



National PTA Reflections Program Dance Choreography

Students must adhere to the General Student Participation Rules as well as the following Dance Choreography Rules.

Description

A dance choreography entry must be an original choreographed dance recorded on a DVD. The choreography must be the work of one student and must demonstrate creativity and interpretation of the current Reflections Program theme. The choreographer may be the performer or one of the performers, but does not have to be. Costumes are not necessary. If costumes are used, however, the choreographer must also create the costumes or directly note that the costumes are not his or her original work.

Whether an entry uses a variety of techniques or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme. Therefore, it is very important that the student show a clear relation of the dance choreography to the theme. The connection should be made evident through the use of song, props, and the dance itself.

Traditional Dance

The modification of the steps and the interpretation of the dance are considered when judging a traditional dance for creativity and/or originality. An explanation of the origin of the dance and/or the significance of the choreography might be a useful addition to the artist statement when submitting a dance choreography entry that involves traditional cultural or regional dances.

Presentation

- Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- The choreography should directly relate to the theme.
- Submit a DVD of a performance of the choreography.
- The choreographer is not required to be the (or one of the) performer(s).

Recommendations for Quality Recordings

- Use a tripod to hold the camera still.
- Make sure there is plenty of lighting, especially if shooting indoors.
- Turn off all noise-making devices in the room (air conditioners, fans, telephones, etc.).
- Make sure the background music (if any) is audible on the recording.

Format

- Save the entry as a .flv file.
- The recorded performance should be saved as a file on the DVD, not as a DVD movie.
- Name the file in **lower case** letters *exactly* in this order:

state abbreviation.arts category.grade level.student last name.student first name.flv

Example: md.dance.mid.smith.mary.flv

Grade levels should be indicated only as pri, int, mid, sen.

- Submit the DVD in a plastic or cardboard container; identify both the DVD and the container **with the file name, as indicated above.**

Labeling Your Documents and Files

Submissions that win at local levels will be forwarded to the next level of adjudication. Final judging of winning entries occurs at the national level where all entries are received in an electronic format using the file names outlined below. It is therefore very important to follow these instructions exactly when labeling files and forms.

Labeling Your Documents and Files, continued:

- Label the bottom of each page submitted in hard copy with the appropriate file name as indicated.
- Place all file names in the **bottom right corner of each page**, so that identifying information can be easily concealed if needed.
- Do not write or type anything on the back of any page of paper.

Student Entry Form

- Please complete all information on the Student Entry Form.
- Label the form in the bottom right hand corner as follows:

state abbreviation.arts category.grade level.entry.student last name.student first name.pdf

For example: md.dance.mid.entry.smith.mary.pdf

- Any **background music** used in a Dance entry must be credited and documented on the Student Entry Form, by indicating **the title of the music, its composer and its performer/s**. If the entry's connection to the theme is expressed in the song choice, this should be explained in the artist statement.
- The required **Title** and required **Artist Statement** should be included. If the required Artist Statement is too long to fit on the form, please write "See Attachment" on the form. Then submit the Artist Statement in its entirety on a separate piece of paper. Label the artist statement as follows:

state abbreviation.arts category. grade level.statement.student last name.student first name.doc

Example: md.dance.mid.statement.smith.mary.pdf

Consent Form

Completed and signed Consent Forms must be included for all individuals whose recognizable images or voices appear in a Reflections entry. Individuals over the age of eighteen may sign their own Consent Form. A parent or legal guardian must sign for individuals under the age of eighteen.

- Label each Consent Form in the bottom right hand corner as follows:

state abbreviation.arts category.grade level.consent.student last name.student first name.pdf

Example: md.dance.mid.consent.smith.mary.pdf

Packing

- Pack the DVD, Student Entry Form, Artist Statement, and Consent Form(s) in a large manila envelope that opens and closes with a clasp. Do not glue the envelope shut, as it needs to be able to be opened and closed through various stages of judging. The envelope should be at least 8.5 x 11 inches, as the forms inside should not be folded.



Label the outside of the clasp side of the envelope as follows:

**state abbreviation.arts category.grade level.student last
name.student first name**

Example: md.dance.mid.smith.mary