



Dear Parents,

The National PTA encourages all students to pursue artistic expression through participation in its annual arts “Reflections” program. Reflections is the most successful arts program in the nation, reaching thousands of children each year. Children are asked to express themselves artistically based on a common theme. This year’s theme is “**Look Within**”. Deadline for submitting entries is Wednesday, **October 16, 2019**. Students may submit artwork in any of the six art categories:

- * Dance Choreography
- * Film Production
- * Literature
- * Musical Composition
- * Photography
- * Visual Arts (includes art forms such as drawing, painting, print making and collage)

Participating in the Reflections Program is an opportunity for students to explore and learn about various art forms. It does not matter whether an entry created for the Reflections Program has been created as a classroom assignment or independently at home. Artistic exploration and expression enhance and develop intellectual, social and physical skills. Creating art is a valuable learning process.

While children express themselves through works, pictures, music, photography and other art forms, they grow intellectually. They learn to analyze their thought, feelings and ideas. The Reflections Program also helps parents encourage and recognize the continuous self-discovery process of their children.

There are five grade divisions for the Reflections competition: **1)** Primary (Pre-school-Grade 2), **2)** Intermediate (Grades 3-5), **3)** Middle (Grades 6-8), **4)** High School (Grades 9-12), **5)** Special Artist Division.

Students participate by submitting their entries (they can submit more than one per category and can enter all categories if they so choose) and entry forms to their local PTA. All entries must be original and cannot have been created for another art event or submitted previously in a Reflections program. The top five entries in each category and grade division will go on to compete at the city level.

Official Rules for each category are can be found at <http://www.alabamapta.org/reflections>, and there will be copies of the rules in the front office.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me.

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