



Dance Choreography

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY is the act of creating movement. The choreographer (student submitting entry) may be the performer or one of the people performing, but the choreographer does not have to perform in the entry. All choreography must be done solely by the student entrant.

Reflect on the 2020-2021 Theme: I Will Change the World By...

See Dance Choreography Frequently Asked Questions for more information.

Consider the following styles and ensembles to portray your original choreography: Ballet, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Jazz, Tap, Folk Dance, Religious Dance, Dance Ensembles (color guard/indoor guard), Ice Skating/Dancing and Gymnastics-floor routine.

Consider use of background song(s), props, and location to show a clear relation of the dance choreography to the theme. An explanation of the origin of the dance and/or the significance of the choreography might be a useful addition to the artist statement when submitting a dance choreography entry that involves traditional, cultural, or regional dances. Whether an entry displays formal dance technique 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.

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.

Copyright: Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified. Use of background music must be cited on the Student Entry Form.

Submission Requirements:

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original choreography of one student only.
- Video must not exceed 5 minutes in length and 1GB (one gigabyte) in file size.
- Cite background music (if any) on the Student Entry Form.
- Accepted video file formats include: MP4.

How to Submit:

- All entries must be submitted online at www.utahpta.org/ref.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation at www.utahpta.org/reflections



Dance Choreography

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I dance to a routine I learned in dance class, at school, on TikTok, or from somewhere else?

No. The Dance Choreography category requires you to create original choreography to a song of your choice. You can use moves you have learned from other places, but must combine them in an original way.

Can I use choreography created for me by someone else?

No. The choreography is the element of your entry being judged and needs to be your original work.

Do I have to be the person to perform my choreographed dance?

No. Anyone can perform the dance you choreograph. Just make sure to have all participants fill out and sign a consent form.

Can someone else film my dance?

Anyone can film the dance. The judges will be judging the choreography.

Can I submit a video of me signing with ASL to a song?

Signing is not considered dance. It is a language. It could be incorporated into a Dance Choreography entry, but there would also need to be dance moves for it to qualify as a Dance Choreography entry.

Can I have animals dance in my entry?

No. Dance Choreography entries must feature people as the dancers.



Film Production

FILM PRODUCTION is the process of making a film. All filming, screenwriting, directing, and editing must be done by the student producer. All entries must contain only original student produced images and footage. The student must be in control of the camera at all times, including when using a tripod, selfie stick, drone, or other film capturing devices. Entries created using presentation software such as PowerPoint and Google Slides are prohibited.

Reflect on the 2020-2021 Theme: I Will Change the World By...

See Film Production Frequently Asked Questions for more information.

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 used to create an entry should only enhance and 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.
- Student submitting the entry **MUST** be the cameraman.
- Video must not exceed 5 minutes in length and 1GB (one gigabyte) in file size.
- Accepted file formats include: MP4.
- Use of background music must be cited on the Student Entry Form.

How to Submit:

- All entries must be submitted online at www.utahpta.org/ref.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation at
www.utahpta.org/reflections



Film Production

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I use video clips I find on the internet or clips that are shared with me by the news or a business?

No. Entries may not include still shots of photographs or video clips taken or filmed by anyone other than the student producer.

Can I use short video clips that my grandma, friend, teacher, neighbor, or someone else filmed and shared with me?

No. Entries may not include still shots of photographs or video clips taken or filmed by anyone other than the student producer.

Can I use photographs taken by other people?

No. Entries may not include still shots of photographs or video clips taken or filmed by anyone other than the student producer. Entries may include video footage (filmed by the entrant) that shows photographs taken by other people.

If I use a tripod, can my mom or dad or somebody else turn the camera on and off for me?

No.

Can someone teach me how to use editing software?

Yes. It's fine for someone to teach you how to edit films. However, they should teach you using material that will not be part of your Reflections entry. All editing work for your entry must be done by you.

Can I make a slideshow?

Films that have a slideshow format are discouraged. You may not use presentation software. A film production entry should also not appear to be made using presentation software. It should include video and sound elements. If still photos are included as part of your film entry, they must be taken by you.

