



National PTA Reflections® Program Photography Rules



All participants must also follow General Rules for Participation. All students must complete a student entry form for tracking purposes. Only students that advance to the next round will be asked to complete an online student entry form.

Description:

A photography entry must be an original black-and-white or color image produced by a photographic process. The entry must relate to the current Reflections Program theme.

The entry may incorporate such techniques as photomontage, 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.

Presentation:

- A single print or collage may not exceed 11 inches by 14 inches, including matting.
- Mount all prints on a cardboard mat, poster board, or some other sturdy material.
- Protecting the work with butcher paper is highly recommended. Tape the paper to the back of the artwork on one side and overlay the front of the artwork to protect it during travel.
- Lamination is discouraged because it can permanently damage the surface of the photo.
- Place the Student Entry Form in a sheet protector and secure it with masking tape to the back of the photograph so that it is still accessible for photocopying. Do not tape over the opening of the sheet protector.
- Include the required title and artist statement on the Student Entry Form.
- Framed entries, original film (negatives or transparencies), and multidimensional pieces are **not accepted**.

Use of Copyrighted Material:

Use of copyrighted material, including copyrighted cartoon characters or other such material, is not acceptable in any Photography submission, with the following exceptions:

- Photographs may include public places, well-known products, trademarks, or certain other copyrighted material as long as that copyrighted material is incidental to the subject matter of the piece and/or is a smaller element of a whole. The resulting work cannot try to establish an association between the student and the trademark/business/material, or influence the purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.

Return of Artwork:

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