

What is Reflections?

A National PTA arts recognition and achievement *program* where students create original works of art, based on a theme

Reflections may only be conducted through a PTA in *good standing*.



2015-16 Theme

**“Let your
imagination fly”**

Arts Categories

- **Dance Choreography**
- **Film/Video Production**
- **Literature**
- **Musical Composition**
- **Photography**
- **Visual Arts, either 2D or 3D (new this year)**

Students may enter as many times as they wish, in any or all categories.

Age Categories

- **Primary: Grades K-2**
- **Intermediate: Grades 3–5**
- **Middle/Junior: Grades 6-8**
- **Senior: Grades 9-12**
- **Special Artist: Any “grade”**

What materials should I have?

Reflections Information from SCPTA

Scpta.org, Reflections tab

Local Leader's Guide:

http://scpta.org/uploads/files/Local_Leader_Guide.pdf

Entry forms, Rules, Flyers, Judges rubrics

Additional resources from national PTA

Pta.org/reflectionstoolkit

1. Getting Started

***Decide which arts categories and/or age divisions your school will promote.**

***Set your submission deadline.**

***Decide how entry forms and rules will be distributed to students.**

***Promote to students**



**District 1 Turn-in dates:
Friday, October 30
or Monday, November 2**

Allow yourself 3 weeks for collecting entries, judging entries, and preparing entries to advance to the next round.

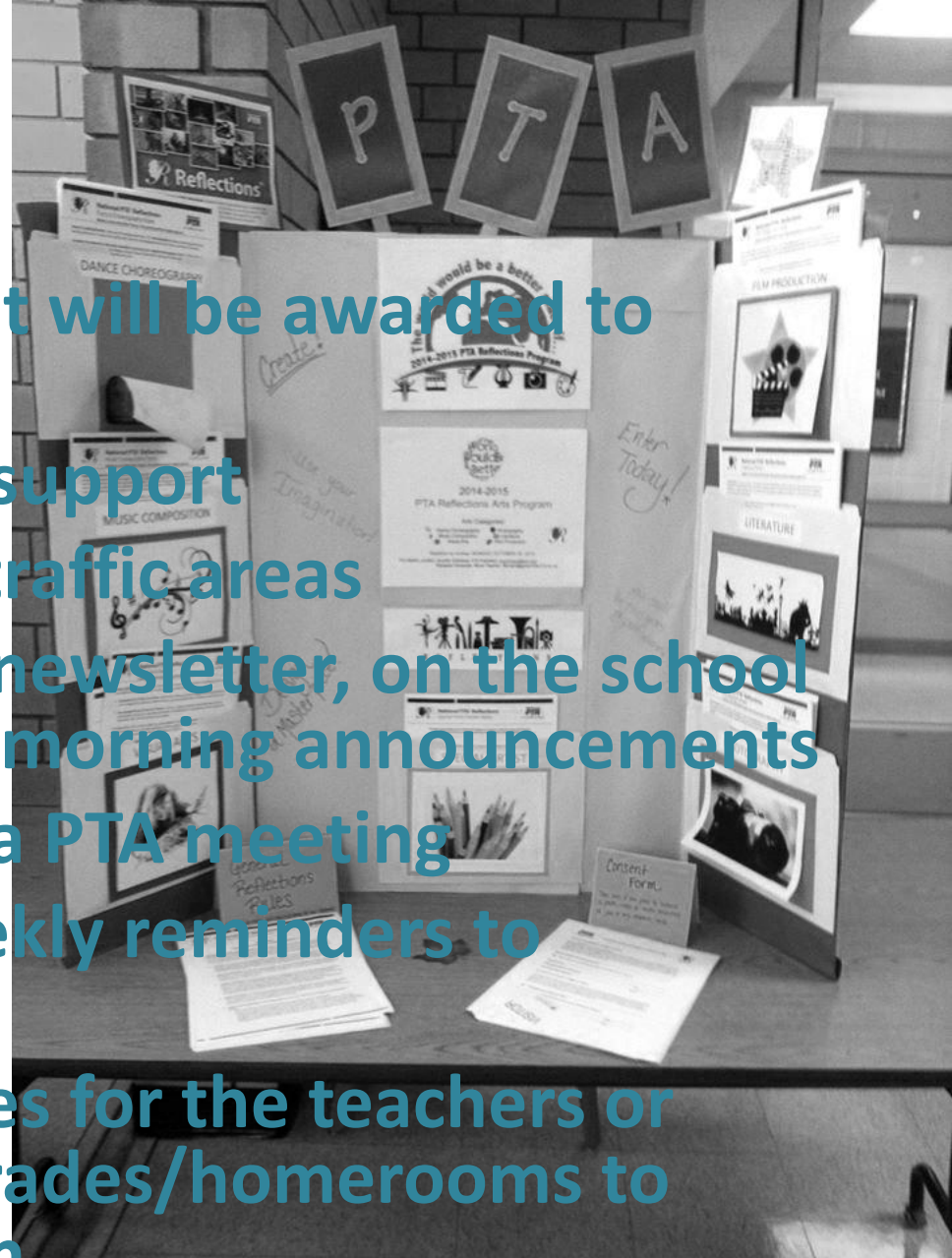
**Recommended school turn-in dates:
week of October 5 - 9**

