

2024-25 Reflections: Louisiana PTA Winners



Louisiana PTA sends its gratitude to every student and every PTA that supports the arts within their Local PTA Units with the Reflections Program. We love seeing so much creativity from students of all ages. There are three award levels: 1) **National PTA Entry** is the top award that only goes to one person per Art Category per Grade Division and they progress to the National PTA Reflections Contest; 2) **Award of Excellence**, and 3) **Award of Merit**. All students will receive an award and recognition from Louisiana PTA in late April or May when LAPTA travels to the PTAs to deliver the awards. The judging is done blind by professionals in each category. LAPTA deeply appreciates the time they took to review and judge every entry. Let's meet this year's judges!



The Dance Choreography judge was Ms. Cristen Quick. Her journey began as a young dancer and continued through junior high, high school, and college, where she competed on the national stage as a member of the LSU Tiger Girls and the University of Memphis Pom Dance Team. Following her competitive career, she then expanded her passion for dance into education and choreography, sharing her expertise with the next generation.

The Film Production judge was Ms. Jessica Montalvo. She is an educator at Salmen High School in Slidell, LA with over 15 years of experience in Visual Arts and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Digital Film Production from Grand Canyon University. Currently, Jessica serves as a Career Coach in secondary education, leveraging her expertise to support students in their academic and professional pursuits.





The Literature judge was Miss Laura Smith. She is in her 16th year of teaching English Language Arts to Gifted 7th and 8th graders at Madisonville Junior High and was awarded the Teacher of the Year of her school in 2020. Miss Smith is an ardent supporter of her students' writing and enjoys reading and traveling. Her passion in life is to see her students give their best efforts, grow, and be happy in and outside the classroom.

The Music Composition judge was Mr. Mel Rogers. Prior to retiring from STPSB in 2021, Mel Rogers taught Talented Music at Covington High. He has been a professional musician since the age of 14 and regularly performs in theater orchestras at the Saenger Theater, Jefferson Performing Arts, Tulane Summer Lyric, NOCCA, and other venues. He recently assembled a 30-piece orchestra to back up The Who when they performed at Jazz Fest.





The Photography judge was Mr. Chris Granger. He is an award-winning photojournalist based in New Orleans for the past 25+ years with his work appearing in many publications, magazines, and books. Granger was part of the team covering Hurricane Katrina's aftermath for The Times-Picayune | NOLA.com, resulting in two Pulitzer Prizes for the newspaper. His photography has earned top awards from the Associated Press Media Editors (APME) and the National Press Photographers Association (NPPA).

The Visual Arts judge was Mrs. Gretchen Armbruster. She opened her fine art school and studio in Covington where she teaches classes in all mediums, with a special focus on oils. She studied at LSU, the John McCrady School of Fine and Applied Arts, and the New Orleans Art Institute. She is known for her dramatic use of light and contrast of values in a painting with her original artwork found in many hospitals, businesses, and homes.



And the winners are....

Dance Choreography					
	National PTA Entr	ry (1 st Place)			
Student Name	Title of Work	Title of Work Local PTA Unit Name			
Sanjukta Reddy	Imperfectly Imperfect	Tchefuncte Middle School PTA	Intermediate (Gr 3 – 5)		
Avika Khandelwal	Stronger Through the Cracks	Caddo Middle Magnet PTSA	Middle (Gr 6 – 8)		
	Award of Exc	ellence			
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division		
Vianka Khandelwal	The Freedom of Imperfection	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA	Intermediate (Gr 3 – 5)		
Kinzley McNeese	The Struggle from Within	Bonne Ecole Elem PTA	Middle		
Edith Bovet	Embracing Limits	Gayle Sloan Middle School PTA	(Gr 6 – 8)		
	Award of Merit				
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division		
Ellie Curry	Wickedly Imperfect	Woodlake Elem PTA	Primary (Pre-K – Gr 2)		
Aria Raphael	ACCEPTING Myself	Woodlake Elem PTA	Intermediate (Gr 3 – 5)		

