GENERAL STUDENT PARTICIPATION RULES

THEME: "WOW..."

All students must adhere to the following general rules in addition to the rules specific to their arts area.

1. Theme

The theme for the 2008–2009 program is "WOW..." Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme are acceptable.

2. Student eligibility through local PTA

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

- Literature
- Musical composition
- Photography
- Visual arts
- Dance
- Film/Video
- Theater, 3D **Utah PTA Reflections ONLY**

National PTA does not limit the number of entries a student may submit.

5. Children with disabilities

National 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. National PTA 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 vary. Check with your state PTA for 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. National PTA 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 or 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 National PTA for the creation of a video and a Reflections Program Gallery on National PTA's website.

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.

2008-2009 NATIONAL PTA REFLECTIONS PROGRAM LITERATURE RULES

THEME: "WOW..."

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

Description

Literature entries may be works of fiction or nonfiction. Prose, poetry, and drama are all accepted.

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 or writings or inventions as one's own. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and returned to the students.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the **Official Entry Form**. Students who have not completely filled out the 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 Official Entry Form.

Return of Artwork

National PTA does not return literature entries.

Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

Presentation

- Entries must not exceed 2.000 words.
- One original and one copy 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 in a manila file folder with the Official Entry Form stapled to the back of the folder.
 - -Do not mount entries.
 - —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.

Optional Artist Statement



PHOTOGRAPHY RULES

THEME: "WOW..."

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

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 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 or writings or inventions as one's own. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and returned to the students.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the **Official Entry Form**. Students who have not completely filled out the 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 Official Entry Form and must answer a few questions about how they created their works (see Required Information in the righthand column).

Return of Artwork

Please contact your state PTA for the artwork return policy. If your entry receives a national-level award, your original artwork will be used to prepare the Reflections Program online gallery. Following the completion of the website, National PTA will make every effort to return your artwork by early 2008.

Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

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 Official 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 Official Entry Form, give the dimensions of the piece and describe the process used in preparing the piece.

Optional Artist Statement

2008-2009 NATIONAL PTA REFLECTIONS PROGRAM MUSICAL COMPOSITION

THEME: "WOW..."

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

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 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 or writings or inventions as one's own. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and returned to the students.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the **Official Entry Form**. Students who have not completely filled out the 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 Official Entry Form and must answer a few questions about how they created their works (see Required Information in the righthand column).

Return of Artwork

National PTA does not return musical composition entries.

Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

Presentation

- Students must submit musical notation as required by their grade divisions.
 - —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.
- · 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
 - —All grade divisions must submit an audiocassette or CD recording of the composition.
 - —Submit the audiocassette or CD in a plastic or cardboard container; identify both the audiocassette/CD and container with the student's name, grade division, state, and year.
 - —Pack the audiocassette or CD with the score (if required) in a large envelope.
 - —Secure the Official 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.
- If recording on cassette, use Dolby B Noise Reductions to reduce background tape hiss.
- 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.
- If recording on cassette, rewind to the beginning, record 15 seconds of silence, and then begin performing your composition. Finish with another 15 seconds of silence.
 CD submissions may reduce silence to two seconds.

Required Information

On the Official 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?

Optional Artist Statement



VISUAL ARTS RULES

THEME: "WOW..."

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

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 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 or writings or inventions as one's own. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and returned to the students.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the **Official Entry Form**. Students who have not completely filled out the 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 Official Entry Form and must answer a few questions about how they created their works (see Required Information in the righthand column).

Return of Artwork

Please contact your state PTA for the artwork return policy. If your entry receives a national-level award, your original artwork will be used to prepare the Reflections Program online gallery. Following the completion of the website, National PTA will make every effort to return your artwork by early 2008.

Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

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 Official 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 Official Entry Form, give the dimensions of the piece and describe the media used to create the piece.

Optional Artist Statement

CHOREOGRAPHY/DANCE RULES

THEME: "WOW..."

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

Description

Dance choreography entries must be original choreographed dance composition works recorded on a VHS videotape or DVD. The choreography must be the work of one student and must demonstrate creativity and interpretation of the 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.

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 other than music is prohibited.

Plagiarism is defined as taking and using another person's ideas or writings or inventions as one's own. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and returned to the students.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the **Official Entry Form**. Students who have not completely filled out the 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 Official Entry Form and must answer a few questions about how they created their works (see Required Information in the righthand column).

Return of Artwork

National PTA does not return dance choreography entries.

Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

Music

The title, composer, and performer of any background music must be credited and documented on the Official Entry Form.

Presentation

- Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- All grade divisions must submit a videotape or DVD of a performance of the choreography.
- The choreographer is not required to be the (or one of the) performer(s).
- Submit the videotape or DVD in a plastic or cardboard container; identify both the videotape/DVD and container with the student's name, grade division, state, and year.
- Pack the videotape or DVD in a large envelope.
- Secure the Official Entry Form to the outside of the envelope with masking tape.

Recommendations for quality recordings

- If recording on videotape, use a new high-quality VHS videotape. Rewind to the beginning, record 10 seconds of black, and then begin recording the performance.
- Use a tripod to hold the camera still.
- 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 Official Entry Form, state who performed your choreography and credit the background music.

Optional Artist Statement



FILM/VIDEO RULES

THEME: "WOW..."

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

Description

Film/video production entries must be original works of fiction or nonfiction relating to the current Reflections Program theme. The 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, video, 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 using computers: Computer-generated media presentations must be completely original, and the student must do all the work. Cutting and pasting 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.

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 or writings or inventions as one's own. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and returned to the students.

