



Marching Festival

Information
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PERCUSSION Prelims

Analyze and credit the achievement of technical proficiency and musicality.

TECHNIQUE:

Reward the segmental clarity and ensemble cohesiveness of the percussion ensemble. Listen to the relationship of the percussion segments to each other, as well as other elements of the musical ensemble. Focus on timing and rhythmic accuracy as they relate to the ensemble. Reward the uniformity of techniques as is determined by the chosen technical style. Credit the consistency of sound quality as a result of the performers' technique, membrane tuning, as well as accuracy of timpani intonation. Credit the overall skill level and demands placed on the performers based on achievement.

100

COMMENTS:

MUSICALITY:

Reward the presence of musical shape and meaning in a non-mechanical and musically appropriate manner. Credit the performers in successful conveyance of the emotional qualities of their performance, including but not limited to phrasing, touch, and interpretation of musical intent. Consider the ensemble's understanding of the style of the music it is performing and the use of correct and unified interpretation of rhythms and melodies. Credit the percussionists' understanding of their role within the ensemble. Focus on appropriate balancing and understanding of musical contribution to the ensemble at any given time. Credit the creativity and depth of the percussion music as an integral part of the whole musical program.

100

TOTAL
MAXIMUM 200

PERCUSSION CRITERIA REFERENCE

TECHNIQUE				
40-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	91-100
There is a lack of basic training, tempo control and rhythms are not discernible. Phrasing and expression is not yet attempted. No apparent attempt has been made to tune any of the equipment.	Instrument technique while still immature and under developed, is beginning to show some training. Tempo control is sometimes stable. The ensemble occasionally achieves a level of blend and balance both within the percussion ensemble and relative to the wind ensemble. Some attempt has been made to tune the equipment.	Instrument technique shows a moderate amount of training in all areas. The percussion section plays with good tempo control most of the time, and qualities of musicianship are developing. The musicians attempt to play with expression. The blend and balance within the section and with the winds is moderately achieved most of the time. Most rhythms are played with precision and good readability. Instruments are tuned for good sound.	The precision of the percussion ensemble is strong and evident supporting good training in all of the various instrumental techniques. The ensemble plays with solid tempo control and sensitivity to the music being presented. Expression and musicianship is apparent in all areas of the ensemble. Phrasing is correct and obvious. Timpanist uses many different pitches, and tunes each of them accurately. Tuning of equipment is extremely good.	The precision of the percussion ensemble is superb. The technique of all players shows superior training on all instruments. Orchestral percussion instruments are played with great sensitivity to the music being presented. Superior musicianship is demonstrated throughout. Tempo control is always flawless. Good phrasing is always present. All instruments are tuned in a manner which fully enhances the wind ensemble. Performance qualities set new standards. Credit the effect of percussion performance. Consider the showmanship, professionalism, intensity, spirit, adaptability, continuity and effective staging and percussion visuals.
MUSICALITY				
40-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	91-100
There is no effect generated due to inadequate writing and performance.	The ensemble occasionally adapts to the various stylistic changes made by the winds. Staging is sometimes effective in the presentation of the percussion music. Confidence and showmanship are beginning to solidify, and some moments of intensity occur. Professionalism is still not understood, and as a result some effects are not achieved.	Musical styles are played well and demonstrate a good level of adaptability. Staging is often effective in the presentation of the visual and musical percussion effects. The section displays good intensity and confidence. Qualities of showmanship are developing. Professionalism is becoming apparent. The percussion ensemble enhances the effects of the winds. Visual contribution in the area of sticking, foot work and postural changes are attempted and occasionally enhance the visual effectiveness of the presentation.	Musical styles are all handled with an excellent degree of proficiency. Visual and musical presentation is heightened through strong marching skills and quality staging. The ensemble is confident and displays excellent intensity and spirit. Showmanship is apparent through quality musical and visual performance. Professionalism elevates effectiveness. Percussive enhancement of winds is consistently strong. Visual contributions in the area of sticking, foot work and postural changes successfully enhance the visual effectiveness of the presentation.	Musical styles are all handled with a superior degree of proficiency. Visual and musical presentation sets standards through fully developed marching skills and innovative staging. The ensemble is mature and completely confident and sets new standards in intensity and spirit. Ongoing qualities of showmanship are apparent through virtuosic musical and visual performance. Professionalism always elevates effectiveness. Percussive enhancement of winds is imaginative and always successful in elevating the musical effects to a new level. Visual contributions in the area of sticking, foot work and postural changes enhance the visual effectiveness of the presentation through varied and creative techniques.