

GRADING RUBRIC FOR PERFORMANCES

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| A | The performance goes beyond proficiency—it demonstrates a command of the music. It’s ready to be performed publicly. |
| | Performance reflects complete control and mastery of technique. |
| | Student plays phrases rather than playing from note to note. |
| | Performance is fluid. There are no hesitations between sections or chords. |
| | Performance is expressive. Dynamics, articulations, ritardando, etc. are observed. |
| | The student controls the balance between melody and bass. |
| | Student projects the sound with confidence; he or she plays to the “back of the room.” |
| B | The performance is proficient. The student knows the material, but it is not quite ready to be performed publicly. |
| | Technique, notes, rhythms and chords <i>are all correct</i> , but the performance does not reflect a command of those things. |
| | Performance is a bit choppy; lacks fluidity. Student seems to play from note to note rather than playing phrases. |
| | Shows <i>slight</i> insecurity/hesitations in some sections, such as struggling with some transitions/chords. |
| | Performance lacks expressiveness. Student does not observe dynamics, articulations, ritardando, etc. |
| | Student does not project the sound. |
| C | The performance is not quite proficient. The student has learned all the material, but not proficiently. |
| | The performance <i>is complete</i> , but very rough. |
| | The student is still working through some sections. |
| | A few wrong notes, rhythms and/or chords. |
| | Some fingerings and/or technique may be incorrect. |
| | Severe and consistent hesitations, perhaps stopping to work out notes, rhythms and/or chords before continuing. |
| D | The performance is inadequately prepared. The student has not learned the entire piece, but at least 60% of it. |
| | What the student can play is extremely weak. |
| | Many wrong notes, rhythms, and chords. |
| | Technique is incorrect. |
| F | The student can play less than 60% of the piece. (Student receives 0-59%, depending on how much is prepared.) |
| | What the student can play is extremely weak. |
| | Many wrong notes, rhythms, and chords. |
| | Technique is incorrect. |