Student Entry Forms and rules

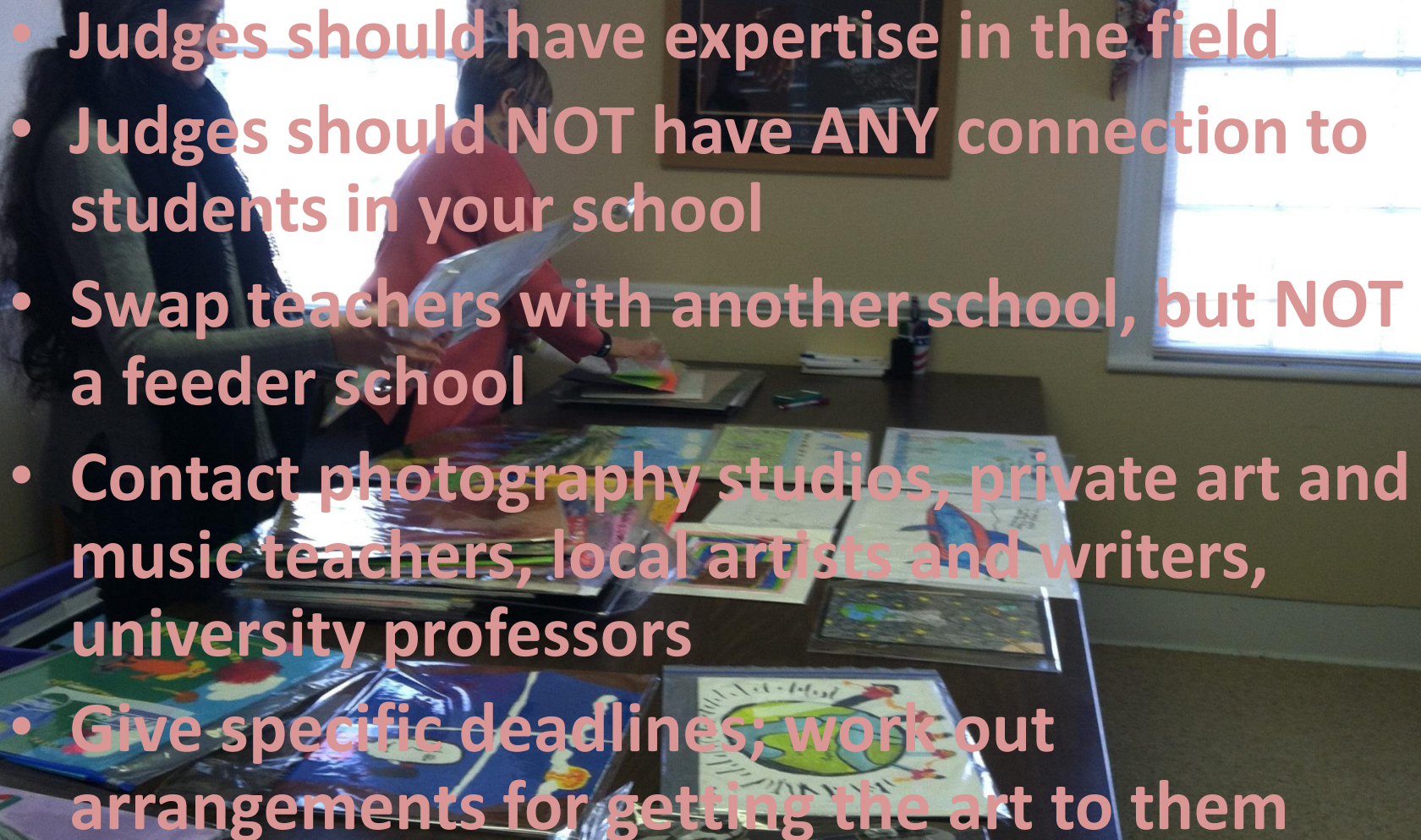
- Use this year's entry form from scpta.org
- Consider copying "Summary of Rules" on back of entry form.
- Have complete list of General Rules AND specific arts category rules easily available: paper copies for each homeroom teacher, available on the homepage of the school website, have links to rules on teacher websites and/or school weekly messages
- Use of short entry forms

