
- Secure the Student 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 Student Entry Form, please answer the following:

- Who appears in your film? (It is suggested that you gain parental consent for any minors who appear in your film.)
- Was a computer used? If so, name the software and hardware.
- Was any background music used? If so, credit the music.

### **Required Artist Statement**

On the Student Entry Form, describe what inspired you to create this work and how it relates to the theme. This is required for all grade divisions.

2009-2010 Oregon PTA Reflections Program  
THEATER – Use Oregon Entry Form  
Theme: “Beauty Is..”

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

**Description**

Students submit original theater work. The scripts must be the work of one playwright and the work may include up to three actors. The playwright may or may not be one of the performers. Costumes, makeup and stage sets are not necessary. However, if costumes and stage sets are used, the individual student playwright creating the theater work must also create them.

**Categories for Theater**

**Individual Storytelling**

The original oral composition of, and the performance of a story.

**Mime**

A performance of a play without words, using illusions and gestures, of a character that uses movement to express ideas and feelings, including:

- Who they are
- Where they are
- What they are doing

**Monologue**

A dramatic soliloquy performed by one individual. The script must be original and performed by the creator of the script.

**One Act**

A play limited to three persons, but written by one individual. If costumes, stage sets, or makeup are used, the individual student playwright creating the theater work must also create them.

**Length**

May not exceed five minutes. Performances exceeding five minutes will not be judged.

**Performance**

Theater is a performing art and therefore a performance is required. (A non-performed script should be submitted as a literature entry.)

**Video Presentation**

All age divisions must submit a VHS videotape, DVD, or computer disc of their original performance. There are no restrictions in this category as to who the camera operator or film editor is, however, editing may not be used to create special effects.

**Submission Instructions**

Videotapes/DVDs/discs cannot exceed five minutes. All must be identified with the student's name, grade, division, address, local PTA, and entry title. It should be packaged in a plastic or cardboard container (also identified with student' name, grade, division, address, local PTA and the entry title) and placed in a large envelope. The Official Entry Form must be secured to the outside of the envelope. A copy of the script may be included, if desired – but is not required.

**Optional**

On an attached sheet of paper, describe what inspired you to write and produce this work. How did the theme inspire your work?

**Basis of Evaluation**

The quality of the performance is not a criterion for selection, except as it affects the judges' ability to evaluate the quality of the theater piece that was created. However, the quality of the creativity that is appropriate and fits the level of technique and the extent to which the work follows the theme will be taken into consideration.

2009-2010 Oregon PTA Reflections Program  
THREE-DIMENSIONAL VISUAL ARTS  
Use Oregon Entry Form  
Theme: "Beauty Is.."

Students must adhere to the general participation rules as well as the following 3-D Rules.

**Description**

Any art form having length, breadth and depth. Any of the following are acceptable:

**Sculpture**

Any medium that will hold up to storage and transportation restrictions.

Can be a combination of mediums.

No loose pieces that can become separated. No reassembly necessary to display.

No kits allowed.

**Jewelry**

Can be made from any material. If chains, pin, or earring mounts are used, they can be purchased. All other aspects of the entry must be original from the perspective of the artist.

No kits allowed.

**Ceramics**

Must be created by the students although they may receive assistance with firing, if necessary.

Must be created from scratch by the artist.

No precast ceramics allowed.

No kits allowed.

**Other Types**

Includes mobiles, wind chimes, kites, collages, dioramas, or visual arts exceeding the 3/8th inch thickness requirement in that category.

No kits allowed.

**Presentation**

- Art is not limited in size, but must be able to be moved by hand (without a cart) for display purposes.
- The actual creation shall be entered at the Local Unit level with the Official Entry Form, placed in a plastic sheet protector, securely attached to the entry.
- Entries being forwarded to the Region/Council for judging need to be photographed digitally and saved to a CD as a jpeg file.
- Artwork needs to be photographed from at least three angles to show perspective.
- A ruler or yardstick must be included to show size.
- The CD shall be labeled with the artist's name, sponsoring PTA/PTSA Unit and Grade Division.
- The CD, placed in a protective sleeve or case, shall be placed inside a large envelope. The Official Entry Form shall be placed in a plastic sheet protector which is then secured to the outside of the envelope.
- Honorees at the Region/Council and State levels may be invited to share their actual work of art.

**2009-2010 PTA Reflections Program**  
**GENERAL STUDENT PARTICIPATION RULES**  
**Theme: “Beauty Is..”**

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

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**1. Theme**

The theme for the 2008–2009 PTA Reflection Program is “Wow!” Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme are acceptable.

