

Certificate of Merit Judge's Evaluation Guidelines

Technique: GOAL: to demonstrate the continuing development required for playing with ease and musicality.

Excellent: Fluent, effortless, and musical in most parts

Good: Secure and well prepared in most parts

Average: Adequate preparation, somewhat uneven and insecure

Weak: Inadequately prepared, poorly executed

Incomplete: Cannot execute more than one phase of the technique

Please be sure the student understands what you are asking for before failing them on a phase.

Sight-Reading: GOAL: to demonstrate the continuing development of the skills necessary to read music at sight with rhythmic integrity and musicality.

Excellent: Rhythmic and note integrity maintained, generally musical

Good: General sense of rhythm, some hesitation, majority of notes correct

Average: Some semblance of the rhythm, fair recognition of notes

Weak: Lack of rhythm, poor recognition of notes

Incomplete: Cannot play example

Please be sure the student understands what you are asking for before failing them on a phase.

Performance: GOAL: to demonstrate the continuing development of the ability to prepare and perform music accurately and musically.

Pass: Prepared performance with some incorrect notes, hesitations and/or memory slips

Not Pass: Unmusical, many incorrect notes, major memory slips, clearly unprepared. **2 pieces not memorized.**

Numeric Ratings for Convention Recital (only applies to Level 3 and up) 5: (Compares with 91-100%) A polished performance which is consistently musical, stylistically correct, and accurate.

Attention is given to dynamics, phrasing, and musical expression. Memorization is secure with rapid recovery from minor slips. Errors do not detract from the participant's interpretation.

4: (Compares with 81-90%) A well performed, strong performance that is musical and stylistically correct. The performance shows accomplishment and very good potential, but there are discrepancies in rhythm, dynamics, phrasing, and/or interpretation. Hesitation and/or memory slips detract from the participant's presentation.

3: (Compares with 71-80%) Generally accurate. Shows accomplishment; however, numerous errors occur. Additional work in one or more areas is needed in order to achieve a convincing performance.

2: (Compares with 61-70%) Some commendable aspects in performance and preparation are present, but severe deficiencies in fundamentals (rhythm, notes, memory) are also apparent. Not fully ready for performance.

1: (Compares with 60% or less) The participant is obviously poorly prepared and appears unconcerned with the performance.

All levels are eligible for the Branch Honors Recital. Circle any pieces that you think are played well enough to be played in an honors recital. If all pieces are played well, circle "**any.**" Only memorized pieces are eligible for recitals.