

Unlocking the Music Category - Handout

	C Acceptable Fair	B- Satisfactory Acceptable	B Promising	B Good	B+ Very Good	A Excellent	A Near Perfect	A+ Flawless
Regional Level Arc - Music								
Artistry	Inhibited by vocal skills	Mechanical	[TECHNICALLY FOCUSED]	[ARTISTRY]	EMERGING	[TRANSCENDING]		
Energy	Lacking	Needs stronger support + stamina	Beginning	Controlled	Emerging	[HIGH LEVEL]	Consistently	Completely
Plan	Too Difficult	Sometimes	[EVIDENT]	[GOOD PLAN]	Stronger unit delivers + s.m. needed	Technically driven	Minor flaws in execution	
Musical Unit	Consistent	[SENSE OF UNIT]	Some	Apparent	Inconsistent	Frequent	Minor	Occasional
Harmony	Alignment	[CHORD ERRORS]	Frequent	Synch Errors	Inconsistent	Frequent	Minor	Occasional
Accuracy	Consistent	[WRONG NOTES]	Some	Consistent, minor	Frequent, minor	Inconsistent	Infrequent, minor	
Song & Arrangement	[GOOD]	[GOOD]	[GOOD]	[GOOD]	[GOOD]	[GOOD]	[GOOD]	[GOOD]
Vocal Skills	WEAK	UNDERSTOOD	APPARENT	Good, Inconsistent	[STRONG]	Highly Proficient	[MASTERFUL]	Completely
	Don't get it just yet. C-	Starting to get it, can't do it. C	Get it, sometimes do it. C+	Get it, can't always do it. B-	Get it, mostly do it. B	Get it, do it, now let it go. B+		

PERFORMANCE LEVEL GUIDELINES – MUSIC CATEGORY

A+ Superior (94-100)	A Nearly Perfect (86-93)	A- Excellent (80-85)
<p>FOCUS AREA: PERFORMANCE MAGIC Highly creative arrangement of strong barbershop song Complete mastery of vocal skills demonstrated Tuning of all chords is instant and impeccable Interpretive plan captures essence of barbershop style Interpretive plan flawlessly executed Artistry and finesse epitomize the barbershop style. Performance completely transcends technique</p>	<p>FOCUS AREA: ARTISTRY Creative arrangement of strong song Exceptional mastery of vocal skills demonstrated All chords instantly tuned into locked, musical unit Interpretive plan fully supports song and arrangement High level execution of interpretive plan Strong sense of barbershop style with artistry and finesse Performance consistently transcends technique</p>	<p>FOCUS AREA: MUSICALITY Strong song, arrangement shows some creativity High level of proficiency in vocal skills demonstrated Chords usually tuned into locked, musical unit Creative interpretive plan appropriate to song Strong execution of interpretive plan Strong sense of barbershop style usually evident. Performance usually transcends technique.</p>
B+ Very Good (74-79)	B Good (66-73)	B- Promising (60-65)
<p>FOCUS AREA: MASTERY Good song, arrangement shows some creativity Strong vocal skills demonstrated Minor tuning problems affect chord clarity Synch problems occasionally affect chord alignment Interpretive plan well designed for song and performer Minor flaws in execution of interpretive plan Artistry beginning to emerge over technique.</p>	<p>FOCUS AREA: CONSISTENCY Good song, well arranged Vocal skills strong, but not habitual Chord clarity inconsistent Minor synch problems affect chord alignment Good design for interpretive plan Focus on technique interferes with delivery of plan Some achievement in artistry and finesse evident</p>	<p>FOCUS AREA: ACHIEVEMENT Good arrangement of acceptable song Vocal skills generally good, but inconsistent Frequent minor intonation and tuning problems Frequent internal synch problems affect chords Plan good, but some lapses in forward motion Delivery of plan controlled, lacks freedom Focus on technique inhibits artistry</p>
C+ Satisfactory (54-59)	C Fair (46-53)	C- Poor (40-45)
<p>FOCUS AREA: UNITY Good arrangement, presents challenges for performer Work on vocal skills apparent, but still in progress Consistent minor tuning problems impact chord clarity Sense of musical unity apparent, but inconsistent Interpretive plan evident Interpretive plan needs to be internalized for unit delivery Mechanical delivery overrides attempts at artistry</p>	<p>FOCUS AREA: ACCURACY Song and arrangement good, but may be difficult Vocal skills understood, but application inconsistent Tuning errors and some wrong notes impact chords Frequent synch errors, but some sense of unit apparent Interpretive plan sometimes apparent Delivery of plan needs stronger support and stamina Vocal problems make artistry difficult to recognize</p>	<p>FOCUS AREA: SKILL BUILDING Good arrangement, too difficult for performer Vocal skills weak, but beginnings of work apparent Consistent tuning and accuracy errors affect chords Consistent lack of chord alignment Interpretive plan sometimes difficult for performer Stronger vocal skills needed to deliver plan effectively No apparent attempts at musical artistry</p>
D+ Weak (34-39)	D Very Weak (26-33)	D- Very Poor (20-25)
<p>Musical demands of arrangement exceed abilities Vocal skills weak, but brief glimpses of beginning work Many wrong notes cause major tuning problems Infrequent glimpses of identifiable, aligned chords Energy level weak and inconsistent Occasional hints of interpretive plan Stronger vocal skills needed to support musical plan</p>	<p>Arrangement not suitable for performer's abilities Vocal skills poor - need to focus attention here Major note accuracy problems make chords indistinct Consistent synch problems obscure four-part chords Energized delivery non-existent No interpretive plan clearly evident Stronger vocal skills needed to execute a musical plan</p>	<p>Arrangement beyond abilities of performer No apparent understanding of vocal skills Wrong notes consistently sung Chords not defined due to synch and vocal problems No apparent understanding of barbershop style Interpretive plan beyond performer's capabilities Stronger vocal skills needed to explore interpretive plan</p>

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