



National PTA® Reflections

Photography Rules



PHOTOGRAPHY is the process of creating an image. The **photographer** (student submitting entry) is a person who captures their own thoughts and ideas with a camera. By focusing on objects using various lenses, filters and light sources, photographers may demonstrate the use of photographic techniques conventionally or digitally. The **photographer** (student submitting entry) should be the one to set the scene, lighting and take the picture. If the **photographer** wishes to be in the photograph, a timer or remote must be used.

2016-2017 Theme: *What Is Your Story?*

Accepted forms of photography include: A single photo, panoramic, photomontage (one seamless print of multiple original photos), a multiple exposure, negative sandwich or photogram. Original black-and-white and color images are accepted. **Non-accepted forms of photography include:** Entries with added graphics over the image, including lettering, are not accepted. Original film (negatives or transparencies) and multidimensional pieces are not accepted. Photo collages not printed as one seamless photo are not permitted in this category.

Originality: Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted. Each entry must be the work of one student only.

Consider use of objects, lighting and the location to show a clear relation of the photo to the theme. An explanation of the photography process/form might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays use of technologies 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 copyrighted cartoon characters, scenes created in computer programs (i.e. Minecraft) or other such material, is not acceptable in any photography submission, with the following exception: 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.

Presentation: Framed photos are not accepted. Matting is accepted.

- Print Photo: Must not exceed 11x14 inches, including matting. Mount on sturdy material such as cardboard or poster board.
- Digital Photo: Must be high resolution (300 dpi or higher).

Packaging:

- Label back of print and digital photo file with your State, Arts Category, Grade Division, Last & First Name
- Protecting the work with butcher paper is highly recommended. Tape the paper to the back of the artwork on one side and overlay the front of the artwork to protect it during travel.
- Lamination is discouraged because it can permanently damage the surface of the photo.
- Place two copies of your Student Entry Form in a sheet protector and secure it with masking tape to the back of the photograph so that it is still accessible for photocopying. Do not tape over the opening of the sheet protector.
- Include the required title and artist statement on the Student Entry Form.

Submission Requirements:

- The student or at least one person from their primary household must be a current member of the Local PTA/PTSA where the student is participating. Each Local PTA/PTSA may determine a date by which the member must join.

Return of Artwork:

Entries that win at local levels will be forwarded to the next level of judging. If an entry is forwarded to the state level, it will not be returned until the end of the school year. Seniors should preserve a copy of their photograph to include in their portfolio. Final judging of winning entries occurs at the national level where all entries are received in an electronic format. Entries awarded at the National level will be included in their online and traveling exhibit. The original artwork may not be returned for 1-3 years.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.