

Judging Process

In order to not be disqualified, please remember:

- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- A student may develop an entry inside or outside of the school.
- A student may submit entries in more than one arts area and/or multiple entries in a single arts area.
- Each student entry must be accompanied by a student entry form, signed by a parent or guardian. This form can be found at the end of this document.
- Student entries **MUST** include a title and an artist statement, which communicates the artist's inspiration for the work and how it relates to the theme. The statement must describe the content and be at least 10 words **but not exceed 100 words.**

The judging process has two goals:

1. To determine which student entries will advance to the next round of judging.
2. To award other prizes and recognition as determined by your Local Reflections Committee.

All PTA Reflections program entries will be judged on

- **artistic merit**
- **creativity**
- **mastery of the medium**
- **interpretation of the theme.**

Mastery of the medium refers to the level of skill the student demonstrates in the basic principles and techniques of the arts area. However, a well-developed concept is more important than technique. Entries should be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme.

To facilitate the judging process, judges will receive just the title and artist statement for each entry and the rules specific to their arts category. It is important to conduct *blind judging*—where judges do not see the artists' names. To facilitate blind judging, the PTA will:

- **Musical composition, dance choreography, and film production:** Prepare a file of all the entries for each arts area, as well as a list of the entries, using a code in place of the students' names.
- **Photography and visual arts/3D:** Cover the personal information attached to the artwork by folding the student entry form. If the student has signed the artwork, cover the signature for judging.

The following is a simple judging rubric you may find helpful in evaluating entries and assigning awards. Notice that interpretation of the theme is weighted most heavily.

Sample Judging Rubric		
Interpretation of Theme	How closely the piece relates to the theme, based on the artwork itself and the artist statement	40 pts
Artistic Merit/ Creativity	How creative and original the piece is in its conception of the theme and its presentation	30 pts
Mastery of Medium	The level of skill demonstrated in the basic principles/techniques of the arts area	30 pts