Can I include video of photos that I did not take?

Yes. However, a film should be more than a show and tell of family photos.

Do I have to be in my film?

No. Using other people in your film is a great way to make the filming process easier, since you are required to be in control of the camera without help from others.

I want to appear in my film. How do I do that without breaking the rules?

You may use a tripod, selfie-stick, drone, or other film capturing equipment. You still must be the person to turn the camera on and off. Other people may not hold the camera. Feel free to be creative, but be prepared to explain your process on the entry form.



Literature

LITERATURE is the art of writing. The author (student submitting entry) is a person who expresses his or her own thoughts and ideas through the use of words. Authors submit a single literary work, handwritten or typed, using grade-appropriate grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Comic books, graphic novels, and collections of literary work (such as poems and short stories) are not accepted.

Reflect on the 2020-2021 Theme: I Will Change the World By...

See Literature Frequently Asked Questions for more information.

Consider the following literary styles to portray your original work of fiction or nonfiction: Prose, Poetry, Drama, Reflective essay, Narrative, Short story.

An explanation of the storyline and/or the significance of the literature style might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays formal writing technique 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. Illustrated entries with pictures drawn by the student author are acceptable; however, only the words are judged.

Acceptable Use of Type, Dictation and Translation:

- Be typed by another person as long as the original work or a copy of the original work is attached.
- Be dictated to another person and printed or typed in exact words as spoken by the student if the student is in the primary grade division (Pre-K through 2nd grade). Transcribers should make every attempt to retain the same level of language and accuracy that is reflected in the student's original work.
- Students for whom English is not his or her first language may submit literature entries in his or her own language. An interpretive translation in English 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.

Copyright: Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified.

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.
- Entry must not exceed 2,000 words.
- Handwritten & typed entries are accepted on 8.5x11 paper (one sided only).
- Any illustrations must be the original work of the student. They will not be judged.
- Photographs are not allowed in Literature entries.
- Accepted file format is PDF.

How to Submit:

- Paper entries must be scanned as a single document in PDF format before uploading to the Entry Form.
- All entries must be submitted online at www.utahpta.org/ref.



Literature

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I create a comic strip for Literature?

No.

Is there a category where I can submit a comic strip?

You may submit a comic strip in the 2D Visual Arts category.

Can I submit a comic book or graphic novel for Literature?

No.

Is there a category where I can submit a graphic novel or comic book?

Currently, there is not a Reflections category that accepts graphic novels or comic books.

What is the difference between a graphic novel or comic book and an illustrated Literature entry?

[Graphic novel](#) - a story that is presented in comic-strip format and published as a book.

[Comic book](#)- a magazine containing sequences of comic strips.

In comic books and graphic novels, the art and words work together to tell a story.

Illustrated Literature entry - A work of prose, poetry, drama, reflective essay, narrative, or short story including illustrations created by the entrant. The written words are separate from the illustration and can stand alone without needing the illustrations to help tell the story. Illustration will not be judged.

Can I include photos or clip art illustrations in my Literature entry?

No. Literature entries may only include illustrations created by the student. Clip art images are not student created. Photographs are not illustrations.

Can I submit more than one story or poem as an entry?

No. Collections of stories or poems are not allowed. Choose your favorite one and submit that one.

I don't understand the rule about copyright. What does that mean?

Your Reflections literature entry needs to be original and come from your own mind. Don't focus your work on something another person created, such as Batman, Minecraft, My Little Pony, Harry Potter, or Disney. Material created by other people is protected by something called "copyright." They own the ideas. It's okay to briefly mention copyrighted material. A good way to know if it's okay is to ask yourself, "Can I replace or take this copyrighted material out of my story without it changing it very much?" If you could take it out and your entry is not significantly changed by doing that, you can probably keep it in. If taking out the copyrighted material changes your entry a lot, it is a copyright violation to use that material. When in doubt, leave it out.



