

Advancing Reflections Entries to Nassau Region PTA – 2023-2024

Nassau Region Deadline: December 6, 2023 by 8:00pm

Please read the following carefully!

Nassau Region PTA is ONLY accepting electronic submissions, however, artists and/or Reflections chairs should save their physical artwork and Student Entry Forms until after Nassau Region selects its winners.

Each PTA may advance only TWO entries per division for each arts category!

Your PTA MUST:

Step 1 - Be a Unit in Good Standing:

- Bylaws up to date
- Membership Dues paid
- Insurance payment paid
- Tax Form Filed (unit must not be revoked)
- Officers entered on MemberHub

Step 2 - Register on the National PTA website at: [Register here](#)

Step 3 - Use the [Local Unit Participation Form](#) to summarize your data and then use that information to complete the Google Form [Here](#)

Step 4 - Make sure that all submissions meet the requirements (details in the FAQ below). Entries that do not meet these criteria will be rejected:

- File type and size for each type of artwork
- File name format- Student's **LastnameFirstnameUnitCodeCategoryDivision**.

Step 5 – Submit the Entries:

- For each individual entry, complete the Google Form version of the Nassau Region Student Entry Form: [Student Entry Form](#)
- Attach the entry and any supporting documentation to the Google Form and submit.
- You will receive an email receipt after you submit the entry.
- If you are unable to attach the artwork to the Google Form, you can submit the form without the attached file and email the artwork directly to ReflectionsCoordinator@nassaupta.org. Make sure to include all identifying information in the email, so it can be attached to the proper entry form.

Make sure to adhere to National PTA, New York State PTA, and Nassau Region PTA Reflections Rules to be eligible to advance! **Only entries that conform to the rules are eligible to advance!**

Frequently Asked Questions

Nassau Region Reflections Deadline: December 6, 2023 by 8:00pm

Here are some Frequently Asked Questions regarding the Nassau Region PTA Reflections Program. Please review the questions below. Most of your concerns or questions will be addressed.

- 1. Will Nassau Region be accepting physical and/or digital submissions?** Nassau Region will **ONLY** be accepting electronic/digital submissions.
- 2. When can we submit the entries?** You can begin submitting your entries when you receive this document. **All submissions MUST be received by December 6, 2023 at 8:00 pm.**
- 3. How do we collect Student Information and Entries during our current climate?** National, NYS and Nassau Region PTA are accepting electronic entries from all units. Artwork is submitted and reviewed electronically. Typed signatures on the Student Entry Form will be accepted at all levels.
- 4. How will entries be submitted?** A link to the Nassau Region PTA Google Form will be emailed to Presidents & Reflections Contacts and posted on the Nassau Region website at [Reflections – Nassau Region PTA](#). For EACH student entry you are advancing, complete the Google Form and attach the artwork files. If you have trouble attaching the artwork, submit the form without it and THEN email the artwork file to ReflectionsCoordinator@nassupta.org. Please make sure to indicate you submitted the Form without attaching the artwork. Each PTA must also complete the Local Unit Participation Google Form
- 5. What if our unit accepted physical entries?** It is up to the Unit Reflections Chair to decide whether to get the digital version from the student or to create it themselves. Some categories are already submitted in digital form i.e., Music Composition, Film Production and Dance Choreography. If you run into technology problems, email reflectionsmanager@nassupta.org.
- 6. What should be done with the physical artwork?** The original artwork should be saved either by the unit or the student. At some point Nassau Region, NYS PTA or National PTA may request it.
- 7. How should the artwork files be named?** All electronic files/artwork **MUST** be named in the following format:
Student's **LastnameFirstnameUnitCodeCategoryDivision**.
Example: **BeckShari10-123LiteratureIntermediate.pdf**
- 8. What are the requirements for each category?** Please review the Rules and Guidelines for each Category: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography and Visual Arts. They can be found on our Reflections webpage: [Reflections – Nassau Region PTA](#).
- 9. How will Nassau Region get the Student Entries to their judges?** We will create a Google Sheet with the student's Title of Work, Artist Statement and a link to the artwork in our Google Drive storage. The judging criteria and rubric remain the same.
- 10. Can two or more students create a piece together?** No. All Reflections entries must be the original work of one student only. However, other people may appear in the entry such as performing or acting.

11. **How do students turn in their film, dance, and music submissions?** Online entries will be submitted by uploading files to the online entry form. See the rules for each category for format details.

12. **Where are the entry forms on the website?** Everything you need can be found on the Nassau Region PTA Website [Reflections – Nassau Region PTA](#).

13. **Why does it take so long to get winning artwork back from state or national?** This will not be an issue this year since only electronic entries are being accepted. Because PTA is run mostly by volunteers, artwork is usually returned in a way that saves money and the time of the volunteers. Artwork that makes it all the way to the national level of competition could be kept for as long as 2 years. A select number of state winners are also kept and displayed for the school year following the competition.

14. **What are the different awards given in Reflections?** There are several awards to celebrate students at each level of the Reflection Campaign:

- National PTA issues three award levels: Outstanding Interpretation, Award of Excellence and Award of Merit.
- NYS PTA issues two award levels: Award of Excellence and Award of Merit.
- Nassau Region PTA recognizes students with three award levels: Region special awards, which are the overall region finalists in each art category, Award of Excellence and Award of Merit.
- Units can recognize their finalists with Award certificates special for their PTA.
- Units can recognize each participant with a certificate of participation.

15. **How else can we recognize our entrants?** Celebrating a remote program opens new opportunities to celebrate your amazing artists, and celebration events (even virtual ones!) give communities something fun to look forward to during these difficult times. Plan, promote and communicate with your school community about your celebration events early and often to get everyone excited. PTA encourages schools to hold an assembly or event of some sort that recognizes not only the students who receive awards, but all students who participate. If this is done and how it is handled is up to the school/council/region. Create and post celebratory videos and online exhibits on social media. Consider creating a PowerPoint presentation of the artwork. Host an in-person or virtual event to announce and award your winners and/or to celebrate your young artists.

Order or create certificates and awards as a keepsake. Consider sending medallions instead of trophies to curb the celebration budget. Use Shop PTA to buy and ship awards directly to winning students and participants. Also check out Nassau Region's store on MemberHub for pins and certificates. Host a socially distanced award pick-up day for participants. In winner communications, clearly outline safe pick up instructions to ensure health and avoid confusion. Ask students to send you photos and create a video compiling footage from winners holding or opening their awards, reading their artist statement, or reflecting on their creative process. These are suggestions if your school or district does not want to host an in-person reception or event.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Dec 6th at 8:00 pm ALL student entries due

Late-January Nassau Region PTA will announce Regional Winners

Mid-March NY State PTA releases State Winners

Late April/Early May Nassau Region PTA Awards Ceremony