

Dance Choreography

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY is the act of creating movement. The **choreographer** (student submitting the entry) is a person who expresses their original thoughts and ideas through the use of scripted movement. The choreographer (student submitting entry) may be the performer or one of the performers, but the choreographer does not have to perform in the entry.

To portray your original choreography, consider the following styles and ensembles: ballet, contemporary, hip hop, jazz, tap, folk dance, religious dance, dance ensembles (color guard/indoor guard), ice skating/dancing and gymnastics-floor routine.

Whether an entry displays formal dance technique or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses their artistic vision to portray the theme, originality and creativity. **Consider use of choreographic style and techniques, background song(s), props and the location to show a clear relation of the dance choreography to the theme.**

Copyright: Use of copyrighted material is prohibited. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified. If background music is used in dance choreography entries, it must be cited on the entry form (title, composer and performer).

Suggestions for Audio/Visual Quality:

- 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.).
- Record a short test and listen to it. If needed, change the record volume or microphone location.
- Make sure the background music (if any) is audible on the recording.
- Allow for two seconds of silence at the beginning and end of your recording.

Submission Requirements:

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Entries with added graphics in the video are not accepted.
- Cite background music (if any) on the student entry form.
- Video must not exceed 5 minutes in length and 1,000 MB (1,000 megabyte) in file size.
- Accepted file formats are: .mp4, .mov, or .avi.
- Submit artwork and student entry form according to your local, council, and state guidelines.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation

Film Production

FILM PRODUCTION is the process of making a film. The **producer** (the student submitting the entry) is a person who expresses their original thoughts and ideas through the use of images that change over time. The producer is not required to appear in the film but if the student chooses to appear, a camera tripod may be used. All screenwriting, directing and editing must be done by the student producer. All entries must be original student footage. *PowerPoint presentations are prohibited.*

Consider the following styles to portray your original work of fiction or nonfiction:

- Animation: Demonstrates motion by sequencing still objects or using computer-generated graphics.
- Narrative: Tells a fictional story developed by the student.
- Documentary: Presents facts and information.
- Experimental: Explores movement, light and montage.
- Multimedia: Uses a combination of different contents (text, audio, still images, animation, etc.).

An explanation of the storyline and/or the significance of the film style might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays use of technologies 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. Digital technology and/or software can be used to develop, enhance, and/or present an entry but may not provide the primary design and/or concept. Entrants must use the “Additional Details” field to *provide a brief description of the tools and methods used* in the creation process, including any generative elements. **Consider plot and characters, visuals (setting, costumes, animation), sound and background music, editing, etc. to show a clear relation to the theme.**

Copyright. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified. Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted cartoon characters, material downloaded from the internet, copyrighted recorded music, or copyrighted photographs or stock images, is not acceptable, except for the following:

- If background music is used in film production entries, it must be cited on the entry form (title, composer and performer).
- Entries may include public places, well-known products, trademarks, or certain other copyrighted material if that copyrighted material is incidental to the subject matter of the piece and/or is a smaller element of a whole. The resulting work cannot try to establish an association between the student and the trademark/business/material or influence the purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.
- Entries may include portions of existing copyrighted works, such as photographs, magazine or digital media clippings, and/or type cut out of a newspaper, if those portions of copyrighted works are used to create a completely new and different work of art.

Suggestions for Audio/Visual Quality:

- 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.)
- Record a short test and listen to it. If needed, change the record volume or microphone location.
- Make sure the background music (if any) is audible on the recording.
- Allow for two seconds of silence at the beginning and end of your recording.

Submission Requirements

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Cite background music (if any) on the student entry form.
- Video must not exceed 5 minutes in length and 1,000 MB(1,000 megabyte) in file size.
- Accepted file formats are: .mp4, .mov, or .avi.
- Submit artwork and student entry form according to your local, council, and state guidelines.

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Literature

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.

Consider the following literary styles to portray your original work of fiction or nonfiction: prose, poetry, drama, reflective essay, narrative, and short story. Collections of literary work (such as poems and short stories) are not accepted.

