



ILLINOIS PTA REFLECTIONS PHOTOGRAPHY – CATEGORY GUIDELINES

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.

Accepted forms of photography include: A single photo, panoramic, photomontage (one 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. Collages and collections of photos are not accepted. Original film (negatives or transparencies) and multidimensional pieces are not accepted.

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.

Digital technology and/or software can be used to develop, enhance and/or present an entry but may not provide the primary design and/or concept. Entrants must provide a brief description of the tools and method used in the creation process, including any generative elements.

Copyright. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified. Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted cartoon characters, material downloaded from the internet, copyrighted or copyrighted photographs or stock images, is not acceptable, except for the following:

- Entries 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.

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.
- Accepted file formats: JPEG, JPG, and PNG.
- Dimensions must be at least 640x960 (pixels) and 300 dpi (resolution).
- 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.



- Print must be no smaller than 3x5 and no larger than 8X10 inches.
- Print must be mounted on sturdy material such as cardboard or poster board not to exceed 11x14 inches, including matting. Framed photos are not accepted.
- Label back of entry/entry packaging with student name, title of artwork, arts category and division.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.