

2011–2012 PTA Reflections Program “Diversity means...”

Rules | Literature | Music Composition | Dance Choreography | Visual Art | Photography | Film

PTA REFLECTION PROGRAM

Is your child an imaginative painter or a daydreaming poet? Does her body move in rhythm as she composes music or choreographs a dance? Does he use a lens to frame still images or capture a scene as it unfolds? If so, it's time for your young artist to unleash those talents and enter the National PTA Reflections contest! This year's theme is “Diversity means...” Encourage your student to reflect on just what *diversity* means and then...make a movie, do a drawing, snap a picture, write a story, dream up a dance, or make some music. Most of all, be creative! It's a nationwide contest, but it all starts right here at Beverly Farms.

Completed entries should be turned in to the Reflections Box in the BFES front office. **The absolute deadline is Friday, November 18.** No late or incomplete entries will be accepted.

There are very *specific* submission guidelines for this contest. (How big can the artwork be? How many words can be in the story?) Before your child gets too far into the creative process, please review the General Rules below *and* the specific rules for each arts category. There's a separate pdf file for each of the six art areas: literature, music composition, dance choreography, visual art, photography, and film.

You may also contact Andrea Herman at 301-299-2587 or andreaherman527@aol.com with any questions.

GENERAL RULES

Students may submit more than one entry, each with a complete entry form (and consent form, if needed).

ORIGINALITY

Each entry must be the original work of one student only. An adult may not alter the creative integrity of a student's work.

STUDENT ENTRY FORM (REQUIRED)

All participants are required to complete and sign the Student Entry Form. Complete the form online, and print out for signing.

[--- PTA REFLECTIONS PROGRAM - STUDEND ENTRY FORM ---](#)

Forms may NOT be filled in by hand.

ARTIST STATEMENT (REQUIRED)

As part of the entry form, each participant is required to submit an artist statement that describes what inspired him/her to create the work and how it relates to the theme “Diversity Means....” The statement may not exceed 250 words. If the statement doesn't fit in the space provided, it must be written on a separate page. Do NOT write the student's name on the attached page.

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CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Parents should place their child in the Reflections Program grade division (Primary = Grades K-2; Intermediate = Grades 3-5) that best reflects the child’s developmental age.

SUBMISSIONS

In order to adhere to the tight judging schedule and out of fairness to the entrants, *all* entries must be submitted on time. Submissions must include a completed Student Entry Form with Artist Statement. A Consent Form may also be necessary. (See details below.)

Place complete submissions in the box labeled “Reflections” in the BFES front office **no later than Friday, November 18, 2011**. Entries can be submitted any time before then.

CONSENT FORM

National PTA requires that signed consent forms be submitted for any individual whose recognizable image appears in a dance choreography, film production, photography, or visual arts entry. Find the Consent Form at

[--- PTA REFLECTIONS CONSENT FORM ---](#)

JUDGING

Whether the student uses a variety of techniques or a simple approach, each entry will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.

Blind judging will be conducted by arts professionals who are NOT associated with Beverly Farms. Decisions of the judges are final.

At Beverly Farms, three winning entries from each arts category, within each division, will advance to the MCCPTA (PTA Council) level of judging. From there, three winning entries from each arts category and division will proceed to the Maryland state level.

Remember to check each individual category. There’s a separate set of instructions for each category. There is a Page/section for each category in this file for each of the six art areas:

Follow the link below which will take you directly to that category.

literature, music composition, dance choreography, visual art, photography, and film.

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2011–2012 PTA Reflections Program | LITERATURE

Students must adhere to the General Student Participation Rules as well as the following Literature Rules.

Description

A literature entry may be a work of fiction or nonfiction. Prose, poetry, and drama are all accepted.

Whether an entry uses a variety of techniques or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.

Presentation

- Entries must not exceed 2,000 words.
- Entries may be handwritten or typed.
- Illustrated entries are acceptable; however, only literary content is judged.
- Collections of poems or short stories are not accepted.
- Entries are to reflect grade-appropriate grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

Format

- Submit entries on paper 8½ inches by 11 inches.
- Submit the original and two copies of the entry.
- Print on only one side of the paper.
- Number all pages.
- Place each page in a clear plastic sheet protector.

Label entry only on bottom right corner of each page in lower case letters in exactly this order:

If entry is *typed*:

md.literature.gradelevel.lastname.firstname.doc

(grade level will be pri for K-2, int for 3-5)

For example: md.literature.int.herman.andrea.doc

If entry is *handwritten*:

md.literature.gradelevel.lastname.firstname.pdf

(grade level will be pri for K-2, int for 3-5)

For example: md.literature.pri.herman.andrea.pdf

Do NOT include any other identifying information.

