



Encourage students to use the arts to share personal Reflections on this year's theme: **I Will Change The World By....**

They will create original works of art and write thoughtful statements.

[70-second 2020-2021 video call for entries](#)

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soon to include a link to a 90-second video of the artwork from all of our 2020-2021 participants

Deadline to submit artwork and statements
has been extended:
Wed, Nov 3rd, 2021 at noon

Deadline to submit theme suggestions is:
Sat, Oct 30th, 2021 at noon

Introduction

The Reflections Arts Program is sponsored by the National PTA and encourages students to express themselves through the arts. Students create original works of art and write thoughtful statements in response to a student-selected theme.

The theme for the 2021-2022 school year is: I Will Change The World By...

The artwork and statements are anonymous to the judges and are evaluated at the school or local level. A school finalist in each category and division moves on to the County level. Winners at the County level move on to the District, and so on to State and finally to the Nationals.

Students submit their artwork in one division:

- Primary (Pre-K to Grade 2)
- Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
- Middle School (Grades 6-8)
- High School (Grades 9-12)

Within their division, students may submit their artwork in one or more categories:

- Dance Choreography
- Film Production
- Literature
- Music Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts (2D or 3D)

If you have any questions, please contact **Miki Welck** or **Karen Cheng** at: Reflections@MantuaPTA.org

Rules and Guidelines for All Entries

Here are some rules and guidelines for all entries:

- **All Artwork:**

Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the current year's theme may be submitted.

Preserve the original artwork as it moves onto the next level, or in case the original artwork is requested, or if there is an opportunity to display the artwork in a show or gallery.

Because the program is designed to encourage and recognize each student's individual creativity, an adult may NOT alter the creative integrity of a student's work. And, collaboration with other students is NOT allowed.

- **All Entries:**

Each entry must be the original work of one student only.

The artwork and statements are anonymous to the judges.

Please do not have the student's name in the artwork or in the recording.

Please write the following on the back of the entry or entry packaging:

- student's name
- title of the artwork
- arts category
- division

Plagiarized entries will be disqualified.

Use of copyrighted material is prohibited, except for background music in dance choreography and film production entries.

Images and recordings of artwork to be submitted digitally.

Take a very high resolution photo, so the judges can zoom in and see the details of your artwork.

Be mindful of the size or length of the artwork in each category.

- **Title:**

Each entry must contain a title.

- **Artistic Statement:**

Each entry must include an artist statement. The artist statement communicates:

- what inspired the work
- how it relates to the theme
- the content of the work

The statement must include at least 10 words and not exceed 100 words.

Take your time when responding to the "Artist Statement" on the form. The judges will consider the student's interpretation of the theme as well as the technical execution.

- **Details and Artwork Size Requirements:**

Include the appropriate information in the Details field. Refer to the [Rules and Guidelines for Each Category](#) section.

Rules and Guidelines for Each Category

Here are some rules and guidelines for each category:

- **Dance Choreography:**

Solo and ensemble works of all dance styles are accepted.

Entrant must be the choreographer.

Entrant may also be the performer, or one of the performers.

Video file must not exceed 5 minutes in length and 1,000 MB (1,000 megabyte) in file size.

Video file must be in MP4, MOV, or AVI format.

In the Details field, include length and size of the video and cite the background music.

Detailed requirements can be found here: [21-22 dance-rules reflections](#)

- **Film Production:**

Accepted short film styles include:

Animation, narrative, documentary, experimental, or media presentation.

Entrant must be the screenwriter, cinematographer, editor and producer.

Use of PowerPoint is prohibited.

Video file must not exceed 5 minutes in length and 1,000 MB (1,000 megabyte) in file size.

Video file must be in MP4, MOV, or AVI format.

In the Details field, include the length and size of the video and cite the background music.

Detailed requirements can be found here: [21-22 film-rules reflections](#)

- **Literature:**

Accepted forms of fiction and nonfiction include:

Prose, poetry, reflective essay, screen play and play script, narrative, and short story.

Writing may be in the entrant's primary language, as long as an interpretive English translation is also attached.

Writing must not exceed 2,000 words, handwritten or typed.

Document must be single-sided print on 8 ½x11" paper.

Digital file must be in PDF.

In the Details field, include the number of words.

Detailed requirements can be found here: [21-22 literature-rules reflections](#)

- **Music Composition:**

All music styles and combinations of instrumentation are accepted.

Entrant must be the composer. Entrant may also be the performer, or one of the performers.

Audio recording must not exceed 5 minutes in length and 1,000 MB (1,000 megabyte) in file size.

Audio recording must be in MP3 or WAV.

Notation (score/tablature) in PDF is required for Middle School (Grades 6-8) and High School (Grades 9-12) Divisions.

