

Only one entry per
category per student →

Category Guidelines

Visual Arts

VISUAL ARTS include many art forms that are visual in nature. The artist (student submitting entry) is a person who captures their own thoughts and ideas to create a visual piece of art.

Accepted forms of visual art include: Architecture (2D/3D), carpentry, ceramics, collages, photographic collages (multiple photos cut/pasted), computer-generated image, crafts, design, dioramas, drawing, fiberwork, jewelry, kites, metal etching/punch work, mobiles, painting, printmaking, sculpture and wind chimes. Reproductions or enlargements of other artwork are not accepted.


An explanation of the art form might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays use of formal technique or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity.

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

- Visual artwork 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.

Submission Requirements:

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- 2D artwork (e.g. painting)
 - Dimensions must not exceed 24x30 inches, including matting.
 - Paper entries must be mounted on sturdy material.
 - Include one digital image of artwork with your submission.
- 3D artwork (e.g. sculpture)
 - Must include packaging materials and 3 photos of the entry (a combination of angles) for judging, ID and exhibition purposes (entries that require assembling/repairing from transporting will be disqualified).

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- Framed artwork and artwork containing loose materials is not accepted. Matting is accepted.
 - Label back of entry/entry packaging with student name, title of artwork, arts category and division.
 - Submit artwork and student entry form according to your PTA's instructions.
 - Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, and PNG.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation

Please Review:

"Preparing Reflection Entries for Online Submission" &

"Naming Protocol for Reflections entries"

For Detailed Instructions for Submissions at the end of this document

Colorado PTA Reflections Program

Policy on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Submissions.

Purpose:

To ensure that all Reflections entries reflect the student's own skills, creativity, and effort, and to maintain the integrity of the program.

Policy:

1. **Prohibited Use of AI:** Students **may not** use artificial intelligence (AI) software or tools—including, but not limited to, DALL-E, Rotor, Hotpot AI, DeepAI, Craiyon, NightCafe, or any other text-to-art or content-generation platform—to create any portion of their Reflections submission.
2. **Student Authorship Requirement:** All content, including composition, arrangement, and creative elements, must be the result of the student's independent work and skill development.
3. **Permitted Software Use:** The use of digital tools for editing, painting, or refining original student work (e.g., Photoshop, GIMP, Paint, or similar programs) is allowed, provided the final submission reflects the student's own creative input.

Compliance:

Entries found to be generated, in whole or in part, by AI tools will be deemed ineligible for the Reflections program.