Dictation and Typing

- Students may have their entries typed by another person as long as the original work or a copy of the original work is attached.
- Students who are physically challenged or students in kindergarten or 1st grade may dictate to another person who may type or write down the original work.
- Transcribers should make every attempt to retain the same level of language and accuracy

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that is reflected in the student’s original work.

Translation

- Students for whom English is not their first language may submit literature entries in their own language. **An interpretive translation 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.

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“Diversity means...”

2011–2012 PTA Reflections Program | MUSIC COMPOSITION

Students must adhere to the General Student Participation Rules as well as the following Film Production Rules.

Description

A music composition entry may be for voice, instruments, or a combination of voice and instruments. Lyrics may or may not be included in vocal compositions. The entry must relate to the current Reflections Program theme.

The use of composition software is permitted. The recording submitted may capture performers in real-time or may make use of a sound library generated performance of a score composed in its entirety by the student participant. The entry may not include commercially pre-programmed imported MIDI or other source files, or use algorithmic composition software.

Use of notation software for the purpose of creating scores and printed parts is permitted. Whether the score is handwritten or computer-generated, appropriate instrumentation and voicing are required for the performance.

Music Composition entrants are not to borrow from copyrighted material.

Whether an entry uses a variety of techniques or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well a student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme.

Presentation

- Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- The composer is not required to be the performer (or one of the) performer(s).
- The music composition should directly relate to the theme.
- Submit a CD of a performance of the composition.

Recommendations for Quality Recordings

- Do not place the recording device on top of an instrument 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, improve recording quality by changing the record volume or microphone location.
- Make sure the music is audible on the recording.
- Return to the beginning of the CD and record two seconds of silence; then start performing your composition. Finish with another two seconds of silence.

Format

- The recorded performance should be saved as an .mp3 file on a CD.
- The CD should be submitted in a cardboard/plastic sleeve.
- The file, the CD itself, and the sleeve should be labeled in lower case letters exactly in this order:

md.music.gradelevel.lastname.firstname.mp3

(grade level will be pri for K-2, int for 3-5)

For example:

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md.music.pri.herman.andrea.mp3

Do NOT include any other identifying information on the CD or sleeve.

Musical Notation

Whether a student must submit musical notation is determined by his or her grade division:

- Primary and Intermediate: No notation is required. Iconic notation may be submitted. Iconic notation is —made-up notation.

Consent Form

Completed and signed Consent Forms must be included for all individuals whose recognizable images or voices appear in a Reflections entry. Individuals over the age of eighteen may sign their own Consent Form. A parent or legal guardian must sign for individuals under the age of eighteen.

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2011–2012 PTA Reflections Program | DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY

Students must adhere to the General Student Participation Rules as well as the following Dance Choreography Rules.

Description

A dance choreography entry must be an original choreographed dance recorded on a DVD. The choreographer may be the performer or one of the performers, but does not have to be. Costumes are not necessary. If costumes are used, however, the choreographer must also create the costumes or directly note that the costumes are not his or her original work.

Whether an entry uses a variety of techniques or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme. A well-developed concept is more important than technique. Therefore, it is very important that the student show a clear relation of the dance choreography to the theme. The connection should be made evident through the use of song, props, and the dance itself.

Traditional Dance

The modification of the steps and the interpretation of the dance are considered when judging a traditional dance for creativity and/or originality. 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.

Presentation

- The choreography should directly relate to the theme.
- Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- Submit a DVD of a performance of the choreography.
- The choreographer is not required to be the (or one of the) performer(s).

Format

Submit entry on a DVD, with the file saved as a .flv file on the DVD (not as a DVD movie).

Submission

Label the DVD and the plastic/cardboard sleeve in lower case letters in exactly this order:

md.dance.gradelevel.lastname.firstname.flv

(grade level will be pri for K-2, int for 3-5)

For example: md.dance.int.herman.andrea.flv

Do NOT include any other identifying information.

Submit the DVD in a plastic or cardboard sleeve

Submit the DVD in sleeve, along with the Student Entry Form, in a large envelope.

Recommendations for Quality Recordings

- Use a tripod to hold the camera still.
- Make sure there is plenty of lighting, especially if shooting indoors.

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- Turn off all noise-making devices in the room (air conditioners, fans, telephones, etc.).
- Make sure the background music (if any) is audible on the recording.

Background Music

The title, composer, and performer(s) of any background music must be credited and documented on the Student Entry Form. If the entry’s connection to the theme is expressed in the song choice, this should be explained in the artist statement.

Required Information

On the Student Entry Form, in addition to crediting any background music, please state who performed the choreography.

Completed and signed Consent Forms must be included for all individuals whose recognizable images or voices appear in the recording. Please obtain parental consent for any minors who appear in the performance.

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2011–2012 PTA Reflections Program | VISUAL ARTS

Students must adhere to the General Student Participation Rules as well as the following Visual Arts Rules.

