

2023-24 National PTA Reflections Recognition for Illinois Students



We proudly announce 7 Illinois students chosen for national recognition in the 2023-24 PTA Reflections Art Program. This year, National PTA received over 900 national-level student submissions. Through two rounds of rigorous review by arts professionals at the national level, 223 students from 45 State PTA Congresses were selected for national-level recognition for their artwork.

The PTA Reflections Art Program annually recognizes elementary through high school students from around the country for 55 years. Every year, students are asked to use their artistic expression and initiative in Film Production, Dance Choreography, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, and Visual Arts to reshape the theme in their own way. This year, students were asked to reflect on the theme “*I am Hopeful Because...*” Illinois PTA submitted 27 entries to National PTA to be judged with other national level submissions.

Congratulations to the following students. We wish them continued success in the arts and future endeavors.

Award of Excellence: \$200 Young Artist Scholarship; Silver Medal; Certificate of Excellence; Work featured in the virtual exhibition.

- **Isaac Burk** * Music Composition * Primary Level * *Building my Future* * Butterfield PTA
- **Mitchell Onken** * Literature * Primary Level * *Hope on A Boat* * Lester PTA

Merit Award: Bronze Medal; Certificate of Merit; Work featured in the virtual exhibition.

- **Christine Li** * Photography * Middle School Level * *The Future* * Plum Grove Jr High PTSA
- **Anneliese Moody** * Film Production * Primary Level * *Snow* * Pierce-Downer PTA
- **Oliver Rabideaux** * Film Production * High School Level * *Rise the Moon* * Oak Lawn High School PTSA
- **Isla Reedy** * Literature * Middle School Level * *Hope is the Key* * Sandburg Middle School PTA
- **Zachary Yee** * Dance Choreography * Middle School Level * *Friends* * Herrick Middle School PTA

All the National award winners will be honored on National PTA’s website and social media channels throughout the year, as well as:

- in a digital exhibition
- through the Student Arts Showcase in January, and
- via pre-recorded content from the top seven Outstanding Interpretation winners during the [2024 National PTA Virtual Annual Convention](#) in June, then publicly in July.

Thank you to all who took part in this year's Reflections program in Illinois! We can’t wait to see what you create next year. The theme for the 2024-25 program is "**Accepting Imperfection**" Program materials will be available on the Illinois PTA website this summer.

Ruth Johnston
Illinois PTA Cultural Arts Program Director