



Diversity Means. . .”

2011-2012 **Florida PTA Reflections** | MUSICAL COMPOSITION RULES

Students must adhere to the General Student Participation Rules as well as the following Musical Composition Rules.

Description

A composition entry may be for voice, instruments, or a combination of voice and instruments. Lyrics may or may not be included in vocal compositions. The composition is not to exceed five minutes. The entry must relate to the current Reflections Program theme.

The use of composition software is permitted. The recording submitted may capture the performers in real time or may make use of a sound library generated performance of a score composed in its entirety by the student participant. The entry may not include commercially pre-programmed imported MIDI or other source files, or use algorithmic composition software.

Use of notation software for the purpose of creating scores and printed parts is permitted. Whether the score is handwritten or computer-generated, appropriate instrumentation and voicing are required for the performance. Notation/scores are only required for the Middle/Junior and Senior grade divisions.

Musical composition entrants are not to borrow from copyrighted material.

Whether an entry uses a variety of techniques or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme

Recommendations for Quality Recordings

- Do not place the recording device on top of an instrument 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, improve recording quality by changing the record volume or microphone location.
- Make sure the music is audible on the recording.
- Return to the beginning of the CD and record two seconds of silence; then start performing your composition. Finish with another two seconds of silence.

Format

- Save the entry as an **.mp3** file.
- The recorded performance should be saved on a CD, not as a CD/DVD movie.
- Name the file in **lower case** letters *exactly* in this order.

state abbreviation.arts category.grade level.student last name.student first name.mp3

Example: fl.music.sen.smith.mary.mp3

Grade levels should be indicated only as: pri, int, mid, sen

Musical Notation

Whether a student must submit musical notation is determined by his or her grade division:

- **Primary and Intermediate:** No notation is required. Iconic notation may be submitted. Iconic notation is “made-up” notation.
- **Middle/Junior and Senior:** Notation, either traditional or tablature is required.
- **Score:**
 - Score pages should be numbered and no larger than 8 ½ inches by 11 inches.
 - Do not mount or bind the scores.
 - **Number each page.**
 - Label each page of the score with the student name on the back.



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Students must adhere to the General Student Participation Rules as well as the following Musical Composition Rules.

Student Entry Form

- Please complete all information on the Student Entry Form.
- On the Student Entry Form please answer the following
 - Names of person(s) who performed your composition,
 - Did you use traditional or MIDI instrumentation.
 - If you used composition software, what software did you use?
- Include the required **Title** and required **Artist Statement** on the Student Entry Form. If the Artist Statement is too long to fit on the entry form, please write “See Attachment” on the form. Then submit the Artist Statement in it’s entirely on a separate piece of paper. Include student name on the attached Artist Statement.

Consent Form

Completed and signed consent forms must be included for all individuals whose recognizable images or voices appear in a Reflections entry. Individuals over the age of 18 may sign their own Consent Form. A parent or legal guardian must sign for individuals under the age of 18.

Presentation

- Entries may not exceed five minutes.
- Submit a CD recording of a performance of the composition.
- Students are not required to perform their own compositions.
- A student’s composed work may be performed by a group.
- Score size:
 - Entries should be no larger than 11 inches by 14 inches.
 - Band and orchestra compositions may be 11 inches by 16 inches.
 - Do not mount or bind the scores.

Packing

- Submit the CD in a plastic or cardboard container; identify both the CD and the container with the student’s name, grade division, state, and year.
- Pack the CD with the score (required for Middle/Junior and Senior only) in a large envelope, at least 8 ½ inches by 11 inches. Write the student’s name on the back of each page of the score in case pages become separated.
- Place the Student Entry Form in a clear sheet protector; then secure the sheet protector to the outside of the envelope with masking tape.
- Include the title and required artist statement on the Student Entry Form. If the entry has no title, please write “Untitled.”