Student Eligibility:
Students must participate in the National PTA Reflections® Program through a local PTA/PTSA in good standing. Parent groups not affiliated with National PTA are not eligible to sponsor this program. It is the responsibility of the state and local PTA/PTSA to determine each student’s eligibility in the National PTA Reflections® Program. A student may develop an entry in or outside of school.

Grade Divisions:
Students may enter the National PTA Reflections® Program in the appropriate division for their grade. The divisions are as follows:

- **Primary:** preschool – grade 2
- **Intermediate:** grades 3 – 5
- **Middle School:** grades 6 – 8
- **High School:** grades 9 – 12
- **Special Artist:** ungraded

Student Entry Process:
Students enter the National PTA Reflections® Program at local levels. Program dates, deadlines, and local procedures are determined at State and Local levels. Students are advised to check with local programs for information specific to local procedures and program deadlines.

Upon completion of the local program, students whose winning entries are selected to move to the next level of the National PTA Reflections competition will complete an online entry process that will include an upload of their artwork.

**National PTA Reflections® Theme: “The Magic of a Moment”**
The theme for the 2012 – 2013 National PTA Reflections® Program “The Magic of a Moment.” Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.

All entries must contain a Title.

All entries must include an Artist Statement. The artist statement communicates what inspired the work and how it relates to the theme, and also describes the content of the work. The statement must include at least one sentence, but may not exceed 100 words.

Originality:
Each entry must be the original work of one student only. An adult may not alter the creative integrity of a student’s work. Because the program is designed to encourage and recognize each student’s individual creativity, help from an adult or collaboration with other students is not allowed.

Plagiarism is defined as taking and using another person’s ideas, writings, or inventions as one’s own. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and returned to the student. Music Composition entrants may not borrow from copyrighted material.

**Music Composition Description**
Music composition entries may include works for voice, instrument/s, or a combination of voice and instrument/s. Compositions may not exceed five minutes. Music and lyrics (if included) must relate to the current National PTA
Reflections® Program theme.

The recording submitted may capture a performance in real-time or may make use of a sound library generated performance of a score composed in its entirety by the student participant. Live performances may include performance by the composer, but this is not required.

The use of composition software is permitted. The entry may not include commercially pre-programmed imported MIDI or other source files, or use algorithmic composition software. Whether the score is handwritten or computer-generated, appropriate instrumentation and voicing are required.

**Score Requirements**

Score requirements are determined by grade division. Where required and when submitted voluntarily, a score must be created solely by the student.

- **Primary, Intermediate, and Special Artist Divisions:** A score is not required. A score or iconic notation may be submitted. Iconic notation is “made-up” notation.
- **Middle School and High School Divisions:** Notation, either traditional or tablature, is required.
- **Score:**
  - Score pages should be numbered and no larger than 8.5 inches by 11 inches.
  - Do not mount or bind the scores.

**Presentation:**

- Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- The music composition should directly relate to the theme.
- Submit a CD of a performance of the composition.

**Recommendations for Quality Recordings:**

- Do not place the recording device on top of an instrument or speakers.
- Turn off all noise-making devices in the room (air conditioners, fans, telephones, etc.).
- Record a short test and listen to it. If needed, improve recording quality by changing the recording volume or microphone location.
- Make sure the music is audible on the recording.
- Record two seconds of silence; then start performing your composition. Finish with another two seconds of silence.

**Format:**

Students whose music composition entries are selected to move past the local level of the National PTA Reflections® competition will complete an Online Student Entry process that will include uploading an audio recording of their composition and uploading a score, if required by grade division or included by choice, as well as lyrics (for vocal compositions).

At the national level, the following formats are acceptable:

- **Audio Recording of Music Performance:** MP3, MP4, WMA, WAV
- **Music Scores and Lyrics (if included):** PDF
- **Lyrics (without music score included):** PDF, DOC, DOCX
Online Student Entry:

Only those students whose entries are selected to move past the local level of the National PTA Reflections® competition will complete an Online Student Entry process that will include uploading their entries.

Browser Recommendations:

The National PTA Reflections website can be accessed using any of the following browsers:

- Chrome 12 and greater,
- Firefox 3 and greater,
- Safari 4 and greater,
- Internet Explorer 6 and greater.

Judging:

All national entries are judged on Interpretation of the National PTA Reflections® Theme, Artistic Merit, Creative Merit, and Technical Merit. The National PTA Reflections® Program makes no restrictions on content or subject matter in artwork. Each PTA/PTSA determines its own judges for the program. Under no condition may parents or students contact the judges to dispute the status of any entry. All decisions of judges are final.