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. Comic books, graphic novels, and collections of literary work (such as poems and short stories) are not accepted.

See Literature FAQ on next page for more information.

Consider the following literary styles to portray your original work of fiction or nonfiction: Prose, Poetry, Drama, Reflective essay, Narrative, Short story.

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 their artistic vision to portray the theme, originality, and creativity. Illustrated entries with pictures drawn by the student author are acceptable; however, only the words are judged.

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.
- 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. 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.

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

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.
- Any illustrations must be the original work of the student. They will not be judged.
- Photographs are not allowed in Literature entries.
- **Accepted file format is PDF.**

How to Submit:
- All entries must be submitted online at www.utahpta.org/ref. All judging will be conducted online.

All participants must also follow Official Rules for Participation
https://www.utahpta.org/reflections-rules-category-faqs

Literature
Frequently Asked Questions

Can I create a comic strip for Literature?
No.

Is there a category where I can submit a comic strip?
You may submit a comic strip in the 2D Visual Arts category.

Can I submit a comic book or graphic novel for Literature?
No.

Is there a category where I can submit a graphic novel or comic book?
Currently, there is not a Reflections category that accepts graphic novels or comic books.

What is the difference between a graphic novel or comic book and an illustrated Literature entry?
Graphic novel - a story that is presented in comic-strip format and published as a book.
Comic book- a magazine containing sequences of comic strips. In comic books and graphic novels, the art and words work together to tell a story.
Illustrated Literature entry - A work of prose, poetry, drama, reflective essay, narrative, or short story including illustrations created by the entrant. The written words are separate from the illustration and can stand alone without needing the illustrations to help tell the story. Illustration will not be judged.

Can I include photos or clip art illustrations in my Literature entry?
No. Literature entries may only include illustrations created by the student. Clip art images are not student created. Photographs are not illustrations.

Can I submit more than one story or poem as an entry?
No. Collections of stories or poems are not allowed. Choose your favorite one and submit that one.

I don't understand the rule about copyright. What does that mean?
Your Reflections literature entry needs to be original and come from your own mind. Don't focus your work on something another person created, such as Batman, Minecraft, My Little Pony, Harry Potter, or Disney. Material created by other people is protected by something called "copyright." They own the ideas. It's okay to briefly mention copyrighted material. A good way to know if it's okay is to ask yourself, "Can I replace or take this copyrighted material out of my story without it changing it very much?" If you could take it out and your entry is not significantly changed by doing that, you can probably keep it in. If taking out the copyrighted material changes your entry a lot, it is a copyright violation to use that material. When in doubt, leave it out.

Is AI art allowed? No. All entries must be the original work of one student only. We will not accept entries created by Artificial Intelligence programs.