**2. Student Eligibility through Local PTAs**

Students must participate in the Reflections Program through a local PTA/PTSA in good standing. Parent groups not affiliated with the national PTA organization 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 organization 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 National arts areas:

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

Or the two Oregon arts areas:

- Theatre
- 3-D Visual Arts

The national PTA organization does not limit the number of entries a student may submit. All entries must include an artist statement that describes how the piece relates to the theme.

## **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 may 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 organization 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 organization for the creation of the Reflections Program Gallery on the PTA national website. Any artworks, awards, or certificates returned to the national PTA office due to insufficient or incorrect addresses will be mailed to the appropriate state office.

## **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.

## OREGON PTA REFLECTIONS PROGRAM OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Directions: Please print clearly. This form must be filled out in its entirety, including the required signatures, for all OREGON PTA Reflections Program entrants. For more writing space, use the back of the form.

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE DIVISION (check one)

ART AREA (check one)

\_\_\_\_\_ Primary (Preschool - 2)

\_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate (3, 4 & 5)

\_\_\_\_\_ Theater

\_\_\_\_\_ Middle/Junior (6, 7 & 8)

\_\_\_\_\_ Senior (9-12)

\_\_\_\_\_ Three-Dimensional Visual Arts

Title of Work \_\_\_\_\_

Artist Statement (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

What inspired you to do this work? \_\_\_\_\_

Student's First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip plus 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Oregon PTA includes Regions, Councils and Local PTA/PTSA Units. I grant Oregon 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 format to promote the Reflections Program. Oregon PTA may continue to use my work as long as it has access to an archived copy. Oregon 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 qualifying PTA/PTSA Unit in Good Standing. I affirm that this is my own original work. I understand that the submission of my entry in the Reflections Program constitutes the above conditions. **THESE REFLECTIONS CATEGORIES ARE ONLY FOR THE OREGON PTA REFLECTIONS PROGRAM. NO SUBMISSIONS GO TO NATIONAL PTA.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent/legal guardian (necessary if child is under 18 years)

**To be completed by local PTA/PTSA Unit      Circle one:   PTA   PTSA   Region \_\_\_\_\_**

PTA/PTSA Name \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Plus 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Local Unit Eight-Digit National PTA ID Number \_\_\_\_\_

Local Unit Reflections Chair Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (include area code) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

*2009-2010 PTA Reflections Program  
Local PTA Participation Form  
National Categories*

**Theme: “Beauty Is..”**

*Please complete this form and forward it with your Reflections Program entries to the next level of judging. This form documents the number of students participating in the Reflections Program at the local PTA level. Please provide all of the information requested.*

*This form is to be completed by the local PTA representative.*

**Local PTA Information**

*PTA/PTSA name* \_\_\_\_\_  
*PTA/PTSA address* \_\_\_\_\_  
*City* \_\_\_\_\_ *State* \_\_\_\_\_ *ZIP* \_\_\_\_\_  
*PTA/PTSA president's name* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Reflections Program chair's name* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Reflections Program chair's address* \_\_\_\_\_  
*City* \_\_\_\_\_ *State* \_\_\_\_\_ *ZIP* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Phone* ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ *E-mail address* \_\_\_\_\_  
*School name* \_\_\_\_\_  
*School address* \_\_\_\_\_  
*City* \_\_\_\_\_ *State* \_\_\_\_\_ *ZIP* \_\_\_\_\_

*Total number of students enrolled in the school* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Total number of students participating in the Reflections Program* \_\_\_\_\_

	<i>Total entries received</i>	<i>Total entries forwarded</i>
<i>Literature</i>		
<i>Musical composition</i>		
<i>Photography</i>		
<i>Visual arts</i>		
<i>Dance choreography</i>		
<i>Film production</i>		
<i>Total number of entries</i>		

**Please forward this completed form with your entries to the next level of judging.**

*Council PTA Participation Form  
National Categories*

**Theme: “Beauty Is..”**

*Please complete this form and forward it with your Reflections Program entries to the next level of judging. This form documents the number of students participating in the Reflections Program at the local and council PTA levels. Please provide all of the information requested.*

*This form is to be completed by the council PTA representative.*

**Council PTA Information**

*Council PTA name* \_\_\_\_\_

*Council PTA address* \_\_\_\_\_

*ZI*

*City* \_\_\_\_\_ *State* \_\_\_\_\_ *P* \_\_\_\_\_

*Reflections Program chair's name* \_\_\_\_\_

*Reflections Program chair's address* \_\_\_\_\_

*ZI*

*City* \_\_\_\_\_ *State* \_\_\_\_\_ *P* \_\_\_\_\_

*Phone* ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ *E-mail address* \_\_\_\_\_