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. **Consider plot and characterization, setting and imagery, style, symbolism, etc. to show a clear relation to the theme.**

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

The following uses of dictation, transcription, illustration, and translation are acceptable:

- Entries may be typed by another person if the original work or a copy of the original work is attached.
- If the student artist is unable, entries may be dictated to another person and printed or typed in exact words as provided by the student.
- Students for whom English is not their first language may submit entries in their own language. **An interpretive translation in English must accompany the entry.**
- Translators/Transcribers should make every attempt to retain the same level of language and accuracy that is reflected in the student's original work.
- Illustrated entries, including books, with pictures drawn by the student author are acceptable; however, only literary content is judged.

Submission Requirements:

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Entry must not exceed 2,000 words.
- Handwritten & typed entries are accepted on 8.5x11 paper (one sided only). Number each page and include student name, entry title, arts category, and division on back of entry.
- Digital submissions must be a PDF file.
- Submit artwork and student entry form according to your local, council, and state guidelines.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.

Music Composition

MUSIC COMPOSITION is the process of creating a new piece of music. The **composer** (student submitting entry) is a person who expresses their own thoughts and ideas through the use of sound. The student composer may submit an entry performed by an individual or group and/or make use of a sound library generated performance of a composed score. Student composers are not required to perform their composition, but a recording of the composition must be included.

Consider the following musical styles and instruments to portray your original composition: a cappella, blues, choral, country, electronic, hip hop, jazz, latin, musical, orchestral, pop, r&b, religious, rock, symphonic/concert band, and traditional.

An explanation of the origin of the music and/or the significance of the music style might be a useful addition to the artist statement when submitting a music composition that involves traditional, cultural or regional instruments. Whether an entry displays formal composition 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. **Consider structure, melody, rhythm, instruments, lyrics, emotion, etc. to show a clear relation to the theme.**

All instruments, sounds, styles, and combinations are accepted. Software may be used to produce an audio recording. Entries containing algorithmic composition techniques are not accepted. Digital technology and/or software can be used to develop, enhance and/or present an entry but may not provide the primary design and/or concept. Entrants must use the “Additional Details” field to *provide a brief description of the tools and methods used*, including any generative elements.

Audio recording (required for all entries):

- Student composers are not required to perform their composition and may submit an entry performed by an individual, group and/or make use of a sound library generated performance of a composed score.
- Software may be used to produce an audio recording. *Entries containing algorithmic composition techniques are not accepted.*

Music score/notation (required for middle and high school grade divisions only):

- Middle and high school grade divisions must include music score/notation, either traditional or tablature, or a written reflective statement (100 words or less).
- If submitting a reflective statement, *it does not replace the required entry artist statement.* The reflective statement must be distinct from the artist statement and must provide a technical musical explanation of how the music was created. Whereas the artist statement emphasizes the Reflections theme, *a reflective statement emphasizes the musical elements in the creative process.*
- Notation software may be used to create a score. Whether the score is hand-written or software-generated, appropriate instrumentation and voicing are required for the performance.

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

Suggestions for Audio Quality:

- Do not place the recording device on top of an instrument(s) 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, change the record volume or microphone location.
- Make sure the music is audible on the recording.
- Allow for two seconds of silence at the beginning and end of your recording.

Submission Requirements:

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Notation is required in addition to the artist statement for the middle and high school divisions. Notation provided digitally must be PDF.
- Audio recording must not exceed 5 minutes in length and 1,000 MB (1,000 megabyte) in file size.
- Accepted audio file formats are: .mp3, or .wav.
- Submit artwork and student entry form according to your local, council, and state guidelines.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation

Photography

PHOTOGRAPHY is the process of creating an image. The **photographer** (student submitting entry) is a person who captures their own thoughts and ideas with a camera. By focusing on objects using various lenses, filters, and light sources, photographers may demonstrate the use of photographic techniques conventionally or digitally.

Accepted forms of photography include: A single photo, panoramic, photomontage (one print of multiple original photos), multiple exposure, negative sandwich, or photogram. Original black-and-white and color images are accepted.

Non-accepted forms of photography include: Entries with added graphics over the image (including lettering), collages and collections of photos, original film (negatives or transparencies), and multidimensional pieces.

Consider use of objects, lighting and the location to show a clear relation of the photo to the theme. An explanation of the photography process/form might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays use of technologies 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.

Digital technology and/or software can be used to develop, enhance, and/or present an entry but may not provide the primary design and/or concept. Entrants must use the “Additional Details” field to *provide a brief description of the tools and methods used* in the creation process, including any generative elements.

