



Illinois PTA Reflections Film Production – Category Guidelines

FILM PRODUCTION is the process of making a film. The *producer* (student submitting the entry) is not required to appear in the film but if the student chooses to, a camera tripod may be used. **All screenwriting, directing and editing must be done by the student producer. All entries must be original student footage. PowerPoint presentations are prohibited.**

Reflect on the 2023-2024 Theme: I am *Hopeful Because...*

Consider the following styles to portray your original work of fiction or nonfiction:

- **Animation:** Demonstrates motion by sequencing still objects or using computer-generated graphics.
- **Narrative:** Tells a fictional story developed by the student.
- **Documentary:** Presents facts and information.
- **Experimental:** Explores movement, light and montage.
- **Multimedia:** Uses a combination of different contents (text, audio, still images, animation, etc.).

An explanation of the storyline and/or the significance of the film style might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays use of technologies or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity. *Software can be used to create an entry but only to enhance and/or present the work, not provide the primary design.*

Copyright: Entry may include public places, well-known products, trademarks or certain other copyrighted material as long as that copyrighted material is nonessential to the subject matter of the piece and/or is a smaller element of a whole. Use of background music must be cited on the student entry form.

Suggestions for Audio/Visual Quality:

- 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.)
- Record a short test and listen to it. If needed, change the record volume or microphone location.
- Make sure the background music (if any) is audible on the recording.
- Allow for two seconds of silence at the beginning and end of your recording.

Submission Requirements

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Video must not exceed 5 minutes in length and 1,000 MB (1,000 megabyte) in file size.
- Accepted file formats include: .mp4, .mov, .avi.
- Use of background music and names of performer(s) in film must be cited on the student entry form.
- If necessary, label CD/DVD/flashdrive with title of artwork, arts category and division.
- Submit film and student entry form according to your PTA's instructions.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation