

News Release/For Immediate Release

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Vestal Hills Elementary and Vestal Middle School students advance to NYS PTA Reflections Adjudication

All eight students who submitted artwork to the regional PTA Reflections contest will be moving up to the New York State level. Congratulations to Vestal Hills Elementary students James Cannon (first grade), Grace Donahue (fourth grade), Madeline Fosco (fifth grade), Katherine Lu (fifth grade), Noah McElligott (fourth grade), and Harrison Weston (fourth grade). Also qualifying for the NYS PTA Reflections contest are Vestal Middle School seventh-graders Kevin Gopalan and Nevin Gopalan.

James Cannon was recognized in the category of Primary Visual Arts. Grace Donahue and Noah McElligott won in the category of Intermediate Literature. Madeline Fosco's photograph moves up in the category of Intermediate Photography. Kevin Gopalan was recognized in the category of Middle School Literature, and Nevin Gopalan in Middle School Music Composition. Finally, Katherine Lu and Harrison Weston both won in the category of Intermediate Visual Arts.

In 2022, Noah McElligott was the first Vestal Hills Elementary student to move up to the National competition, and Madeline Fosco was the first to win at the national level in 2023 with an Award of Excellence in Photography.

The PTA Reflections program provides opportunities, recognition, and access to the arts, which boost student confidence and success in the arts and in life. This year's Reflections theme was "I am Hopeful because...," and categories included Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, and Visual Arts.