Special note for Free State PTA entrants: Submissions may not be created using artificial intelligence software (such as ChatGPT, DALL-E, Midjourney, or other text-to-art software tools) to generate any part of the content or composition. Content generation, including composition and arrangement, must be the result of student exercise of skills and tools. This does not preclude the use of image painting and editing software such as Photoshop, GIMP, or similar software tools to filter, crop, rotate, or adjust brightness / contrast or color for photography entries. Retouching or compositing may result in photography submissions being re-categorized from Photography to Visual Arts.

Copyright. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified. Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted cartoon characters, material downloaded from the internet, copyrighted or copyrighted photographs or stock images, is not acceptable, except that entries may include public places, well-known products, trademarks or certain other copyrighted material as long as that copyrighted material is incidental to the subject matter of the piece and/or is a smaller element of a whole. The resulting work cannot try to establish an association between the student and the trademark/business/material or influence the purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.

Submission Requirements:

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- Prints must be no smaller than 3x5 and no larger than 8x10 inches. Include one digital image with your submission if possible.
- Prints must be mounted on sturdy material such as cardboard or poster board not to exceed 11x14 inches, including matting. Framed photos are not accepted.
- Digital images must be at least 640x960 (pixels), 300 dpi (resolution), and no more than 1,000 MB (1,000 megabyte) in file size.
- Accepted file formats: .jpeg, .jpg, and .png.
- Submit artwork and student entry form according to your local, council, and state guidelines.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.

Visual Arts

VISUAL ARTS include many art forms that are visual in nature. The **artist** (student submitting entry) is a person who captures their own thoughts and ideas to create a visual piece of art.

Accepted forms of visual art include: Architecture (2D/3D), carpentry, ceramics, collages, photographic collages (multiple photos cut/pasted), digital art and graphics (drawings/paintings/illustration), crafts, design, dioramas, drawing, fiberwork, jewelry, kites, metal etching/punch work, mobiles, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and wind chimes. Reproductions or enlargements of other artwork are not accepted.

An explanation of the art form might be a useful addition to the artist statement. Whether an entry displays use of formal 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. **Consider art form, use of color, texture, shape, proportion etc. to show a clear relation to the theme.**

Digital technology and/or software can be used to develop, enhance and/or present an entry but may not provide the primary design and/or concept. Entrants must use the “Additional Details” field to *provide a brief description of the tools and methods used* in the creation process, including any generative elements.

Special note for Free State PTA entrants: Submissions may not be created using artificial intelligence software (such as ChatGPT, DALL-E rotor, hotpot AI, deep AI, Craiyon, nightcafe, or other text-to-art software tools) to generate any part of the content or composition. Content generation, including composition and arrangement, must be the result of student exercise of skills and tools. This does not preclude the use of image painting and editing software such as photoshop, gimp, paint or similar software tools for Visual Arts entries.

Copyright. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified. Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted cartoon characters, material downloaded from the internet, or copyrighted photographs or stock images, is not acceptable, except that entries may include:

- Public places, well-known products, trademarks or certain other copyrighted material if that copyrighted material is incidental to the subject matter of the piece and/or is a smaller element of a whole. The resulting work cannot try to establish an association between the student and the trademark/business/material or influence the purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.
- Portions of existing copyrighted works, such as photographs, magazine or digital media clippings, and/or type cut out of a newspaper, if those portions of copyrighted works are used to create a completely new and different work of art.

Submission Requirements:

- Only new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme may be submitted.
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- 2D artwork (e.g. painting): Dimensions must not exceed 24x30 inches, including matting. Paper entries must be mounted on sturdy material. Include at least one (1) digital image of artwork with your submission.
- 3D artwork (e.g. sculpture): Must include packaging materials and at least three (3) photos of the entry at different angles for judging, ID, and exhibition purposes (entries that require assembly/repair from transporting will be disqualified).
- Digital images must be at least 640x960 (pixels), 300 dpi (resolution), and no more than 1,000 MB (1,000 megabyte) in file size.
- Accepted file formats: .jpeg, .jpg, and .png.
- Framed artwork and artwork containing loose materials is not accepted. Matting is accepted.
- Submit artwork and student entry form according to your local, council, and state guidelines.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation.