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# JEFFCO PTA REFLECTIONS STUDENT INFORMATION

## PROGRAM BASICS

Create a piece of art based on the Reflections theme.

### THE THEME FOR 2017-18 IS “WITHIN REACH”

Students have 6 **ARTS CATEGORIES** in which to enter their original works, based on the theme for that year:

- Dance Choreography
- Literature
- Visual Arts
- Photography
- Film Production
- Music Composition

Works are also grouped into **GRADE DIVISIONS** as follows:

- **Primary:** Preschool-2nd
- **Intermediate:** 3rd-5th
- **Middle School:** 6th-8th
- **High School:** 9th-12th
- **Special Artists:** all grades\*

\*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. The Special Artist Division welcomes all grades and all abilities and offers non-artistic accommodations (e.g. adaptive technology; transcribing; holding a camera) for students to participate fully in PTA Reflections. Student assistants must refrain from being involved in the artistic process (e.g. developing an artist statement, choreography, music lyrics, storyboards, etc. Student recognition and awards are announced as part of the Special Artist Division.

In Jeffco, you may enter no more than one piece per arts category. Be sure to check with your local chair for any other school rules.

Each entry must be accompanied by:

1. **Student Entry Form**, completely filled out and signed by the student participant and parent. A parent may help you complete the form, as long as the title and artist statement are in your words.
2. A **title** for your work. “Untitled” is not acceptable. *(Hint: Try to come up with a title that is unique, and not just restating the theme for this year. Our judges love originality!)*
3. **Required Artist Statement** - Each participant is required to submit an artist statement that describes what inspired him or her to create the work and how it relates to the theme. The artist statement is mandatory for all entries in all grade divisions. The statement should be at least 10 but no more than 100 words. *(Hint: Our judges place a lot of emphasis the artist’s statements to determine how the student interpreted the theme. Please make sure to think carefully about your statement and express yourself well.)*

## A FEW NOTES FROM SOME OF OUR JUDGES:

**Read the Rules!** Be sure to look at this year's rules for creating your work. Rules do change from year to year. They spell out the sizes, lengths, and formats of each category. We cannot accept entries that don't follow the rules.

**Theme, theme, theme:** The biggest factor in judging your work is how much you thought about the theme while creating your work. You could make the most beautiful painting in the show, but if it doesn't match the theme for this year, it won't win. Make sure your artist statement explains your thinking.

**Originality:** Make sure your work is your own. Please don't copy a poster or book cover you've seen, or submit something that you made in an art class where everyone was making the same thing, or a dance piece that you were taught in dance class. The judges will spot that.

**Dance Choreography:** Be sure the video of your dance is well-framed and well-lit. It is hard to judge a dance that is hard to see. Save it in one of the approved formats.

**Film Production:** Although still images can be incorporated into a film piece, ALL still images must also be the work of the student. You may not use found photography or footage in your work. **You CANNOT use PowerPoint to create your film.** Rules dictate that the student must be the "cinematographer", which means you must be either holding the camera, or using a tripod to set up the shot if you want to appear in the film.

**Music Composition:** Give us a good clear recording, in one of the approved formats. Please remember that music entries from grade 6 and up must include written sheet music. See rules for more details about what form that can take.

**Photography:** All photo entries must be a single picture. Do not submit a collage or collection of photos. It will not be accepted.

**Visual Arts and Photography:** Presentation matters. Please take care when you mount your work on a stiff background. Straight edges and a nice looking mat can help make an impression on the judges. If submitting 3D art, take some good photos of it from at least three different angles and mount those photos nicely on some matboard.

**Literature:** You can include pictures with your written piece, but you will be judged only on the words, not on your pictures.

## GET CREATIVE – AND GOOD LUCK!