



Houston ISD Council of PTAs

September 2009 Newsletter

HISD Council of PTAs announces national competition opportunity for our kids: **‘Reflections’ national arts competition open to kids Pre-K through grade 12**

Your HISD Council of PTAs is excited to invite our area students to enter the National PTA “Reflections” Contest, competition that allows students who attend schools with member PTAs in good standing to compete on a national level in 6 arts categories in 4 different age groups.

The competition areas are: Dance & Choreography; Film Production; Photography; Music Composition; Visual Arts; and Literature.

The age groups are: Primary (pre-K to grade 2); Intermediate (grades 3 to 5); Middle/Junior (grades 6 to 8); and Senior (grades 9 to 12).

The national PTA does *not* limit the number of entries a student may submit, but the entries must be the completely original work of one student only.

Further restrictions: An adult may *not* alter the creative integrity of the entering student’s work. As 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.

Other individuals may appear in or perform a student’s work, *but the work itself must be the creative product of one student only*. Use of copyrighted material other than recorded music in dance choreography and film production is prohibited. Photography; and the Visual Arts.

Here’s how you enter:

Applications can be downloaded from the Reflections website:

<http://www.txpta.org/programs/reflections>

Each local PTA/PTSA may set its own on-site deadlines in adherence with state, district/region and area council deadlines.

Entries are judged at the local, on-site level, with those winners then forwarded to the next levels of judging.

Feel free to direct any questions on these matters to Council Reflections Chairman, Jackie Fontenot at jackiepta@sbcglobal.net or consult the state Reflections website noted above.

Put those creative thinking caps on, kids, and get cracking on your entries for this year’s “Reflections” competition!

The theme for this year’s entries:

Beauty is...

And there’s yet another contest: The National PTA is looking for a theme for its 2011-2012 Reflections Program. Check for forms and details at http://www.txpta.org/documents/Programs/Final_09-10_Reflections_Theme_Search_Submissions_Form.pdf. The student who submits the winning entry will receive \$100. Consult the website for past themes; repeat themes will not be considered.

Submit entries on signed original forms by mail to State PTA Office, 408 W. 11th St., Austin, Tx, 78701. For questions, call 1-800-TALK PTA or email: programs@txpta.org. **deadline for entries: November 4, 2009.**

What do you know about the goals and interests of the students on your campuses? Not just *your* goals for them -- *their* goals and interests? Let us hear about your campus’ *listening* strategies. It could be helpful to us all.