In place of a notated score, entrant may include a written reflective statement that provides a musically technical explanation of how you wrote the music (100 words or less). Document should be single-side printed on 8 1/2 x11" paper. Digital file should be in PDF.

In the Details field, include a list of musicians and/or instrumentation. If a reflective statement is provided, include number of words.

Detailed requirements can be found here: [21-22 music-rules reflections](#)

- **Photography:**

A variety of digital techniques are accepted and include, but not limited to:

Multiple exposure, negative sandwich and photogram

Entrant must be the photographer.

Collages, collections of photos, and framed prints are not accepted. Note: Collages are an accepted form under the Visual Arts category.

Photo must be a single print or digital image.

Print image dimension must be no smaller than 3x5 inches and no larger than 8x10 inches.

Print image must be mounted on a mat or poster board no larger than 11x14 inches.

Digital image dimension must be at least 640x960 pixels and resolution of at least 300 dpi.

Digital image must be in JPG or PNG.

In the Details field:

For print images, include dimension and overall dimension with matting (inches).

For digital images, include dimension (pixels) and resolution (dpi).

Detailed requirements can be found here: [21-22 photography-rules reflections](#)

▪ **Visual Arts:**

Works of both fine and design arts are accepted, including but not limited to:

- architectural drawing and models
- ceramics
- collage
- computer generated images and graphics
- crafts
- drawing
- fashion clothes
- fiber work
- jewelry
- mixed media
- painting
- printmaking
- sculpture

Visual Arts – Two-Dimensional (2D)

2D artworks must be mounted on a sturdy material that is no larger than 24x30 inches with matting.

Framed entries are not accepted.

Digital image dimension must be at least 640x960 pixels and resolution of at least 300 dpi.

One digital image of the artwork must be in JPG or PNG.

In the Details field, include dimension with matting (inches).

Visual Arts – Three-Dimensional (3D)

Digital image dimension must be at least 640x960 pixels and resolution of at least 300 dpi.

Three digital images of the 3D artwork at different angles must be in JPG or PNG.

In the Details field, include dimension, including the height (inches).

Detailed requirements can be found here: [21 22 visual-arts-rules reflections](#)

- **Special Artists:** Students who identify as having a disability and may receive services under IDEA or ADA: Section 504 may enter in the Special Artist Division or grade division most closely aligned to their functional abilities.

All submissions must be solely created by the special artist.

An adult may assist with typing, holding a camera, etc.

Use of adaptive technology is allowed.

Individuals providing assistance may not involve themselves in the artistic process.

Detailed requirements can be found here: [21-22 special-artist-division-rules reflections](#)

Entry Submissions Instructions and Entry Form

1. Please ensure the artwork follows the [Rules and Guidelines for All Entries](#).
2. Please ensure the artwork follows the [Rules and Guidelines for the specific category](#).
3. Please name files in the following format: category_division_studentFirstName_studentLastName
 - Divisions:
 - Primary (Pre-K to Grade 2)
 - Intermediate (Grades 3-5)
 - Middle (Grades 6-8)
 - Examples:
 - dance_primary_derek_hough
 - film_primary_janet_yang
 - literature_intermediate_amanda_gorman
 - music_intermediate_lin-manual_miranda
 - photo_middle_tim_flach
 - visual_middle_monir_farmanfarmaian
4. Be prepared to provide the following information:
 - Student name, grade, age
 - Name of homeroom teacher
 - Parent or guardian name, email address, phone number, mailing address
 - Signatures of student and parent/guardian to acknowledge the agreement
 - Title of the artwork
 - Grade Division and Arts Category
 - Details of the artwork such as:
 - Length and file size of video or audio recording
 - Number of words
 - List of musicians, instruments
 - Background music citation
 - Dimension in inches and/or pixels
 - Resolution in dpi
 - Filename of the entry
 - Filename of reflective statement for a music composition entry
 - Artistic statement
 - 10 to 100 words describing the artwork and how it relates to the theme
5. Enter the information for one artwork entry into the [Mantua Elementary School PTA Reflections Entry Form](#).
6. Submit the image or recording of the artwork:
 - Drag and drop the file(s)
 - Or, browse and select the file(s)
7. Click the Submit button.

Deadline to submit artwork and statements is:

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Reflections Theme Search

The Reflections Arts Program encourages students to explore the arts and express themselves in response to a student-submitted theme. The theme is created by a student and selected two years in advance through the annual Theme Search Contest.

Two years ago, the 2021-2022 Reflections theme "I Will Change the World By..." was submitted by Lydia Keel from Spanish Fork Junior High School PTSA in Utah.

Last year, the 2022-2023 Reflections theme was selected and was submitted by a Jason Yevin from Salk/MacArthur PTSA in New York: Show Your Voice!

Right now, the search is on for the 2023-2024 Reflections theme! The theme from the winning student will inspire hundreds of thousands of students to create meaningful artwork and demonstrate their thoughtful and soulful creative abilities. The winning student will also receive a \$100 award and national recognition.

