

Crafting a Reflections Artist Statement



In Reflections, **judges prioritize the artist's interpretation of the theme**, as expressed through their original artwork, title and artist statement. All entries must include an artist statement and title to advance to the national level. To showcase creativity and originality, artists should:

- **Create a standout title** that clearly connects to their personal interpretation of the theme.
- **Write an artist statement** that elaborates on their theme interpretation and details their creative process and decisions.

An artist statement should reflect the student's age and/or support needs. Any support provided by an adult (e.g., teacher, parent, guardian) should be minimal and should not alter the student's creative vision or process.

Artists can consider the following when developing a title and artist statement

- Why did you choose to create your piece in the specific arts category you selected?
- How does your work specifically relate to the theme?
- Explore metaphors or allusions in your artwork to highlight complex or critical parts of your work.
- What is your personal connection to the theme? What/who was your inspiration? How do these connections show up in your art?
- Explain the creative decisions you made so your work would be unique to you and your interpretation of the theme.
- What tools, materials and methods did you use to create your work (e.g., supplies, technology, instrumentation, props, etc.)? What made you choose those items?