2. Promote!

- publicize any prizes that will be awarded to school winners
- encourage teachers to support
- Put up posters in high traffic areas
- Publicize in the school newsletter, on the school or PTA website, on the morning announcements
- Give a presentation at a PTA meeting
- Ask principal to do weekly reminders to students
- Come up with incentives for the teachers or competitions among grades/homerooms to encourage participation



3. Recruit judges

- Judges should have expertise in the field
 - Judges should NOT have ANY connection to students in your school
 - Swap teachers with another school, but NOT a feeder school
 - Contact photography studios, private art and music teachers, local artists and writers, university professors
 - Give specific deadlines; work out arrangements for getting the art to them
- 
- A photograph of two women in a room, likely a classroom or art studio, looking at various art projects laid out on a dark table. One woman is standing and pointing at a piece of art, while the other is seated and looking at a book or portfolio. The room has a window with blinds on the right and a framed picture on the wall.

4. Collect entries

- One turn-in time? Drop-off box in office?
- Keep a log of all school entries with student name, title of work, type of entry, teacher name (very helpful for returning artwork). If possible, make digital copies of all entries before passing along to judges.
- Check entries for adherence to rules
 - size guidelines for visual arts and photography
 - length guidelines for music, dance, film, and literature
 - proper format for discs with dance, film, music
 - Signatures, Title, and Artist Statement

5. Promote the National Theme Search

- OPTIONAL
- Great way to involve more students!
- National search for the next theme (2017-18)
- National student winner receives \$100
- Deadline to SCPTA is **November 20, 2015**
- No limit to number of entries
- Five submissions will be sent from SC to the national round. All five recognized in the state Reflections award ceremony program.

6. Judging

- Put guidelines and deadlines in writing
- Provide copies of rubric & scorecard (scpta.org)
- Judges should use the following criteria:
 - Interpretation of Theme - How closely the piece relates to the theme, based on the artwork itself and the artist statement - 20 points
 - Artistic Merit/Creativity - How creative and original the piece is in its conception of the theme and its presentation - 10 points
 - Mastery of Medium - the level of skill demonstrated in the basic principles/techniques of the arts area - 10 points

