

**Texas PTA Reflections Overall Award of Excellence  
 Entries Advancing to National-Level Judging  
 2018 - 2019 Heroes Around Me**

Student First Name	Student Last Name	Grade Division	Arts Category	Title of Work	Artist Statement	Student's School Name	Council PTA Name
Emmeline	Abrams	High School	Visual Arts	Tears of Tribute	We acknowledge that those who leave for war are true heroes, but sometimes we forget about the individuals affected. Those who shed their tears of grief and loss for those lost in war, are the true heroes around me.	VR Eaton High School PTSA	Northwest ISD Council of PTAs
Raphael Jabe	Alison	Intermediate	Film Production	Everyday Heroes	Anyone who volunteers to help others is a 'HERO'. Coach Chad Sullivan, my baseball coach who works in a company, is a 'firefighter' as well. He volunteers to help at the Southeast fire station on Scarsdale blvd is my hero!!!	Weber Elementary PTA	Clear Creek ISD Council of PTAs
Yagna	Brihu	Primary	Dance Choreography	Firefighters Rock!	My dance relates to the topic heroes around me because a firefighter is a hero and my dance is all about firefighters.	Beverly Elementary PTA	Plano ISD Council of PTAs
Odin	Brooks	Special Artist	Music Composition	Yay Odin	My Dad is my hero because he is accepting, kind and makes music.	Wayne D. Boshears Center	Tyler ISD Council of PTAs
Saniya	Burman	High School	Music Composition	Salute	Looking back to a year ago it's hard to believe the level of devastation that Hurricane Harvey unleashed on Houston. Despite all the destruction, the one bright spot was seeing people rise to the occasion and helping others. These heroes are countless regular people who did their best to help those in need. Even though we will probably never know the names of these people, they are my real heroes and I Salute them. My dedication goes out to all these "nameless" heroes who I know will be always around me.	Seven Lakes High School PTSA	Katy ISD Council of PTAs
Preston	Chavez	Intermediate	Literature	Heroes Without Capes	My book is about someone who is different and was having a hard time because of it. It shows that you don't always have to do extraordinary things to be a hero to someone. Sometimes all you have to do, is be a friend.	Mireles Elementary PTA	Corpus Christi Community Council of PTAs
R. Calloway	Clark	Primary	Visual Arts	Carson	My friend Carson has diabetes. He fights everyday to keep his sugars in check. He is a Hero to me. He is strong. He is smart too. He has a device on his arm that reads his levels. He enters the food he eats on his phone and the phone tells the device how much insulin to give him. He doesn't wear a cape. He is awesome.	Ridgewood Elementary PTA	Port Neches Groves ISD Council of PTAs

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Henley	Cooper	Primary	Music Composition	Moms Don't Wear Capes	I'm always around my mom and she is my biggest hero. I really want to be like her when I grow up. She isn't a superhero with powers, but I think she's the most awesome hero in the world. So I wrote this song for her.	Lakewood Elementary PTA	Dallas ISD
Addilyn	Currie	Middle School	Literature	The Counselor	This poem correlates to the theme because it's about the counselor, who I admire greatly. I consider him to be a hero because he's always been there for me and many other students as well.	Central Middle School PTA	Nederland City Council of PTAs
Logan	Dockery	Special Artist	Literature	My Friend at School	My hero is Danice because she is crazy and funny.	Wayne D. Boshears Center PTA	Tyler ISD Council of PTAs
Luke	Duckett	Intermediate	Music Composition	Hero of it All	It is how my dad had worked in the military, police, firefighter and the best dad. "Hero of it All" is my first written song. Hope you like it. -Luke	Sandra Mossman Elementary	Clear Creek ISD Council of PTAs
Riley	Franklin	Special Artist	Film Production	The Teacher Who Changed My Life	Once in a lifetime if you're really lucky, someone special comes along who changes everything. For me, that person was Mrs. Gritti, my 3rd grade teacher. Mrs. Gritti realized that the reason I struggled in school was because I had dyslexia and other learning disabilities. She wasn't like any teacher before or after her. She made me feel smart. She taught me about perseverance, courage and service. She's the only teacher ever to teach me the way I learn instead of the ordinary way. She changed my life! She taught me to read!	Kingwood Middle School PTA	Humble ISD Council of PTAs
Morgan Alexa	Go	Middle School	Film Production	The Anatomy of Me	I talk about the heroes around me and how they affected me and my brains, heart, interests, and future. I talk about the heroes who made me who I am today.	Hopewell Middle School PTA	Round Rock ISD Council of PTAs
Annalee	Haas	Special Artist	Dance Choreography	Try Everything	The song I choose comes from a movie called Zootopia. The bunny in the movie worked hard in training because she doesn't want to give up. She is a hero because she does her best. I work hard in school because I want to be a better student. I have Down Syndrome it is extraordinary to be born with it. I like being a hero by helping people out.	Space Center Intermediate PTA	Clear Creek ISD Council of PTAs
Vihaan	Jones	Primary	Literature	Inventors	I wrote this poem because I think inventors are important. They are heroes because they make the world better. I think inventors are clever because they think and get ideas and build things. They test and test and if it doesn't work, they try again.	Durham Elementary PTA	Houston ISD, Region 4

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Victoria	Karam	Primary	Film Production	Draw Your Hero	My video shows different types of heroes around us each day.	Eddins Elementary PTA	McKinney ISD Council of PTAs
Skylar Sue	Kelly	Primary	Photography	My Hero in Heaven	My daddy died a hero in the military. He is my hero and our Country's hero. He loved being brave. I love my daddy and miss him. Many heroes are in heaven with my daddy.	McNair Elementary PTA	Denton Community Council of PTAs
Yunoo	Kim	High School	Literature	A Proudful Flower	When I thought of the word "hero", I could only picture young, healthy, American people from movies. Instead, I wanted to write about the unexpected, while exploring my heritage. So I set the story in the 1940's, when Korea was occupied by Japan and therefore forced to abandon its culture. The 'heroes' who worked hard to set Korea free and keep its cultural during the harsh time are often unrecognized. I tried to bring light to this fact through a character who was helped to discover the beauty of his country in those agonizing days.	Westwood High School	Round Rock ISD Council of PTAs
Veda	Kutagula	Middle School	Music Composition	Small Steps	My composition, Small Steps, is inspired by the heroicness of a person who exhibits resilience when fighting a disease such as cancer by taking small steps to accept, cope, and make the most of their life. The beginning part is bright and cheerful, portraying a person who is happy and healthy. The middle part portrays a person who has been diagnosed with cancer and is sad and sentimental. However, the song slowly but surely brightens up, representing the person's gradual change in attitude towards their condition which leads to coping or recovering.	Ereckson Middle School PTA	Allen ISD Council of PTAs
Edward Josef	LoCicero	Special Artist	Visual Arts	My Support Heroes Team	Puzzle piece is me with autism and my heroes are giving their super power to help me. Balloon - children's hospital Dallas give me hulk strength. Lucile hospital give me speed green lantern to move after transplant. DR and RN superman power and thoughts. PD & FD Frisco protect me at home. Heart in me is the love I have for everyone around me.	Trent Middle School PTA	Frisco ISD Council of PTAs
Megan	Meisenheimer	High School	Film Production	Hidden Heroes	"Hidden Heroes" is a story of how the unseen heroes of the world go about saving their city. In this particular case, a police officer, firefighter, nurse, construction worker and parents do their best to keep things from getting out of control, caught up in a battle between a "superhero" and villain. As related to the theme, they are the true heroes among those helping, even though no one knows & appreciates how much they contribute.	Richardson High School	Richardson ISD Council of PTAs

