

Instrumental Small Ensemble Performance Assessment Rubric

School	Name of Ensemble/Member of Ensemble	Event Category (i.e. brass quintet, etc.)
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Circle the appropriate comments within the category and column, or columns, as applicable.

	Excellent		Fair		
	Superior		Good		Poor
<p>Tone Quality resonance, control clarity, focus, consistency, warmth</p> <p>Intonation accuracy to printed pitches</p>	Open, resonant, stylistically appropriate tone in all registers and ranges.	Characteristically appropriate tone most of the time but lacks consistency in outer ranges.	A basic tonal concept with notable inconsistencies throughout the entire range.	Weak or forced tonal production much of the time. Tone lacks full resonance.	A lack of understanding of how to produce a healthy, basic tone.
<p>Rhythm accuracy of note and rest values, duration, pulse, steadiness, correctness of meters</p> <p>Balance, Blend likeness of qualities, awareness of ensemble</p>	Outstanding accuracy. Correct pulse/meter used throughout the performance.	Infrequent errors with a pulse that is mostly correct.	Occasional rhythmic errors, with a lack of consistency in pulse and/or meter.	Numerous inaccurate rhythms with an incorrect pulse/meter.	An unawareness of rhythms, meter, and pulse.
<p>Technique posture, bowing, breath management, articulation, attacks, releases, musical and/or mechanical skill</p> <p>Interpretation style, phrasing, tempo, dynamics, emotional involvement</p>	Habitually correct posture, bowing/breathing, articulation, balanced attacks and releases. Smooth transitions between registers/shifting positions. Proficient coordination between fingering and bowing/tonguing.	Proper technique is employed in bowing/breathing and articulation, but has some minor inconsistencies. Overall consistent coordination between fingering and bowing/tonguing.	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.	Major inconsistencies in posture and bowing/breath management. Little coordination between fingering and bowing/tonguing.	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.
<p>Performance Factors choice of literature, appropriate appearance, poise, general conduct, mannerisms</p>	Literature chosen is appropriate for the festival and the ensemble's skill level. Demeanor is outstanding.	The literature choice is slightly more difficult than the ensemble's current abilities. Excellent performance demeanor.	Appropriate festival literature, but the difficulty level is too high or too low for the performers. General poise and conduct needs some minor refining.	The literature is not festival appropriate and/or is not within the ensemble's current ability to perform. Some lapse in deportment.	Proper performance conduct is lacking. Performers are unfocused. Literature is inappropriate for festival.

Rating Table

Superior – I, Excellent – II, Good – III, Fair – IV, Poor – V, No Rating – NR
(Ratings may include + or –, with the highest rating being a (I).)