Film Production						
	National PTA Entr	ry (1 st Place)				
Student Name Title of Work Local PTA Unit Name Grade Divisi						
Grayson Bruce	Some of our greatest treasures we place in museums, others we take for walks	Solute Highlands Flem Magnet PIA				
	Award of Excellence					
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division			
Wilds Kacos	Not Every Game Is the Same	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA	Intermediate (Gr 3 – 5)			
	Award of N	1erit				
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division			
Sarah Kathryn Lewis	The Spelling Bee Queen	Fairfield Elementary Magnet PTA	Intermediate (Gr 3 – 5)			
Mia Bunton	Nature's Examples of Imperfections	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA				

	Literat	ure		
National PTA Entry (1 st Place)				
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division	
William Patton	Always Trying	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA	Primary (Pre-K – Gr 2)	
Sai Diya Iskapalli	The Imperfections of Nature	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA	Intermediate (Gr 3 – 5)	
Belle St. Amant	Finding Acceptance in Imperfection	Caddo Middle Magnet PTSA	Middle (Gr 6 – 8)	
Rachel Evans	The Scarlet B	Caddo Parish Magnet High PTSA	High (Gr 9 – 12)	
	Award of Exc	cellence		
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division	
Paxton Britt	Accepting My Imperfections	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA		
Nithya Katikaneni	The Broken Pot	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA	Primary (Pre-K – Gr 2)	
Luke McAllister	The Adventure Through Space Bonne Ecole Elem PTA			
Oliver Carpenter	Imperfection	Lake Harbor Middle School PTA		
Aanya Abro	Imperfect Harmony	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA		
Stella Bai	Facing Fears and Accepting Imperfections	Eden Gardens Fundamental Elem Magnet PTA		
Anja Lappinen	Accepting Imperfections	Lake Harbor Middle School PTA	Intermediate (Gr 3 – 5)	
Isaac Pounds	Imperfection	Gayle Sloan Middle School PTA		
Isla Brigitte Buisson	Doe's Decision	Gayle Sloan Middle School PTA		
Hallie Sciortino	Did You Know?	Woodlake Elem PTA		
Brett Elyse Rotolo	Gracie's Life Lesson	Tchefuncte Middle School PTA		
Charlize Lappinen	Charlize Lappinen Perfect in Many Ways Lake		Middle (Gr 6 – 8)	
Liam Lighthall	The Process	Tchefuncte Middle School PTA		
Samantha Chirart	To my Imperfect Love	To my Imperfect Love Caddo Parish Magnet High PTSA		
Levi Ezell	Homebound	Caddo Parish Magnet High PTSA	High (Gr 9 – 12)	
Savannah Ardoin	Girl in the Mirror C. E. Byrd High School PTSA			

Literature (Continued)				
	Award of I	Merit		
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division	
John Mayton Williams	Running Club	Fairfield Elem Magnet PTA	Primary (Pre-K – Gr 2)	
Camille Burt	The Little Vampire	Lake Harbor Middle School PTA		
Mollie Harrell	The Cats of Flower Boulevard	Lake Harbor Middle School PTA	Intermediate	
Odin Wetzel	Accepting Imperfection	Tchefuncte Middle School PTA		
Siri Malireddy	Mistakes	Mistakes Fairfield Elem Magnet PTA (G		
Nicolette Jones	The Golden Eyed Girl	Magnolia Trace Elem PTA	ace Elem PTA	
Taylor Colvin	Boville Soccer	Tchefuncte Middle School PTA		
Iris Bathels	Beautiful	Fontainebleau Junior High PTA	High PTA Middle	
Luke Swenson	A Take of 5 Cats	Lake Harbor Middle School PTA	(Gr 6 – 8)	
Reese Barnett	Accept You	C. E. Byrd High School PTSA (Gr 9 –		

Music Composition					
	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)				
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division		
Isabella Phan	Perfectly Imperfect	Magnolia Trace Elem PTA	Primary (Pre-K – Gr 2)		
Kadan Phan	Not perfect, but I'm Fine	Fontainebleau Junior High PTA	Middle (Gr 6 – 8)		
	Award of Exc	ellence			
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division		
Callie Glynn	Trying is the Fun Part	Woodlake Elem PTA	Primary (Pre-K – Gr 2)		
Award of Merit					
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division		
Veronica L. Knock	Accepting Imperfection	Bonne Ecole Elem PTA	Intermediate (Gr 3 – 5)		