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Loren	Newcost	High School	Photography	Hands of Wisdom-Golden Years	Grandmothers are everyday heroes to their families. Their hands are strong. They raise boys into men and girls into women. They cook, clean and discipline. Grandmothers hands pray for our success. Clap in church on Sunday morning. They pick us up when we fall and wipe away tears when we cry. Give warm embraces and cuddle us when we have fears. They teach of our past and help prepare us for the future. Grandmothers hands of wisdom are the core of families and signifies golden years.	Memorial 9th Grade Academy PTA	Port Arthur City Council of PTAs
Micah	Patterson	High School	Dance Choreography	Letting Go	My dance focuses on the "Heros Around Me" that have influence my personality and created the person I am today. These heros eventually have to let me go and I have to let them go for me to finish the path heros around me have started like my friends, family, teachers, etc. However, I will always have my heros memories forever.	Creekview High School PTSA	Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD Council of PTAs
Hudson	Pletcher	Middle School	Dance Choreography	Following the Heroes	My piece relates to the theme because the song is about "I will follow you," which to me means that I will follow the heroes footsteps wherever they may go throughout their journey. The 'Heroes Around Me' has to do with how I view my goals and achievements as a dancer and a person. The song is representing the person I will follow to success and that hero and/or idol. I think that this piece of choreography matches the theme creatively.	Hunt Middle School	Frisco ISD Council of PTAs
Natalie	Rogers	Middle School	Photography	Hero In A Picture	My Great-Grandmother is my hero. She is strong, caring, and fights for people who cannot fight for themselves. She faught for my Aunt Kim to be able to get an education. My Aunt had cerebral palsy. The school was not prepared to take care of her education needs. My Great-Grandmother faught until my Aunt graduated in 1980. Then she continued to fight for the rights of other special needs children. She paved the way for kids and parents fighting for inclusion today. She is holding a picture of my Aunt, the strongest person she knew, Her Hero.	League City Intermediate PTA	Clear Creek ISD Council of PTAs
Vivienne	Ryman-King	Intermediate	Dance Choreography	Dad, You Are My Hero	Some people think a hero is someone who does one, huge, incredible act. I think a hero is someone who loves, supports and inspires you every day. When I heard this song, I wanted to make a dance for my dad. He works hard for our family every day. My dad supports my dreams and has taught me to be strong. My dad is truly a hero.	Clayton Elementary	Austin ISD Council PTA

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Siena	Spell	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Different Sides of a Hero	I wanted this portrait of my math and science teacher, Mr. Duy Nguyen, to show how he is a hero around me in two ways. He is a hero at school because he makes learning fun. He is also a hero for our country because, as a staff sergeant in the US Army, he helps keep us safe.	Hillcrest Elementary PTA	Nederland City Council of PTAs
Kingsley	Washam	Intermediate	Photography	Family Hero	The reason why I took this photo of my dad's hand was because I knew it would explain how his hands are different than lots of others hands. My dad survived an explosion in Iraq when he was in the Army and a lot of his body got burned bad. I am glad that I have this hero in my family and in my heart all the time.	Justin Elementary PTA	Northwest ISD Council of PTAs
Zoey	Woodson	Special Artist	Photography	Firemen who saved my life	These firemen are my heros because they saved my life seven years ago when I had a near-drowning accident. Not only that, but they save other peoples lives every hour of every day.	Las Colinas Elementary PTA	Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD Council of PTAs
Olivia	Yoo	Middle School	Visual Arts	Warriors of Fire	343 firefighters died on 9/11. Over 80 firefighters die each year. They know that fire can take their lives away, yet walk into it and reach out a hand to any life that needs help. Even though some of the brave soldiers don't return from the smoke to face us, their determination will always stay in our hearts. The way they march into something with the potential to end a life with such confidence always makes me look up to them. Because of that, I think the word that suits the fearless lives the most is "Heros."	Florence Stiles Middle School PTA	Leander ISD Council of PTAs