Music Composition

MUSIC COMPOSITION is the process of creating a **new piece** of music. The composer (student submitting entry) is a person who expresses his/her own thoughts and ideas through the use of sound. The student composer may submit an entry performed by an individual or group and/or make use of a sound library generated performance of a composed score. Student composers are not required to perform their compositions. Middle and high school grade divisions require either a music score/notation (either traditional or tablature) or a written reflective statement that provides a musically technical explanation of how the music was created (100 words or less).

Reflect on the 2020-2021 Theme: I Will Change the World By...

See Music Composition Frequently Asked Questions for more information.

Consider the following musical styles and instruments to portray your **original** composition: A Cappella, Blues, Choral, Country, Electronic, Hip Hop, Jazz, Latin, Musical, Orchestral, Pop, R&B, Religious, Rock, Symphonic/Concert Band, and Traditional.

All instruments, sounds, styles, and combinations are accepted. Software may be used to produce an audio recording that does not include commercially pre-programmed imported MIDI or other source files. Entries containing algorithmic composition techniques are not accepted. An explanation of the origin of the music and/or the significance of the music style might be a useful addition to the artist statement when submitting a music composition that involves traditional, cultural, or regional instruments. Whether an entry displays formal composition technique 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.

Copyright: Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified.

Suggestions for Audio Quality:

- Do not place the recording device on top of an instrument(s) or speakers.
- 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 music is audible on the recording.
- Allow for two seconds of silence at the beginning and end of your recording.

Notation/Score OR Written Musically Technical Explanation: (Middle School & High School Divisions Only)

- Written music score/tablatore/notation/reflective statement (choose one) required for Middle School and High School divisions.
- Single files in PDF format are accepted.
- Notation software may be used to create a score.
- Whether the score is handwritten or computer-generated, notation is required for ALL vocal and instrumental parts included in the audio recording.
- Written reflective musically technical explanation (100 words or less, typed on Entry Form) - see FAQ.

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.
- Audio files only. No videos allowed.
- Audio recording must not exceed 5 minutes in length and 1GB (one gigabyte) in file size.
- Accepted audio file formats include: MP3, M4A, WAV.

How to Submit:

- All entries must be submitted online at www.utahpta.org/ref.



All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation at www.utahpta.org/reflections



Music Composition

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I include notation and a reflective statement?

No. Include notation or a reflective statement.

Can I turn in a video?

No. Turn in an audio recording of your song. Make sure to complete and upload notation if you are competing in the Middle or High School divisions.

Can I sing one of my favorite songs?

No. You must write a new song for Reflections.

Can my mom, dad, friend, or somebody else write an accompaniment for me?

No.

What is traditional notation?

Traditional notation is the familiar 5-line staff with clefs, time and key signatures, and note symbols.

What is tablature?

Tablature uses numbers and symbols that indicate the finger positions rather than pitches. It is commonly used for fretted stringed instruments such as guitars and ukuleles.

Do I have to include notation?

If you are competing in the Middle or High School divisions, you must include notation or a reflective statement..

Can someone help me notate?

Someone can teach you how to notate, but you must do the work to notate your song by yourself.

Can my notation be chord names with my lyrics underneath?

No. You must include notation for the melody line of your song.

Can I use notation software?

You may use notation software as long as it creates traditional notation.

What types of things should be included in a reflective statement?

What creative and musical decisions did you make to achieve the final version of the piece?

How were the musical elements developed?

What equipment was used (if any)?

What sounds and/or musical ideas were used to represent certain ideas or emotions?

How were your creative and musical decisions influenced by your expertise, context, and expressive intent?



Photography

PHOTOGRAPHY is the process of creating an image. The photographer (student submitting entry) is a person who captures his or her own thoughts and ideas with a camera. By focusing on objects using various lenses, filters and light sources, photographers may demonstrate the use of photographic techniques conventionally or digitally.

Reflect on the 2020-2021 Theme: I Will Change the World By...

See Photography Frequently Asked Questions for more information.

Accepted forms of photography include: A single photo, panoramic, photomontage (one print of multiple original photos), a multiple exposure, negative sandwich, or photogram. Original black-and-white and color images are accepted.