	Photogra	aphy			
National PTA Entry (1 st Place)					
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division		
Gianni Lobre	The Brave Tree	Woodlake Elem PTA	Primary (Pre-K – Gr 2)		
Stella Dong	Perfection in the Imperfection	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA	Intermediate (Gr 3 – 5)		
Shaan Patel	My Hypochromia	Tchefuncte Middle School PTA	Middle (Gr 6 – 8)		
Maya Trutschl	Flawed Perfection	Caddo Parish Magnet High PTSA	High (9 – 12)		
	Award of Exc	ellence			
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division		
John Mayton Williams	Feel Good Flowers	Fairfield Elem Magnet PTA	Primary (Pre-K – Gr 2)		
Sanjukta Reddy	Beauty Beyond the Blur	Tchefuncte Middle School PTA	Intermediate		
Sarah Kathryn Lewis	Brace Face	Fairfield Elem Magnet PTA			
Wes Phares	Beauty Beneath the Bark	Tchefuncte Middle School PTA	(Gr 3 – 5)		
Rishi Katikaneni	Stony Nature	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA			
Sophie Abro	America – Imperfect Yet Ours	Caddo Middle Magnet PTSA	Middle (Gr 6 – 8)		
John Hunter	Lucky's Life Lessons	C. E. Byrd High School PTSA	High (Gr 9 – 12)		
	Award of N	Merit			
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division		
Thomas West	The Perfect Tree	Woodlake Elem PTA	Primary		
Kathleen Heck	Blue Flower Blanket	Fairfield Elem Magnet PTA	(Pre-K – Gr 2)		
Kiran Jaganmohan	Accepting Imperfection in Nature	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA	Ϋ́ΤΑ		
Duke LeBlanc	Practice Makes Perfect	Tchefuncte Middle School PTA	Intermediate (Gr 3 – 5)		
Everly Thibault	Imperfect Inspiring!	Magnolia Trace Elem PTA			
Nicholas Henderson	Missed Opportunity	C. E. Byrd High School PTSA	High (Gr 9 – 12)		

	Visual Arts				
	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)				
Student Name	Title of Work Local PTA Unit Name		Grade Division		
Myra Grace Singh	My Imperfections, My Identity	Eden Gardens Fundamental Elem Magnet PTA	Primary (Pre-K – Gr 2)		
Stella Dong	Finding Value in the Unusual	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA	Intermediate (Gr 3 – 5)		
Avika Khandelwal	Wrinkles and Roots: A Tapestry of Imperfection	Caddo Middle Magnet PTSA	Middle (Gr 6 – 8)		
Fahmieh Shalaby	It's Hard to be Perfect	Captain Shreve High School PTSA	High (Gr 9 – 12)		
	Award of Exc	ellence	_		
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division		
Amilyah Cardriche	Perfectly Imperfect	Woodlake Elem PTA	Primary		
Mariana Efferson	Tree Life	Woodlake Elem PTA	(Pre-K – Gr 2)		
Jillian Poynter	Beauty	Gayle Sloan Middle School PTA	Intermediate		
Aanya Abro	Imperfect Harmony	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA	(Gr 3 – 5)		
	Award of N	Merit			
Student Name	Title of Work	Local PTA Unit Name	Grade Division		
Leigh Israel	Artist	South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA	Primary		
Rebecca Bomfim	Butterfly Heart	Woodlake Elem PTA	(Pre-K – Gr 2)		
Audrey Curry	Perfection Isn't Everything	Gayle Sloan Middle School PTA			
Lawson Turner	The Tree Dude	Tchefuncte Middle School PTA	Intermediate (Gr 3 – 5)		
Lena Gardner	A Different Kind of Beauty	Magnolia Trace Elem PTA			
Garren Sudds	Accepting Imperfections	Captain Shreve High School PTSA	High (Gr 9 – 12)		