Entry Form

All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the **Official Entry Form**. Students who have not completely filled out the 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 Official Entry Form and must answer a few questions about how they created their works (see Required Information in righthand column).

Return of Artwork

National PTA does not return film/video production entries.

Judging

All national entries are judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the theme.

Music

The title, composer, and performer of any background music must be credited and documented on the Official Entry Form.

Presentation

- · Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- All grade divisions must submit a videotape, DVD, or computer disk of the performance. If film equipment is used, the film must be transferred to videotape, DVD, or computer disk for presentation.
- Submissions on computer disk must use either QuickTime, Windows Media, or RealVideo. The resolution should be 320 x 240 or higher.
- The student submitting the entry is not required to appear in the video
- Submit the videotape, DVD, or computer disk in a plastic or cardboard container; identify both the videotape/DVD/computer disk and container with the student's name, grade division, state, and year.
- Pack the videotape, DVD, or computer disk in a large envelope.
- Secure the Official Entry Form to the outside of the envelope with masking tape.

Recommendations for quality recordings

- If recording on videotape, use a new high-quality VHS videotape. Rewind to the beginning, record 10 seconds of black, and then begin recording.
- Use a tripod to hold the camera still.
- Think about sound. Use an extra mike (boom mike) if needed.
 Turn off all noise-making devices in the room (air conditioners, fans, telephones, etc.).

Required Information

On the Official Entry Form, please answer the following:

- · Who appears in your video?
- Was a computer used? If so, name the software and hardware.
- Was any background music used? If so, credit the music.

Optional Artist Statement

THEATRE RULES

THEME: "WOW..."

Students must adhere to the General Student Participation Rules in addition to the following Theatre Rules:

*Utah PTA ONLY

DESCRIPTION

Students submit original theatre 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. It may not exceed five minutes. Costumes, makeup and stage sets are not necessary. However, if costumes and stage sets are used, they must be conceptually created by the individual student playwright creating the theatre work. (This is NOT the time for mom and dad to bring out the sewing machine and band saw to create costumes and sets.)

Categories for theatre include:

Individual Storytelling

An original story performed orally by the creator/storyteller.

Mime

A performance of a play without words, using illusions and gestures, of a character that expresses ideas and feelings through movement including

- 1) who they are,
- 2) where they are and
- 3) 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 written by one individual. The play may have up to three actors. If costumes, stage sets and makeup are used, they must also be created by the individual student playwright creating the theatre work.

LENGTH

Length of entry may not exceed five minutes. Performance videotapes that exceed five minutes will not be judged.

PERFORMANCE

Students are required to perform their work for their video submission. Students are not required to perform live.

PRESENTATION

All age divisions must submit a VHS videotape or DVD of their original performance.

*Must list computer program used.

VIDEO TAPE AND DVD

These cannot exceed five minutes. For videotape, it is recommended that NEW high-quality VHS videotapes be used, and that the image start after 10 seconds of black. All entries must be identified with the student's name, grade division, address, PTA and the entry's title. The entry should be packaged in a plastic or cardboard container (also identified with student's name, grade division, address, PTA and the entry's title) with the script if desired and placed in a large envelope. The **Official Entry Form** must be secured to the *outside* of the envelope.

OPTIONAL

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

*This is not a National PTA category and recognition will only be given at the state level.

Only ONE entry per student. We can not accept entries with multiple names on them. This needs to be the work of ONE child



2008-2009 UTAH PTA REFLECTIONS PROGRAM THREE DIMENSIONAL ARTISTIC CREATIONS RULES

THEME: "WOW..."

Students must adhere to the **General Student Participation Rules** in addition to the following **Three Dimensional**Artistic Rules:

*Utah PTA ONLY

DESCRIPTION

Any art form having length, breadth, and depth. This includes visual arts that exceed the 3/8 inch thickness rule. Any of the following are acceptable.

Sculpture

- · Any medium that will hold up to storage restrictions.
- · Can be a combination of mediums.
- · No loose pieces that can become separated.
- No kits allowed.

Jewelry

- Can be made from any material. If chains or pin or earring mounts are used, they can be purchased. All other aspects of the Jewelry need to be original from the perspective of the artist.
- · No kits allowed.

Visual Arts

- Can include mobiles, wind chimes, kites, collages, dioramas, or visual arts entries that do not meet the qualifications of thickness in the visual arts category.
- · No kits allowed.

Ceramics

- Must be created completely by the students although they may receive help in firing if necessary.
- · No kits allowed.

- · No precast ceramics allowed.
- · Must be created from scratch by the artist.

PRESENTATION

- Art is not limited in size but must be able to be moved for display purposes.
- Three dimensional entries need to be presented for judging on color slides or digital photos in .JPEG format on a CD at council level and beyond. Photo developing businesses can put photographs on a computer disk for you.
- · Digital pictures on computer disks are preferred.
- · Artwork should be photographed from all angles to show perspective.
- · A ruler or yardstick should be included to show size and perspective.
- The protective holder should be placed inside of a large envelope and the Official Entry Form must be secured to the outside of the envelope.
- After winners are selected from the slides, artists may be invited to share their actual work of art.
- · Include a photograph of entry.

Local Level Judging

It is recommended at the local level to have the student present the actual piece of art for judging. The local PTA can then have slides or digital pictures on computer disk made of the 5 winners that go on to council.

*This is not a National PTA category and recognition will only be given at the state level.

Only <u>ONE</u> entry per student. We can not accept entries with multiple names on them. This needs to be the work of ONE child.