

SAA Performance Descriptors

For use in Evaluation of Teacher and Student Performances

1. Repertoire

- Technical and interpretive demands of the selection(s) are commensurate with performer's technical and musical abilities.

2. Physical aspects:

- Demonstrates balanced, erect posture.
- Demonstrates ease of movement, efficient motion (e.g., no unnecessary tension evident).
- Appears physically comfortable.

3. Tone production

- Tone is pleasing, resonant and full.
- Tone varies when appropriate.
- Volume is even but varies when appropriate.

4. Technical accuracy

- Plays correct notes.
- Intonation is accurate.
- Tempo is appropriate.
- Musical pulse is steady, yet varies when appropriate (e.g., rubato, ritard).
- Rhythm is accurate and precise.

5. Musicianship

- Dynamics are varied to create expressive effect.
- Notes are articulated appropriately and consistently.
- Creates motion in melodic line (phrase shape, rise and fall).
- Phrases end gracefully (e.g., tapered dynamics, ending notes sustained).
- Performance is consistent with (within the bounds of) stylistic convention.
- Interpretive choices are consistent.
- Performance conveys the character of the piece (e.g., march is march-like).
- Performance demonstrates voicing of melodic lines and accompaniment.

6. Stage presence

- Demonstrates appropriate poise and bearing.
- Acknowledges fellow performers (if applicable).
- In the event of error, continues without pause.
- Bows when appropriate.

7. Focus of attention

- Performance conveys sense of concentration.
- Performance conveys sense of confidence (little hesitation or timidity evident).