LAPTA 2024-25 Reflections Winners by PTA				
Local PTA Unit Name	Category	Student Name	Award	
	Dance	Kinzley McNeese	Award of Excellence	
Bonne Ecole Elem PTA	Literature	Luke McAllister	Award of Excellence	
	Music	Veronica L. Knock	Award of Merit	
	Literature	Savannah Ardoin	Award of Excellence	
	Literature	Reese Barnett	Award of Merit	
C. E. Byrd High School PTSA	Photography	John Hunter	Award of Excellence	
	Photography	Nicholas Henderson	Award of Merit	
	Dance	Avika Khandelwal	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Literature	Belle St. Amant	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
Caddo Middle Magnet PTSA	Photography	Sophie Abro	Award of Excellence	
-	Visual Arts	Avika Khandelwal	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Literature	Rachel Evans	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Literature	Samantha Chirart	Award of Excellence	
Caddo Parish Magnet High PTSA	Literature	Levi Ezell	Award of Excellence	
	Photography	Maya Trutschl	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Visual Arts	Fahmieh Shalaby	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
Captain Shreve High School PTSA	Visual Arts	Garren Sudds	Award of Merit	
	Literature	Stella Bai	Award of Excellence	
Eden Gardens Fund Elem Magn PTA	Visual Arts	Myra Grace Singh	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Film	Sarah Kathryn Lewis	Award of Merit	
	Literature	John Mayton Williams	Award of Merit	
	Literature	Siri Malireddy	Award of Merit	
Fairfield Elem Magnet PTA	Photography	John Mayton Williams	Award of Excellence	
	Photography	Sarah Kathryn Lewis	Award of Excellence	
	Photography	Kathleen Heck	Award of Merit	
	Literature	Iris Bathels	Award of Merit	
Fontainebleau Junior High PTA	Music	Kadan Phan	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Dance	Edith Bovet	Award of Excellence	
	Literature	Isaac Pounds	Award of Excellence	
Gayle Sloan Middle School PTA	Literature	Isla Brigitte Buisson	Award of Excellence	
	Visual Arts	Jillian Poynter	Award of Excellence	
	Visual Arts	Audrey Curry	Award of Merit	
	Literature	Oliver Carpenter	Award of Excellence	
	Literature	Anja Lappinen	Award of Excellence	
Lake Harbor Middle School PTA	Literature	Charlize Lappinen	Award of Excellence	
	Literature	Camille Burt	Award of Merit	
	Literature	Mollie Harrell	Award of Merit	
	Literature	Luke Swenson	Award of Merit	
	Literature	Nicolette Jones	Award of Merit	
Magnolia Trace Elem PTA	Music	Isabella Phan	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Photography	Everly Thibault	Award of Merit	
	Visual Arts	Lena Gardner	Award of Merit	

LAPTA 2024-25 Reflections Winners by PTA				
Local PTA Unit Name	Category	Student Name	Award	
	Dance	Vianka Khandelwal	Award of Excellence	
	Film	Grayson Bruce	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Film	Wilds Kacos	Award of Excellence	
	Film	Mia Bunton	Award of Merit	
	Literature	William Patton	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Literature	Sai Diya Iskapalli	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Literature	Paxton Britt	Award of Excellence	
South Highlands Elem Magnet PTA	Literature	Nithya Katikaneni	Award of Excellence	
	Literature	Aanya Abro	Award of Excellence	
	Photography	Stella Dong	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Photography	Rishi Katikaneni	Award of Excellence	
	Photography	Kiran Jaganmohan	Award of Merit	
	Visual Arts	Stella Dong	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Visual Arts	Aanya Abro	Award of Excellence	
	Visual Arts	Leigh Israel	Award of Merit	
	Dance	Sanjukta Reddy	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Literature	Brett Elyse Rotolo	Award of Excellence	
	Literature	Liam Lighthall	Award of Excellence	
	Literature	Odin Wetzel	Award of Merit	
Tchefuncte Middle School PTA	Literature	Taylor Colvin	Award of Merit	
T CHEIUNCLE MIQULE SCHOOL PTA	Photography	Shaan Patel	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Photography	Sanjukta Reddy	Award of Excellence	
	Photography	Wes Phares	Award of Excellence	
	Photography	Duke LeBlanc	Award of Merit	
	Visual Arts	Lawson Turner	Award of Merit	
	Dance	Ellie Curry	Award of Merit	
	Dance	Aria Raphael	Award of Merit	
	Literature	Hallie Sciortino	Award of Excellence	
	Music	Callie Glynn	Award of Excellence	
Woodlake Elem PTA	Photography	Gianni Lobre	National PTA Entry (1 st Place)	
	Photography	Thomas West	Award of Merit	
	Visual Arts	Amilyah Cardriche	Award of Excellence	
	Visual Arts	Mariana Efferson	Award of Excellence	
	Visual Arts	Rebecca Bomfim	Award of Merit	