

NATIONAL
PTA

REFLECTIONS
PROGRAM

PTA Reflections Program

NATIONAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

National Awards

The national PTA organization gives out 18 Awards of Excellence in each arts area—three for each grade division. Up to five Awards of Merit may be given in each grade division of each arts area.

Award of Excellence recipients receive a \$200 cash award and a silver-plated Reflections medallion. Award of Merit recipients receive a silver-plated Reflections medallion. Additional sponsor gifts may be given.

Outstanding Interpretation Awards

Six Outstanding Interpretation Award recipients—one from each arts area—are chosen from among all of the Award of Excellence recipients. The six Outstanding Interpretation Awards recognize the most creative interpretation of the theme in each of the arts areas, regardless of grade division.

The six Outstanding Interpretation Award recipients receive the following:

- An expense-paid trip for themselves and one adult to the PTA National Convention
- An \$800 arts education award from the national PTA organization
- A gold-plated Reflections medallion
- Additional sponsor-related awards

In addition:

- A \$200 arts education award from the national PTA organization to the student's local PTA

Notification to students

- All students whose entries reach the national level of judging will receive a letter of congratulations from the national PTA organization in June.
- Recipients of Awards of Excellence and the Awards of Merit will be notified in writing in May.
- Outstanding Interpretation Award recipients and their state arts chairs will be notified by telephone in April.

Return of artwork

- Entries that receive national awards will be featured in the Reflections Program Gallery on the PTA national website.
- The national PTA office will make every effort to return the photographs and visual artwork in January, following the completion of the gallery. However, the office does not return literature, musical composition, dance choreography, or film/video production entries.
- Contact your state PTA for its artwork return policy.

2008 Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Arts Enhancement Grant Program

Description of Program

A limited number of matching grants of up to \$1,000 are awarded each year to local PTAs for student-centered programs focused on arts education. Special consideration is given to programs that reach large numbers of students, especially students who are at risk. *At risk* is the term applied to children whose environmental, familial, and/or socioeconomic situation may affect their academic success or ability to learn.

The grant program complements PTA's long-standing commitment to quality arts education in public schools by providing funds to local PTAs to establish or enhance school arts programs in one or more arts areas: visual arts, photography, music (including dance), and literature (including theater). Local PTAs must submit complete applications and provide funds that match the amount they are requesting from the national PTA organization.

Program Objective

To enhance arts education for students in the classroom or other learning environments through activities; materials; introduction of new technologies, techniques, or methods; visiting artists; or programs.

Requirements

To be considered for a grant, interested applicants must submit the following:

- A completed application form
- Responses to the Selection Criteria listed on the application form
- A letter of commitment with the local PTA president's original signature stating the amount and source of matching funds from the local PTA

Restrictions

Grant money will be given to a local PTA for the management and implementation of a program such as a visiting artist program.

Grant money and matching funds *may not* be used for any overhead costs. *Overhead costs* refer to the cost of doing business (rental of space, teacher salaries, utilities, etc.). Funds may not be used for capital improvements, construction, or the purchase of permanent equipment. Funds *may* support the purchase of software.

Selection of Award Recipients

A panel of judges selected by and including one or more members of the PTA national board of directors will determine the grant recipients.

Timeline for Grant Application and Awards

Completed applications must be received by the national PTA office on or before **May 1, 2008**, for consideration. Grant recipients will be notified in early June, and grants will be distributed beginning in October 2008. All applicants will be notified of the status of their applications by the end of July 2008.

Mail all application materials to:

PTA Office of Programs and Public Policy
Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Arts Enhancement Grant Program
1400 L Street NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005

No faxed applications will be accepted.

Grant Application Form Instructions

The application form is designed so that text may be entered electronically or typed in using a typewriter.

To complete the form:

1. On a typewriter
 - a. Print it.
 - b. Fill it out using a typewriter.
 - c. Mail the completed form with the grant application narrative.
2. Electronically (on a computer)
 - a. Save the document to your hard drive and fill it out electronically by clicking on the gray cells to enter information. You will be able to enter information only in the gray cells. The cells will expand to accommodate the text.
 - b. Print out the completed form.
 - c. Mail the completed form with the grant application narrative.

Completed applications must be received at the PTA Office of Programs and Public Policy on or before **May 1, 2008**, for consideration.

2008 Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Arts Enhancement Grant Program

Application Checklist (for applicant's personal use)

Yes No

Local PTA in good standing

An application set, totaling up to six (6) pages, that includes

- A **one-page** letter of commitment of funds from the local PTA president, with the president's original signature
- A **one-page** completed application form:
 - Word processed or typed
 - Correct eight-digit local PTA ID number
 - Original signature of PTA president
 - Original signature of applicant
- A **four-page** (maximum) response to Selection Criteria questions:
 - Word processed or typed
 - In black ink and standard 12-point or larger computer font, or equivalent typewriter pitch
 - Double-spaced, single-sided pages
 - On white paper
 - 1-inch margin on all sides
 - Responses to questions numbered and in the order the questions appear on the application

Original application set and two copies (on white paper); each set paper clipped—no staples or binders

Shipped/mailed in time to ensure delivery to the PTA Office of Programs and Public Policy by the May 1, 2008, deadline



PTA Reflections Program Theme Search for 2009–2010

The national PTA organization is looking for a theme for its Reflections Program for 2009–2010. The student who submits the winning entry will receive \$100, and his or her theme will be presented at the 2008 PTA National Convention (June 21–23, in San Diego, California). Use this form to submit theme ideas. Only signed original forms will be considered. **Please submit entries to your state PTA office.**

State deadline for theme submissions: November 8, 2007

Local PTA/PTSA _____

PTA/PTSA president _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____ Daytime phone () _____

E-mail address _____ Eight-digit PTA ID 00 _____

Student's name _____ Grade _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____ Daytime phone () _____

E-mail address _____ School name _____

Theme idea _____

Parent/guardian's signature _____