

---

## **PARTICIPATION RULES**

### **Theme**

The theme for the 2022-2023 Kansas PTA Citizenship Writing Program is *“Future Me Hopes To Be.”* Only new pieces of literature inspired by the theme are acceptable. The entry must relate to the current Citizenship Program theme. Whether an entry uses a variety of techniques or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student portrays the theme. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.

### **Deadline**

*The deadline for all entries by Indian Woods Middle School students is Tuesday, December 6, 2022.* Essay and poetry entries must be submitted electronically along with a completed entry form. Entries and entry forms should be e-mailed to Jennifer Olberding at [ksu\\_olberding2004@yahoo.com](mailto:ksu_olberding2004@yahoo.com).

### **Categories**

Students may submit an entry in poetry and/or essay. The Kansas PTA does not limit the number of entries a student may submit.

### **Entry Guidelines**

Poetry entries must be at least 50 words but may not exceed 500 words. Essay entries must be at least 200 words but may not exceed 1,000 words. Entries may be handwritten or typed. Number all pages. Entries are to reflect grade-appropriate grammar, punctuation, and spelling. For confidentiality purposes, include your first and last name in the file name, but do not include name on the document.

Students who are physically challenged 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 accurate that is reflected in the student’s original work.

Students for whom English is not their first language may submit entries in the own language. An interpretive translation must accompany the entry.

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 student creativity, help from an adult or collaboration with other students is not allowed.

Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and returned to the student. Plagiarism is defined as “to steal or pass off (the idea or words of another) as one’s own; use without crediting source” (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/plagiarized>).

### **Student Entry Form**

All participants are required to complete and sign the Student Participation Form. Students who have not completely filled out the entry form will not be eligible to participate in the program. Please be sure to include parent/guardian signature and contact information.

### **Questions**

Contact Jennifer Olberding, Indian Woods Middle School PTA Citizenship Writing Program Chair, if you have any questions. Jennifer can be reached at 913-660-4934 or via e-mail at [ksu\\_olberding2004@yahoo.com](mailto:ksu_olberding2004@yahoo.com).