

Instrumental Solo Performance Guidelines

Tone Quality: Resonance, control, clarity, focus, consistency, warmth.

- Superior: Open, resonant, stylistically appropriate tone in all registers and ranges.
 - Superior/Excellent: Characteristically appropriate tone, most of the time, but lacks consistency in outer ranges.
 - Excellent/Good: A basic tonal concept with notable inconsistencies throughout the entire range.
 - Good/Fair: Weak or forces tonal production much of the time. Tone lacks full resonance.
 - Fair/Poor: A lack of understanding of how to produce a healthy, basic tone.
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Intonation: accuracy to printed pitches

- Superior: accurate intonation in all ranges and registers. Pitch adjustments are made instantly.
 - Superior/Excellent: minimal intonation difficulties. Pitch adjustments are usually successful.
 - Excellent/Good: generally accurate intonation with some out of tune notes/chords. Pitch adjustment skills are developing.
 - Good/Fair: some sense of intonation, but pitch adjustment skills are not developed.
 - Fair/Poor: an unawareness of tuning problems. There is a need for basic pitch adjustment skills.
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Rhythm: accuracy of note and rest values, duration, pulse, steadiness, correctness of meters.

- Superior: Outstanding accuracy. Correct pulse/meter used throughout the performance.
 - Superior/Excellent: in frequent errors with a pulse that is mostly correct.
 - Excellent/Good: occasional rhythmic errors, with a lack of consistency in Pulse and/or meter.
 - Good/Fair: numerous in accurate rhythms, with an incorrect pulse/meter.
 - Fair/Poor: an unawareness of rhythms, meter, and pulse.
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Technique: posture, bowing, breath, management, articulation, attacks, releases, musical, and/or mechanical skill

- Superior: Habitually, correct posture, bowing/breathing, articulation, balanced attack and releases. Smooth transitions between registers/shifting positions. Proficient coordination between fingering and bowing/tonguing.

- Superior/Excellent: proper technique is employed in bowing/breathing and articulation, but has some minor inconsistencies. Overall consistent coordination between fingering and bowing/tonguing.
- Excellent/Good: good technique in bowing/breathing and articulation is emerging, but has yet to be habituated. Lacking smooth transitions between registers/shifting positions. Demonstrates good facility on instrument with a few problems.
- Good/Fair: major inconsistencies in posture in Boeing/breath management. Little coordination between fingering and bowing/tonguing.
- Fair/Poor: matters of proper posture, correct, bowing/breathing and articulation are not evident. No real coordination between fingering and bowing/tonguing. Tempo changes during difficult sections. Little control of instrument.

Interpretation: style, freezing, tempo, dynamics, emotional involvement

- Superior: Highly expressive performance with appropriate style, Temple, freezing, and contrasting dynamics.
- Superior/Excellent: Minor lapses in dynamics, freezing, correct, tempo, style elements, etc.
- Excellent/Good: occasionally rigid and mechanical expression. Correct tempo and dynamics, but lacks expressive elements.
- Good/Fair: mechanical expression, most of the time. Lacks in correct freezing, Temple, dynamics, style, etc.
- Fair/Poor: a lack of understanding of correct style, dynamic contrast, phrasing, and tempo.

Performance Factors: choice of literature, appropriate appearance, boys, general conduct, mannerisms

- Superior: literature, chosen is appropriate and the soloist's skill level. Demeanor is outstanding.
- Superior/Excellent: the literature choice is slightly more difficult than the soloist's current abilities. Excellent performance demeanor.
- Excellent/Good: appropriate literature, but the difficulty level is too high or too low for the performer. General poise and conduct need some minor refining.
- Good/Fair: the literature is not appropriate and/or is not written within the soloist's current ability to perform. Some laps in development.
- Fair/Poor: proper performance conduct is lacking. Performer is unfocused. Literature is not appropriate.