Non-accepted forms of photography include: Entries with added graphics over the image, including lettering, are not accepted. Collages and collections of photos are not accepted. Original film (negatives or transparencies) and multidimensional pieces are not accepted.

Consider use of objects, lighting, and the location to show a clear relation of the photo to the theme. An explanation of the photography process/form 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.

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

- 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.

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.
- Print must be no smaller than 3x5 inches and no larger than 11x14 inches.
- **Framed photos are not accepted.**
- Accepted file format is jpg.

How to Submit:

- All entries must be submitted online at www.utahpta.org/ref. All judging will be conducted online.
- Take one color photo of the artwork for judging, ID, and exhibition purposes. This will be uploaded when you complete the Entry Form.
- Entries receiving an Award of Excellence at the local level should be turned in to the school.
- Winning entries should be matted or mounted on sturdy material such as cardboard or poster board.
- Label the back of entry with student's first and last name.



Photography

Frequently Asked Questions

The rules say collages are not allowed, but montages are allowed. What's the difference?

In Reflections, a photographic collage would be created by taking physical prints of photos and cutting and pasting them together on a flat surface, such as cardstock or poster board. A person making a collage might rip the photos or use scissors and would also use adhesive, such as tape or glue. **Photo collages are not allowed in the Photography category of Reflections.** A photo montage is created by combining photographs digitally. When it is printed, it is one seamless print. Photomontages are allowed in Reflections. All photographs used must be originals taken by the student entrant.

What is the difference between mounting and matting?

Mounting means to secure the printed photo to a piece of cardboard, cardstock, posterboard, or something similar, using tape or glue, to protect it from being bent. We ask students to mount their art to protect it. Mounting does not show from the front.

Matting is the process of placing a mat around a printed photo. Mats can be purchased or handmade. A mat does show around the outside of a photo. Mats are not required, but may be added to a photography entry if desired.

Entries are turned in online, so why do I have to print my photo and turn that in too?

Most schools will display entries and will need a printed photo to do that. Also, winning entries are passed up through the levels and displayed at awards nights. In the summer, state winning Photography and 2D Visual Art entries are displayed.

Can I add graphics to my photo?

No.

Can I add words to my photo?

No. But you can take a picture of things with words on them.

Can I take a picture of myself?

Yes. You can take a selfie using your arm, a selfie stick, a tripod and timer, or some other creative method. If you take a photo of yourself, it's a good idea to mention in the artist statement how you took the photo. Photos taken by other people will be disqualified.

Can I take a picture with other people in it?

Yes, but you will need to turn in a consent form for any people who can be recognized in your photo.



Visual Arts (2D)

VISUAL ARTS include many art forms that are visual in nature. The artist (student submitting entry) is a person who captures his or her own thoughts and ideas to create a visual piece of art.

Accepted forms of 2D Visual Art include: Architecture, collages, photographic collages (multiple photos cut/pasted), computer-generated image, design, drawing, flat metal etching/punch work, painting, and print making. Reproductions or enlargements of other artwork are not accepted.

Pictures/paintings which would hang on the wall for display, even with some three-dimensional elements, should be entered in 2D Visual Arts.

Reflect on the 2020-2021 Theme: I Will Change the World By...

See 2D Visual Arts Frequently Asked Questions for more information.

An explanation of the art form might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays use of formal technique 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.

Copyright: Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted characters or likeness thereof, is not acceptable in any visual arts submission, with the following exceptions:

- Visual artwork 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.
- Visual arts collages may include portions of existing copyrighted works, such as photographs, magazine clippings, internet images, and type cut out of a newspaper, as long as those portions of copyrighted works are used to create a completely new and different work of art.

