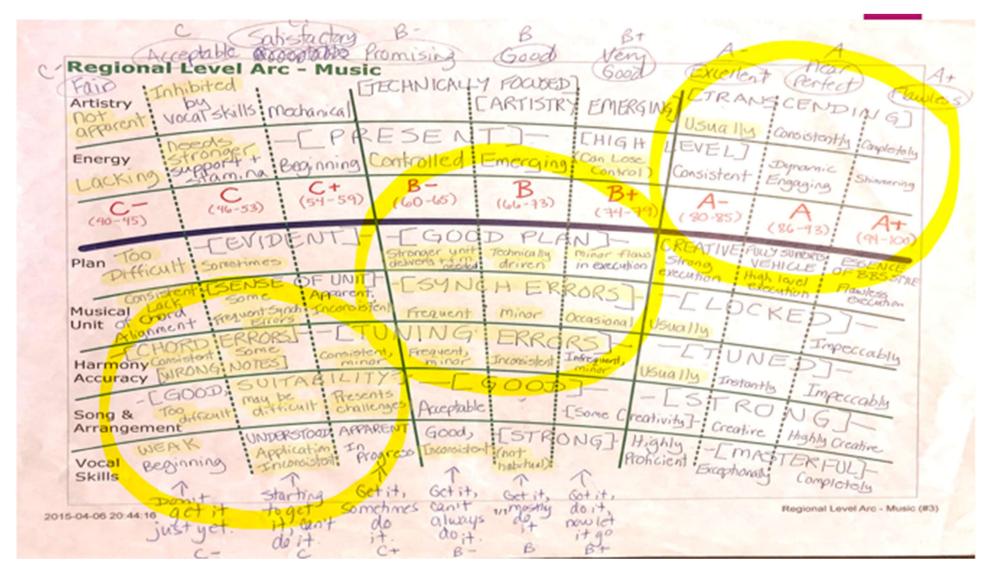
Unlocking the Music Category - Handout



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PERFORMANCE LEVEL GUIDELINES - MUSIC CATEGORY

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

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