Description

A visual arts entry must be an original print, drawing, painting, collage, photographic collage, metal etching or punch work, fiber work, or computer-generated artwork that relates to the current Reflections Program theme.

Whether an entry uses a variety of techniques or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.

Presentation

- All art must be flat and may not be more than 3/8 inch thick. This includes all two-dimensional materials and images, including small, flat items (such as string, fabric, and screening) that have maximum surface contact with the face of the image. Nothing three-dimensional (noodles, beans, beads, boxes, etc.) may extend off the surface of a work.
- No art may exceed 24 inches by 30 inches, including a mat.
- Entries may be submitted on paper, canvas board, cardboard, hot or cold pressboard, or canvas (not to exceed 3/8-inch thickness).
- Mount all paper or canvas entries on sturdy cardboard mats, but not in wood, metal, plastic, or glass frames.

Submission

Do NOT laminate or frame the artwork.

Label entry only on the BACK of the artwork in lower case letters in exactly this order:

md.vis art.gradelevel.lastname.firstname.jpg
(grade level will be pri for K-2, int for 3-5)
For example: md.vis art.int.herman.andrea.jpg

Do NOT include any other identifying information on the front or back of the artwork.

Protect the work with a loose transparent plastic cover like cellophane and secure it with masking tape.

Required Information

On the Student Entry Form, give the dimensions of the piece (including any mat) and describe the medium (crayons, oil on canvas, etc.).

Works Not Accepted

- Sculpture, ceramics, and other three-dimensional artwork
- Stained glass and jewelry, regardless of thickness
- Reproductions or enlargements of other artwork

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Use of Copyrighted Material

Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted cartoon characters or other such material, is not acceptable in any visual arts submission, with the following exceptions:

Visual artworks 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. A collage should be judged for its whole, not by its parts, and whether the resulting work stands as a creative, *original* work of art on its own.

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2011–2012 PTA Reflections Program | PHOTOGRAPHY

Students must adhere to the General Student Participation Rules as well as the following Photography Rules.

Description

A photography entry must be an original black-and-white or color image, or group of images, produced by a photographic process. The entry may incorporate such techniques as photomontage, multiple exposure, negative sandwiches, and photograms. Images may be manipulated conventionally or digitally. Images should demonstrate the student’s proper use of photographic techniques such as depth of field and exposure. The images may be created using various lenses, filters, and light sources.

Photographs with added graphics over the image, including lettering, are not acceptable.

Whether an entry uses a variety of techniques or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.

Presentation

- A single print or collage may not exceed 11 inches by 14 inches, including a mat.
- Print the entries on paper or other two-dimensional material.
- Mount all prints on a cardboard mat, poster board, or some other sturdy material.

Do NOT laminate or frame the entry.

Required Information

On the Student Entry Form,

- Give the dimensions of the piece (including any mat).
- Specify the location and date of the shot.
- Describe the type of camera and process used in preparing the piece.

Submission

Protect the work with a loose, transparent plastic cover (like cellophane) secured with masking tape on the back. Do NOT laminate.

Label the entry on the back in lower case letters in exactly this order:

md.photography.gradelevel.lastname.firstname.jpg
(grade level will be pri for K-2, int for 3-5)
For example: md.photography.pri.herman.andrea.jpg

Do NOT include any other identifying information.

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Use of Copyrighted Material

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

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.

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2011–2012 PTA Reflections Program | FILM PRODUCTION

Students must adhere to the General Student Participation Rules as well as the following Film Production Rules.

Description

A film production entry must be an original work of fiction or nonfiction relating to the current Reflections Program theme. Entries may be with or without sound.

The student submitting the entry must be the director, screenwriter, and cameraperson. If using a computer, the student must do all the work. If the student chooses to appear in the production, a camera on a tripod may be used. All storyboarding, editing, etc. must be done by the student.

Whether an entry uses a variety of techniques or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.

Styles

Animation: Animation may be drawn; created from a collection of objects, clay, torn paper, etc.; or computer-generated.

Narrative: A story told through the images created on film or computer. (This is not the same as a storyteller narrating an original story.)

Documentary: Nonfiction documentation using narration, facts, and images.

Experimental: Video that explores movement, light, and montage.

Media presentations: Computer-generated media presentations must be completely original, and the student must do all the work. Cutting and pasting from other sources is not permitted. In addition, the use of software that allows the user to build a virtual environment using prefabricated characters and elements is not permitted. Any software that is used to create an entry should be used only to enhance and present the work of the student, not to provide the primary design.

PowerPoint presentations will not be accepted. Students must adhere to copyright laws. Software should be used only to enhance and present the work of the student. Because most graphic elements of PowerPoint presentations are copyrighted clip art, use of this program is prohibited.

Presentation

- Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- The film should directly relate to the theme.
- The student submitting the entry is not required to appear in the film.
- Entries should be submitted on a DVD.

Use of Copyrighted Material

Films 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

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purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.

Recommendations for Quality Recordings

- 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.).
- Make sure the background music (if any) is audible on the recording.

Format

The recorded performance should be saved as a .flv file on a DVD, not as a DVD movie.

Label the file, the DVD itself, and the plastic/cardboard sleeve in lower case letters in exactly this order:

md.film.gradelevel.lastname.firstname.flv
(grade level will be pri for K-2, int for 3-5)
For example:
md.film.pri.herman.andrea.flv

Do NOT include any other identifying information.

Music

The title, composer, and performer of any background music must be credited and documented on the Student Entry Form. If the entry’s connection to the theme is expressed in the song choice, this should be explained in the artist statement.

Required Information

On the Student Entry Form, in addition to crediting any background music, please answer the following:

- Who appears in your film? (Please obtain parental consent for any minors who appear in your film.)
- Was a computer used? If so, name the software and hardware.



PTA Reflections Program | STUDENT ENTRY FORM

Directions: Completely fill out the form down to and including the required signatures. Leave the boxed area for local PTA information blank. If you need more space, use an extra sheet of paper. Be sure to label any additional pages.

Grade: _____

Age: _____

Gender M F

Grade Division (check one)

Primary: preschool–grade 2

Intermediate: grades 3–5

Middle: grades 6–8

Senior: grades 9–12

Arts Area (check one)

Dance Choreography

Film Production

Literature

Musical Composition

Photography

Visual Arts

Title of Work (Required): _____

Required Artist Statement:

Explain how your work relates to the theme. (Maximum 250 words)

REQUIRED INFORMATION

Dance Choreography: Name(s) of performer(s): _____

Film Production: Name(s) of person(s) appearing in your film: _____

Did you use film-editing software? If so, which software? _____

Dance Choreography and Film Production: Credit the background music below (title, composer, and performer). _____

Musical Composition: Check one: Traditional Instrumentation Midi Instrumentation

Name(s) of person(s) who performed your composition: _____

Did you use music composition software? If so, which software? _____

Photography: Location/date of shot: _____

Describe the type of camera and process used in preparing the piece. _____

Visual Arts: Describe the medium (crayons, oil on canvas, etc.). _____

Photography and Visual Arts:

Dimensions of the work in inches, including mat. **L** _____ **W** _____

Student's first name _____ Middle intl. _____ Last name _____

Address _____ Address 2 _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone () _____ E-mail _____

I grant to National PTA an irrevocable, unlimited license to display, copy, sell, sublicense, publish, and create and sell derivative works from, my work submitted for the Reflections Program. National PTA is not responsible for lost or damaged works. Entries may not be returned. I understand that I must participate in the Reflections Program through a PTA/PTSA in good standing. I affirm that this is my own original work. I understand that the submission of my entry into the Reflections Program constitutes acceptance of the above condition.

→ _____
Full Signature of student

→ _____
Signature of parent/legal guardian (necessary if child is under 18 years)

Additional Required State Information:

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL PTA Check one: PTA PTSA **Local eight-digit PTA ID:** _____

Local chair name _____ Full and Official PTA/PTSA name _____

PTA address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

E-mail _____ Phone () _____

Local PTA good standing status: Per State By-Laws Yes No missing requirements _____



**PTA Reflections Program
Consent Form**

Important note for Reflections Participants: This completed form must accompany the artwork submission and Student Entry Form if a person's recognizable image or voice is included in the submission. Signatures are required. If individual is under age eighteen, a parent or guardian must sign the form. **This form is required for the 2011-2012 program year.**

For Use of a Student's Image or Voice

I give my permission for my son/daughter, _____
(NAME), to participate in the taping, photographing, or audio recording of an entry in the PTA[®] ReflectionsSM Program. I give consent for the student's voice and or image to be included in the entry. This entry may be used an unlimited number of times in perpetuity in connection with the PTA Reflections Program or other National PTA purposes. I understand that entries may be judged at the local, regional, state, and national level. Entries may be displayed at a school or at another public area, including the Internet.

Name of student submitting the entry: _____

I have read and understand the rules of the Reflections Program.

Student Name

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

For Use of an Adult's Image or Voice

I am 18 years of age or older and I consent to participate in the taping, photographing, or audio recording of an entry in the PTA[®] ReflectionsSM entry.

This entry may be used an unlimited number of times in perpetuity in connection with the PTA Reflections Program or other National PTA purposes. I understand that entries may be judged at the local, regional, state, and national level. Entries may be displayed at a school or at another public area, including the Internet.

Name of Student Submitting the Entry: _____

Name of consenting adult: _____

Date

Signed: _____