The judges are looking for the following qualities:

- Inspiring, unique, and unlike past program themes
- Clear and appropriate for all grade levels
- Applicable to all arts categories
- Relevant in two years
- Promotes [PTA values](#)
 - Collaboration
 - Commitment
 - Diversity
 - Respect
 - Accountability

Submit the following information to: Reflections@MantuaPTA.org

- Theme Ideas
- Student Name
- Grade
- Address
- Parent/Guardian Phone
- Email

Deadline to submit theme suggestions is:
Sat, Oct 30th, 2021 at noon

Past themes are not considered. Here is the list of past Reflections themes:

1969-1970 Reflections: Children and Youth, Mirror Their World

1970-1971 Reflections: Children and Youth, Look to Tomorrow

1971-1972 Reflections: America, The Beautiful, The Ugly

1972-1973 Reflections: This is Our Country

1973-1974 From Sea to Shining Sea

1974-1975 Our Heritage—Our Hopes

1975-1976 Spirit of '76—Miracle of America

1976-1977 What the World Needs Now

1977-1978 Love Is...

1978-1979 Look Out Your Window

1979-1980 Behind the Gates of Tomorrow

1980-1981 What a Family Means to Me

1981-1982 What Makes Me Smile

1982-1983 Life in These United States

1983-1984 I Have a Dream

1984-1985 What Sparks My Imagination

1985-1986 From Liberty's View

1986-1987 In Celebration: A Past to Remember, a Future to Mold

1987-1988 Wonders of the World

1988-1989 Proud Experiences

1989-1990 Where Does the Sky End?

1990-1991 If I Had a Wish

1991-1992 Exploring New Beginnings

1992-1993 Imagine That

1993-1994 If I Could Give the World a Gift

1994-1995 Dare to Discover

1995-1996 Just Open Your Eyes and See

1996-1997 It Could Happen

1997-1998 Wouldn't It Be Great If...

1998-1999 Suddenly You Turn Around And...

1999-2000 Anything is Possible...

2000-2001 It Would be Really Strange If...

2001-2002 I Hold in My Hand...

2002-2003 Signs of Courage

2003-2004 I Am Really Happy When...

2004-2005 A Different Kind of Hero

2005-2006 I Wonder Why...

2006-2007 My Favorite Place

2007-2008 I Can Make a Difference By...

2008-2009 Wow!

2009-2010 Beauty Is...

2010-2011 Together We Can...

2011-2012 Diversity Means...

2012-2013 The Magic of a Moment...

2013-2014 Believe, Dream, Inspire

2014-2015 The World Would Be a Better Place If

2015-2016 Let Your Imagination Fly

2016-2017 What Is Your Story?

2017-2018 Within Reach

2018-2019 Heroes Around Me

2019-2020 Look Within

2020-2021 I Matter Because...

2021-2022 I Will Change the World By...

2022-2023 Show Your Voice!

Reflections 2020-2021 Fairfax County Winners



The Reflections winners were announced at the Fairfax County Council (FCC) PTA General Membership meeting in December 2020. They received 200 entries and awarded 93 winners.

Five of our 10 finalists received a county-level award.

CONGRATULATIONS to our Mantua student winners!

🎨 🎨 Primary Division (PreK to Grade 2) 🎨 🎨

Film Production: REENAD REFAAT - Award of Excellence (silver)

Photography: TALIA GRUMET - Award of Excellence (silver)

🎨 🎨 Intermediate Division (Grade 3 to 5) 🎨 🎨

Dance Choreography: GENEVIEVE CHENG - Merit Award (bronze)

Film Production: KEATON BRENNAN - Merit Award (bronze)

Music Composition: MAKAYLA CHOU - Honorable Mention

See below for the list of Mantua Finalists and a montage of artwork from all of our participants.

Reflections 2020-2021 Mantua Finalists



The Mantua PTA Reflections committee is excited to announce and present trophies to the finalists at the school level. We wish them great success as their entries head off to the county-level competition.

CONGRATULATIONS to our Mantua student finalists!

❧ ❧ Primary Division (PreK to Grade 2) ❧ ❧

Film Production: REENAD REFAAT

Photography: TALIA GRUMET

Visual Arts: REEBAL AHMED REFAAT

❧ ❧ Intermediate Division (Grade 3 to 5) ❧ ❧

Dance Choreography: GENEVIEVE CHENG

Film Production category: KEATON BRENNAN

Literature: JAMES CHEON

Music Composition: MAKAYLA CHOU

Photography: ELENA CASASSA

Visual Arts: JUNYOUNG KIM

❧ ❧ Middle Division (Grade 6 to 8) ❧ ❧

Visual Arts: NAYOUNG KIM

[90-second video of the artwork from all of our participants](#)
