REFLECTIONS

The Reflections Program is a National PTA arts recognition program that helps students explore their own thoughts, feelings and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence, and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful not only in school but in life. Students in pre-K through grade 12 create original works of art in response to a theme. Students submit their completed works in one, or all, of the available arts categories: Visual Arts, Photography, Literature, Music Composition, Dance Choreography, and Film Production. Local PTAs and councils set their own deadlines for submissions to determine winners submitted to the state-level by January 19, 2023. For more information, including this year’s theme and submission date to the state, go to https://www.wastatepta.org/events-programs/reflections/.

WSPTA GAME DEVELOPMENT COMPETITION

The WSPTA Game Development Competition is a STEM-based program. To expand student inclusion and opportunity, board games are also included. Students in grades 6-12 attending a school with a PTA in good standing may participate and share their knowledge of computer science based on an assigned theme. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for students, either individually or in teams of up to five members, to use their creative talents and express themselves by developing a computer game or board game. Students’ submissions are judged in the following areas: game of the year, arts and animation, game design, computer programming (code), and computer audio design. The submission deadline is typically March 1* each year. For more information, go to https://www.wastatepta.org/events-programs/game-competition/.

WSPTA ESSAY CONTEST

This statewide essay contest explores the important and varied influencers in the lives and education of children – from the children’s perspective. Every day children are exposed to a variety of people and each one has an opportunity to influence the path a child decides to take. Whether it is someone that sparks an interest in a new topic, helps them work through a problem, shapes the kind of person they want to become by modeling behavior, simply listens to them, or any number of other actions, this is the platform for students, attending a school with a PTA in good standing, to share their appreciation of the role model that the student knows personally. The application deadline is typically March 1* each year. For more information, including this year’s submission date, go to https://www.wastatepta.org/events-programs/pta-essaycontest/.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Washington State PTA offers four $2,500 scholarships to graduating seniors from Washington state public high schools with a PTA in good standing, who will be starting college (either 2-year or 4-year) in the fall. The scholarship may be used to offset the cost of tuition, books, supplies, room and/or board. The application deadline is typically March 1* each year. For more information, including this year’s submission date, go to https://www.wastatepta.org/events-programs/scholarship-program/.

*Check the WSPTA website to verify due date each year.