Modified Rubric for 2015-16



Judging Rubric

	Beginning	Developing	Proficient	Accomplished	Advanced
Interpretation How closely the piece relates to the theme, based on the artwork itself and the artist statement	1-4 pts. The interpretation lacks clarity and does not communicate the student's concept.	5-8 pts. The interpretation lacks clarity and does not fully communicate the student's concept based on the theme.	9-12 pts. The interpretation communicates the student's concept based on the theme.	13-16 pts. The interpretation clearly communicates the student's concept based on the theme but lacks meaning, purpose, and integrity.	17-20 pts. The interpretation clearly communicates the student's whole concept based on the theme with meaning, purpose and integrity.
Creativity How creative and original the piece is in its conception of the theme and its presentation	1-2 pts. Artwork is somewhat original and reflects the theme using very conventional ways.	3-4 pts. Artwork is somewhat original and reflects the theme using conventional ways.	5-6 pts. Artwork is original and reflects the theme using conventional ways.	7-8 pts. Artwork is primarily original and reflects the theme using imaginative ways.	9-10 pts. Artwork is highly original and reflects the theme using unconventional, interesting, imaginative and new ways.
Technique The level of skill demonstrated in the basic principles / techniques of the arts area	1-2 pts. Artwork demonstrates very limited skill of the arts area.	3-4 pts. Artwork demonstrates limited skill of the arts area.	5-6 pts. Artwork demonstrates capable skill of the arts area.	7-8 pts. Artwork demonstrates expertise of skill of the arts area.	9-10 pts. Artwork demonstrates mastery of skill and knowledge of the arts area.

With this rubric, each entry may receive a **total of 40 points**. Please record your points for each entry on the score card.
If two entries are tied, the entry with the higher score for interpretation of theme receives more recognition.

- **Give judges copies of the general rules and rules for their art category**
- **Cover student names on entries**
- **Ask judges not to write anywhere on the entries or entry forms**
- **Have judges select 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 2 HM**
- **Promptly thank your judges**

7. Wrapping up your School's competition – Part 1

A. Go online to register your Local PTA

Pta.org/reflections

Select “Register Now”

Info needed to complete Registration Form:

- Local PTA name & PTA ID #**
- Local Reflections chair name, phone number, email**
- City, state, zip code of your school**

B. Prepare top entries for the district/state round of Judging

- Prepare the top 4 entries in each arts category, for **each** age division: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th or Honorable Mention. **Hold on to your 5th place entry, if you have one, until after the district round.**
- Making copies of these winning entries is a good idea.
- Collect official entry form for each winning entry.
Double check for:
 - Student & parent signatures
 - Title
 - Artist statement
- Follow specific instructions on packaging artwork. See the video on scpta.org

All entries must have a printed entry form attached.

Key in data from the advancing entry forms

Use one of the following methods to key-in the entry from information for all *advancing* entries.

- 1) PREFERRED METHOD – ONLINE using the national PTA system at PTA.org/Reflections. Your local PTA program must be registered first.
- 2) Use the Excel spreadsheet provided at scpta.org. A copy of the completed spreadsheet must be forwarded to the district chair *before* district turn-in.

Spreadsheets of advancing entries provide...

- a record of entries being advanced
- contact information for students/parents
- title and artist statements for entries

Once District round of judging is complete....

- Local chairs will be notified of any district winners – yeah!
- Local chairs may provide an additional entry to advance to the state round (the 5th place local winner).
- Local chairs now complete the Local Participation Form; online or paper version

C. Report Participation

- If you have registered online, you may complete your participation chart online.
 - Total number of entries received in each arts category by age division
 - Total number of entries advanced to the state round

D. Recognize school winners

- Make a list of school winners
- NOTIFY ALL SCHOOL WINNERS!
- Explain the district level contest and what determines which entries compete at state (definitely 1st – 4th, possibly 5th place (or second HM)).
- Make copies of winning entries - literature, music, dance, and film **ARE NOT RETURNED**
- Take digital pictures of visual arts and photography winners to use on school website or at a recognition ceremony

