

ACCESSIBLE ARTS

The ACCESSIBLE ARTS division is an option for students who identify as having a disability and may receive services under IDEA or ADA: Section 504. This division welcomes students of all ages and offers division-specific accommodations to ensure that every student has the chance to participate fully in the Reflections Program.

How to Enter & Reminders

To participate, connect with your PTA/PTSA and/or state PTA to verify the Accessible Arts Division is available. Once confirmed, students may select this option by checking the “Accessible Arts” box in the Grade Division section on the Student Submission Entry Form. If students are selecting to participate in the Accessible Arts division, **NO OTHER GRADE DIVISION SHOULD BE SELECTED.**

Division Participation Overview:

- By participating in the division, students will:
 - Compete against other students in the Accessible Arts Division and be awarded as part of the division.
 - Follow the general rules and arts category guidelines specific to their submissions, modified only by non-artistic accommodations for individuals with disabilities and division-specific accommodations.
 - When relevant, compete against other students based on the selected grade-level division.
- Additional Participation Options
 - Students with disabilities that do not wish to enter the Accessible Arts Division may compete and be awarded in their relevant grade-level division (based on school grade). Students may receive only non-artistic accommodations.



Reminders:

- **Division eligibility:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines an individual with a disability as a person who: (1) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of that person; (2) has a record of such an impairment; or (3) is regarded as having such impairment.
- **Accessible Arts Division Grade Level:** For each Arts Category, students participating in the Accessible Arts Division will compete against all other Accessible Arts Student entries. The Accessible Arts Division encompasses all grade levels (Pre-K - Grade 12). Students will only be awarded in one division on the national level.

Understanding Accommodations

Accommodations are adjustments or supports provided to students with disabilities to ensure they can fully participate in Reflections. Work with your PTA/PTSA and/or state PTA directly to discuss specific needs and explore what is specifically available through your PTA community.

Any accommodation should be both specific and limited to the student's disability and should not impact the artistic process. The following provides a non-exhaustive list of allowable accommodations.

Accepted Non-Artistic Accommodations:

- *Use of adaptive technology or assistive devices are allowed.*
- While the artist directs the process, assistants (a parent, teacher, other adult) may help with executing the artist's vision with typing, transcribing, etc.

Accepted Division-Specific Accommodations:

- Students may use the "Artist Statement" field to provide additional details about how a student's disability and/or support needs impacted their entry.
- As necessary, students may select the grade-level division most closely aligned to their support needs. *Contact your local PTA and/or state PTA for additional details.*

Any accommodations with assistants to student artists involving themselves in the actual artistic process or act without direction from the artist is prohibited. The following provides a non-exhaustive list of assistance that is not accepted:

Non-Accepted Accommodations:

- Personally selecting a title for artwork and/or writing, and editing and/or interpreting a student's artist statement.
- Drafting/editing language for literature or film; creating/editing footage or music.
- Composing music, writing lyrics, combining sounds; choreographing dance moves.
- Creating/editing visual arts; selecting subjects, edits, and camera angles for photos.