*Number of local PTAs in council* \_\_\_\_\_

*Number of local PTAs participating in the program* \_\_\_\_\_

**Local PTA Information**

<i>Total entries received by all local PTAs in your council (Total number of entries received based on participation forms submitted to the council)</i>	
<i>Literature</i>	
<i>Musical composition</i>	
<i>Photography</i>	
<i>Visual arts</i>	
<i>Dance choreography</i>	
<i>Film production</i>	
<i>Total number of entries</i>	

## Council PTA Information

	<i>Total entries received</i>	<i>Total entries forwarded</i>
<i>Literature</i>		
<i>Musical composition</i>		
<i>Photography</i>		
<i>Visual arts</i>		
<i>Dance choreography</i>		
<i>Film production</i>		
<i>Total number of entries</i>		

*2009-2010 PTA Reflections Program  
 District/Region PTA Participation Form  
 National Categories*

## Theme: “Beauty Is..”

*Please complete this form and forward it with your Reflections Program entries to the next level of judging. This form documents the number of students participating in the Reflections Program at the local, council, and district/region PTA levels. Please provide all of the information requested.*

*This form is to be completed by the district/region PTA representative.*

### District/Region PTA Information

*District/Region PTA name* \_\_\_\_\_

*District/Region PTA address* \_\_\_\_\_

*City* \_\_\_\_\_ *State* \_\_\_\_\_ *ZIP* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ *P* \_\_\_\_\_

*Reflections Program chair's name* \_\_\_\_\_

*Reflections Program chair's address* \_\_\_\_\_

*City* \_\_\_\_\_ *State* \_\_\_\_\_ *ZIP* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ *P* \_\_\_\_\_

*Phone* \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ *E-mail address* \_\_\_\_\_

*Number of local PTAs in councils* \_\_\_\_\_

*Number of local PTAs participating in the program* \_\_\_\_\_

*Number of councils in district/region* \_\_\_\_\_

*Number of councils participating in the program* \_\_\_\_\_

## Local PTA Information

<i>Total entries received by all local PTAs in your district/region (Total number of entries received based on all council PTA participation forms submitted to the district/region)</i>	
<i>Literature</i>	
<i>Musical composition</i>	
<i>Photography</i>	
<i>Visual arts</i>	
<i>Dance choreography</i>	
<i>Film production</i>	
<i>Total number of entries</i>	

*(continued on next page)*

## Council PTA Information

<i>Total entries received by all council PTAs in your district/region (Total number of entries received based on all council PTA participation forms submitted to the district/region)</i>	
<i>Literature</i>	
<i>Musical composition</i>	
<i>Photography</i>	
<i>Visual arts</i>	
<i>Dance choreography</i>	
<i>Film production</i>	
	<i>Total number of entries</i>

## District/Region PTA Information

	<i>Total entries received</i>	<i>Total entries forwarded</i>
<i>Literature</i>		
<i>Musical composition</i>		
<i>Photography</i>		
<i>Visual arts</i>		
<i>Dance choreography</i>		
<i>Film production</i>		
	<i>Total number of entries</i>	

Please forward this completed form with your entries to the next level of judging.

## Local PTA Participation Form/Oregon PTA Categories Theme: "Beauty Is.."

Please complete this form and forward it with your Reflections Program entries to the next level of judging. This form documents the number of students participating in the Reflections Program at the local PTA level. *Please provide all of the information requested.*

This form is to be completed by the local PTA representative

### Local PTA Information

PTA/PTSA name \_\_\_\_\_

PTA/PTSA address \_\_\_\_\_

PTA/PTSA president's name \_\_\_\_\_

Reflections Program chair's name \_\_\_\_\_

Reflections Program chair's address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of students enrolled in the school \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of students participating in the Reflections Program \_\_\_\_\_

	Total entries received	Total entries forwarded
Theater		
Three Dimensional Visual Arts		
Total Number of entries		

**Please forward this completed form with your entries to the next level of judging.**

## Council/Region PTA Participation Form/Oregon PTA Categories Theme: "Beauty Is.."

Please complete this form and forward it with your Reflections Program entries to the next level of judging. This form documents the number of students participating in the Reflections Program at the local and council PTA levels. *Please provide all of the information requested.*

This form is to be completed by the council/region PTA representative.

### Council/Region PTA Information

Council/Region name \_\_\_\_\_

Council/Region address \_\_\_\_\_

Reflections Program chair's name \_\_\_\_\_

Reflections Program chair's address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of local PTAs in council \_\_\_\_\_

Number of local PTAs participating in the Program \_\_\_\_\_

### Local Unit Information

Total entries received by all local PTAs in your council/region (Total number of entries received based on participation forms submitted to the council)	
Theater	
Three Dimensional Visual Arts	
Total number of entries	

### Council/Region PTA Information

	Total entries Received	Total entries forwarded
Theater		
Three Dimensional Visual Arts		
Total number of entries		

**Please forward this completed form with your entries to the next level of judging.**