Ideas for recognition:

- Publicize in school announcements
- Publish in PTA newsletter, on school or PTA website
- Publish photo of winners in yearbook
- Award prizes to winners in whatever way your creativity and budget allow:
 - Certificates, ribbons, gift certificates, trophies
 - Photography: disposable camera, film, album
 - Visual Arts: art supplies, sketchbook
 - Music: composition book
 - Literature: pens, journals, writing paper
 - Have a prize drawing just for entering

More Ideas for recognition:

- Submit photo and article to local newspapers.
- Create a commemorative collection binding of literature, visual art & photography entries. Bookemon.com is an inexpensive resource.
- Host an awards ceremony
 - Have literature, music & dance winners perform winning entries at recognition ceremony
 - Play winning film entries at recognition ceremony
- Recognize winners at a PTA meeting
 - Display winning Photography and Visual Arts entries
 - Play recording of Music winners or have any of the students perform their entries
 - Have Literature winners read their entries



Top 10 Reasons Why Entries Get Disqualified

1. Entry form lacking signatures or not filled out completely
2. PTA Unit's By-laws not up-to-date or membership dues not paid
3. Photography entries too large
4. 2-D Visual Arts entries too large
5. 3-D Visual Arts entries must advance digitally
6. Photography entries have writing on the photo
7. Copyrighted material main focus in VA or Photo
8. Middle or high school music lacking score
9. Music, film, or dance in wrong format on disc

District 1 Celebration!

- The top four (4) entries in each age division for each arts category will be honored at an awards ceremony in January. These entries will advance to the State round representing District 1.
- District Photography & Visual Arts winning entries will be on display at the Greenville County School district office, 301 E. Camperdown Ave

8. Wrapping Up your School's competition – Part 2

Local Chairs are responsible for returning visual arts & photography entries.

- The state results for visual arts & photography will be announced the afternoon of state turn-in, February 6. All state winners (Awards of Excellence and Awards of Merit) will be kept for the display at state convention. All remaining entries will be *returned* THAT day. District representatives are responsible for picking up artwork after judging.

Local Chairs are responsible for relaying state results to students/families & the school.

- Winners from the other four arts categories will be announced no later than March 1, 2015.

Winning at state is a BIG deal – celebrate!

- Announce at a PTA meeting; hang banners; post on the website; blow your horn!
- The state awards trophies for one Award of Excellence and four Awards of Merit per age division as well as one Outstanding Interpretation of Theme per arts category.
- All Awards of Excellence state winners advance to the National Level. National results are usually posted by the first week in May.

Local Chairs are responsible for seeing that any state trophies not picked up at the awards ceremony are delivered to the student(s).

- The state awards ceremony will be held in Goose Creek April 15, 2016
- If you have a student being honored at the State Awards Ceremony, please make every effort to attend. If you are unable to attend, please send a representative in your place. Congratulate the student and thank the family for their support.
- Awards not picked up by either the student or the Local Chair at the ceremony will be distributed via District representatives.
- Awards of Merit Visual Arts & Photography entries will be returned following the state awards ceremony

SCPTA State Awards Ceremony 2014



Presenting student artwork
to State Superintendent
Molly Spearman and State
Representative Rita Allison



Important Reminders

- Be familiar with the rules
 - don't let a child's work be disqualified because the rules were not followed
 - Make sure each entry is presented in the correct way (refer to rules!)
- Entering winning student entry forms online, as well as entering your unit participation forms online, allows Local Chairs to have easy access to student information and a breakdown of your program's success. Reports may be run in an Excel format that can be sorted a number of ways.
- Ask parents to make copies of literature, music, film, and video. **They will not be returned.**

QUESTIONS?

- District 1 Reflections chair:

Tammy Crum

864-915-3864

crumta@att.net

- SCPTA interim chair:

Carol Beard, reflections@scpta.org

- SCPTA website: www.scpta.org
- National PTA website: www.pta.org