



National PTA® Reflections

Literature Rules



LITERATURE is the art of writing. The **author** (student submitting entry) is a person who expresses their own thoughts and ideas through the use of words. Authors submit a single literary work, handwritten or typed, using grade-appropriate grammar, punctuation and spelling. Collections of literary work (such as poems and short stories) are not accepted.

2016-2017 Theme: *What Is Your Story?*

Consider the following literary styles to portray your original work of fiction or nonfiction: Prose, poetry, drama (screen play and play script), reflective essay, narrative, or short story.

Originality: Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted. Each entry must be the work of one student only.

An explanation of the storyline and/or the significance of the literature style might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays formal writing technique or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity. Spoken word audio recordings and illustrated entries including books with pictures drawn by the student author are acceptable; however, only literary content is judged.

Copyright: Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified.

Presentation: Entry may be hand written or typed. Writing must not exceed 2,000 words.

Acceptable Use of Type, Dictation and Translation

- Be typed by another person as long as the original work or a copy of the original work is attached.
- Be dictated to another person and printed or typed in exact words as spoken by the student if the student is in pre-school, kindergarten or 1st grade. (Transcribers should make every attempt to retain the same level of language and accuracy that is reflected in the student's original work).
- Students for whom English is not their first language may submit literature entries in their own language. **An interpretive translation in English must accompany the entry.** Translators should make every attempt to retain the same level of language and accuracy that is reflected in the student's original work.

Packaging:

- Print Format: Number each page. Print on 8.5x11 paper (one sided only).
- Electronic Format: Save/scan word document as a single PDF. Label file with your Unit, Arts Category, Grade Division, Last Name, First Name (*Example: TURNEY PTSA.DANCE.PRI.SMITH.JOHN*)
- Label Cover Page/CD/USB Drive with your Unit, Arts Category, Grade Division, Last Name, First Name. Submit literature and student entry form according to your PTA's instructions.

State Specific Instructions: Students must follow state specific requirements and instructions.

Missouri students will submit their entries to their local PTA/PTSA for consideration by the unit's specified deadline. **Missouri PTA units** may select up to three entries in each age division of this art category for consideration at the state level. Entries selected to advance to the state round must be submitted by the local unit to Missouri PTA utilizing the **online submission process**.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.