

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 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 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.