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.
- Dimensions must not exceed 24x30 inches, including matting.
- **Framed entries are not accepted. Shadow boxes are not allowed.**

How to Submit:

- All entries must be submitted online at www.utahpta.org/ref. All judging will be conducted online.
- Take one color photo of the artwork for judging, ID, and exhibition purposes. This will be uploaded when you complete the Entry Form.
- Entries receiving an Award of Excellence at the local level should be turned in to the school.
- Winning paper entries should be mated or mounted on sturdy material such as cardboard or poster board.
- Label the back of entry with student's first and last name.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation at

www.utahpta.org/reflections



Visual Arts (2D)

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I be in the picture holding up my artwork?

Please upload a photo of your artwork only.

How do I take a good photo of my art to upload?

Take a close up photo. Make sure the art is straight in the photo and right side up. Be careful to use good lighting so that there won't be any shadows. Strong sunlight usually causes shadows. Consider placing a neutral background behind the artwork and/or cropping the photo of your art so that only the art shows.

What is the difference between mounting and matting?

Mounting means to secure the artwork to a piece of cardboard, cardstock, posterboard, or something similar, using tape or glue, to protect it from being bent. We ask students to mount paper entries. Mounting does not show from the front.

Matting is the process of placing a mat around artwork. Mats can be purchased or handmade. A mat does show around the outside of the art. Mats are not required, but may be added to a 2D visual arts entry if desired.

Is there a thickness restriction for 2D art?

No. Students may create their 2D art on paper, cardstock, artboards, canvas, wood, or another flat material. The outside dimensions cannot exceed 24X30 inches, but can be any reasonable thickness for art that would hang on the wall for display.

Can I include words on my 2D art entry?

Yes. Most 2D art does not include words, but they are allowed. If you quote the words of another person, you must give them credit by including their name on the artwork. Otherwise, your piece will be disqualified for plagiarism.

Can I write my name on my 2D art entry?

Yes. It's fine to sign your artwork, but not necessary. It is not against the rules to put your name, title, or artist statement on your artwork, but it's a good idea to leave them off and let your artwork be judged without those. The judge will read your title and artist statement before judging your piece.

Are frames allowed?

Frames are NOT allowed. This includes store-bought and homemade frames. Shadow boxes, which are also frames, are not allowed.

What is a shadow box?

A shadow box is a store-bought case with a transparent protective front, usually made of glass. Shadow boxes are not allowed in Reflections entries.



Visual Arts (3D)

VISUAL ARTS include many art forms that are visual in nature. The artist (student submitting entry) is a person who captures his or her own thoughts and ideas to create a visual piece of art.

Accepted forms of 3D Visual Art include: Carpentry, ceramics, crafts, dioramas, fiberwork, jewelry, kites, metal etching/punch work, mobiles, sculpture, and wind chimes. Reproductions or enlargements of other artwork are not accepted. *(Pictures/paintings which would hang on the wall for display, even with some three-dimensional elements, should be entered in 2D Visual Arts.)*

Reflect on the 2020-2021 Theme: I Will Change the World By...

See 3D Visual Arts Frequently Asked Questions for more information.

An explanation of the art form might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays use of formal technique 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.

Copyright: Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted characters or likeness thereof, is not acceptable in any visual arts submission, with the following exceptions:

- Visual artwork 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.

Submission Requirements:

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Graphic novels, comic books, and shadow boxes are not allowed.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Multiple entries are not allowed.
- Take 3 color photos of the artwork from various angles for judging, ID, and exhibition purposes.
- Artwork requiring viewer manipulation is not allowed.
- Artwork containing loose materials is not accepted.
- Separate pieces submitted as one entry are not allowed.
- Multiple entries are not allowed.
- Accepted file format is JPG.

How to Submit:

- All entries must be submitted online at www.utahpta.org/ref.
- Check with your school to find out if you should submit your physical entry for display purposes. All judging will be conducted online.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation at
www.utahpta.org/reflections



Visual Arts (3D)

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to upload the maximum number of pictures?

Yes. National PTA requires 3 photos showing a variety of angles.

What does the rule about loose pieces mean?

Your 3D entry must be one piece of artwork without any loose or unattached pieces. Someone should be able to pick it up and gently shake it and turn it upside down without anything falling off. If you create multiple items, they must all be connected somehow so that your entry is one piece of art. You might consider using a base of wood, cardboard, or other material.

What does the rule “Entries may not require viewer manipulation” mean?

Entries may not have flaps that need to be opened to see something on the inside. Books require manipulation to view and are not allowed. Any type of entry that must be touched and manipulated to enjoy viewing the entire entry is not allowed. The addition of a light is allowed, but should be turned on prior to taking the photos of the entry. Entries may have multiple sides, which viewers should be able to observe by looking around or walking around a display holding the entry. If a viewer would need to touch the entry and manipulate or move something to see the entire entry, it is not allowed. It is generally understood that the bottom side of a 3D entry will not be viewed.

May I create a two sided piece of art and enter it in 3D art?

Yes, but it needs to be displayed in a way that allows viewers to see both sides without touching the art. The most common way to accomplish this is to attach the artwork to a base of wood, cardboard, or other material.

Can I enter a book I wrote for 3D Art?

No. Books are not allowed in the 3D Art category. They violate the rule that states that entries may not require viewer manipulation.

Are frames allowed?

Frames are NOT allowed. This includes store-bought and homemade frames. Shadow boxes are also a type of frame.

What is a shadow box?

A shadow box is a store-bought case with a transparent protective front, usually made of glass. Shadow boxes are not allowed in Reflections entries. Students may build boxes out of various materials to hold their artwork, but they must be handmade.

Can I use Legos?

Legos are allowed to be used as a building medium, if the creation is an original design, does not feature copyrighted material, and does not follow a kit.



Special Artist

SPECIAL ARTIST ELIGIBILITY. The National PTA Special Artist Division is an option for students with disabilities who receive services under IDEA or ADA: Section 504 to have the opportunity and accommodations they may need in order to participate fully in the program. The Special Artist Division offers modified rules and guidelines to ensure that every student has the chance to be part of the National PTA Reflections program.

Who qualifies as a disabled individual under the law? The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines an individual with a disability as a person who: (1) Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of that person; (2) Has a record of such an impairment; or (3) Is regarded as having such impairment.

HOW TO ENTER. Students who identify as having a disability have two ways to enter the National PTA Reflections® Program. All students may enter in only one division. The Student Entry Form requires parent/legal guardian signatures.

Option 1. Enter in grade-level divisions: Regardless of age, students with special needs may enter in the grade division that most closely aligns to his or her functional abilities. Students may not receive assistance other than that which is allowed for all children. The grade divisions are as follows: Primary (preschool – grade 2); Intermediate (grades 3-5); Middle School (grades 6-8); High School (grades 9-12). Students are recognized and awarded prizes as part of the general student population without regard to special needs or challenges.

Option 2. Enter in the Special Artist Division: Eligible students entering the Special Artist Division create his or her own artwork, but may receive non-artistic accommodation and assistance from an adult. Students are recognized and awarded prizes as part of the Special Artist Division.

SPECIAL ARTIST GUIDELINES. Special artists should follow the general rules and guidelines outlined in the arts category rules specific to his or her submissions, modified only by accommodations for individuals with disabilities. The accommodation, in general, should be both specific and limited to the student’s disability.

Allowable Accommodations: Given the diverse range of physical and mental disabilities that exist, it would be impossible to outline specific accommodations for each and every disability, but the following provides a non-exhaustive list of allowable accommodations:

- The Special Artist Division will not be divided by age or traditional school grade level.
- Use of adaptive technology is allowed.
- All submissions must be solely created by the special artist. However, a parent, teacher, or other adult may assist the special artist with typing, holding a camera, etc.
- Titles and artist statements are not required for non-verbal students.

Accommodations that are Not Allowed: Individuals providing assistance to special artists may not, in any way, involve themselves in the actual artistic process by:

- Personally selecting a title for artwork.
- Writing, editing, or interpreting a student’s artist statement, story, poetry, or script.
- Choreographing a dance, composing music, or writing lyrics.
- Drawing, painting, or personally creating a visual arts submission, choosing a camera angle, etc.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation at www.utahpta.org/reflections