

Parker Academic Center

Reflections Program - FAQ

What is the Reflections Arts Program?

The PTA Reflections Arts Program gives students in grades K-12 an opportunity to be recognized for bringing a theme to life in their artwork through one of six art expression areas. Children can compete in dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography, and visual arts. The competition begins at school and up to 30 Parker students { 15 from primary (K-2 grades) and 15 from Intermediate (Grades 3-5)} will have their entries progress to the Mecklenburg PTA level, then possibly NC PTA level and thereafter possibly the National PTA level. Participation in the arts helps to develop the whole child. Parker has a proud tradition of participating strongly in this program. Please support your child as they explore the theme and find a way to express themselves in their category.

What is the theme?

Every year the National PTA hosts a contest for the theme. The theme for the year 2021-22 is 'I Will Change the World By...'

Where do I find the rules?

Rules and the entry form needed to participate are available at the Mecklenburg PTA reflections website <https://meckptareflections.weebly.com/studentsparents.html>

Customized entry form for Parker Academic Center is available on www.pacpta.com

What is the due date?

The Parker PTA reflections committee will collect the entries till Nov 19th, 2021, by noon. Entries handed out to the judges shortly after that.

Can I see what entries won from last year?

Yes! Please go to <https://ncpta.org/index.php/programs/reflections-arts-program/> to find past winners.

How do I win?

Entries are judged based on artistic merit, creativity, mastery of the medium, and *most importantly* the interpretation of the theme. It is very important to complete the entire entry form so the judges can read the Title and Artistic statement to judge the entry based on how the child expresses the theme. A well-developed concept is more important than technique. Entries will be judged on how well the student uses their artistic vision to portray the theme. **Adult involvement in art and artist statements will lead to disqualification of the entry.**

Can I submit a theme to be considered for future contests?

Yes! There is a competition for that too! Here is a link for that contest:

<https://meckptareflections.weebly.com/>

Do I have to participate and are grades assigned?

Everyone at Parker is encouraged to participate! Ask your teacher for more details or visit <http://pacpta.com/> or email ParkerReflections@gmail.com

What happens if I win?

First prize trophies will be rewarded to the top 6 winners (1 for each category) in each age bracket (K-2 and 3-5) Those student entries will progress to the Mecklenburg level for a higher level of competition. Second Prize trophies will be rewarded to 9 more students in a variety of categories for each age bracket (k-2 and 3-5) and those student entries will also progress to the Mecklenburg level competition. Parker can progress up to 15 entries in K-2 and up to 15 entries in 3- 5. Honorable mention winners that are identified by the judges will receive honorable mention ribbons. Pictures of winning students will be in the yearbook. We will announce the winners for Parker in the Sunday newsletter and on the Parker Facebook page!

Who judges the six different categories?

Judges are selected by the PAC PTA reflections committee and are selected based on their expertise in their category. All our judges are from our local Charlotte community and serve in roles that have no current Parker students who take lessons from them competing. Entries are

carried to their place of work for judging and collected when they have made their selections. Under NO conditions may families or students contact the judges to dispute the status of an entry. In the past, we have enjoyed judges from other CMS schools, Music studios, Dance studios, large corporations, art galleries, etc.

Can I submit a project that I made for another assignment, show, or competition?

No, Reflections projects must be made exclusively for this competition. This is thematic art and therefore requires the student to think about the theme, be inspired, and create art that expresses what comes in their mind when they think of the theme. In case of any discrepancy, at the school level, the student will be interviewed by the PTA reflections committee in presence of other responsible school authorities.

Can I use last year's project?

Resubmission of previous Reflection projects is not allowed. Each project must be made with the current year's theme in mind.

What situations can lead to my entry being disqualified?

Occasionally, entries submitted to the program are ineligible. Common disqualifying factors include plagiarism, resubmission, entries that do not meet the rules for size for that category, entries that are submitted in the wrong electronic format, and entries that show the submission or artist statement is not entirely student's effort or was in part/fully assisted. Some good reminders include making sure that all film entries are entirely filmed by the child. No one else can touch the video camera. Also, entries must be the idea of a child and no one else can coach the idea or the actual art of the child. Parents must remember that all tutors, siblings, parents, coaches, music/dance/art teachers, etc. can have no part in the child's entry. This is a great opportunity for the child to express their thoughts on the theme and only child-driven, a child made artwork will progress. This is a great program for the students to have fun with thematic art.

Is the Title of Work and Artist Statement required?

Every Student Entry Form MUST have both a title and an artist statement. Failure to provide a title and/or artist statement will result in an entry NOT moving forward. Also, a well-written artist statement can elevate a student's entry because it allows the judge to understand the students' process in creating the piece and interpreting the theme.

What is I do not have a parent signature on my entry form?

If the parent signature on the entry form is missing, then the PAC PTA reflections committee will contact the family to see if the signature was missing by mistake by the intention. If the family does not wish to sign the form for personal reasons, then the student would still be able to have their entry judged in the school competition and have equal opportunity to win at the school level. If the student without a signature should win on the top 30 spots that progress to the Mecklenburg PTA level of competition we would acknowledge the student with the other progressing students, but return the artwork to the student who cannot progress and fill in the competing spot with the next highest scored entry from judging.

How many categories can I make an entry for and is there a limit to the number of entries I submit?

Students can enter as many categories as they like, as many times as they want. There is no limit. However, we request that the students not compromise quality in their work to enter more submissions.

	Judging Rubric	
Interpretation of Theme	How closely the piece relates to the theme, based on the artwork itself and the artist statement	40 pts
Creativity	How creative and original the piece is in its conception of the theme and its presentation	30pts
Technique	The level of skill demonstrated in the basic principles/techniques of the arts area	30 pts

For More information

Visit- <http://pacpta.com/>

Email- ParkerReflections@gmail.com