



MSHSAA State Solo and Small Ensemble Rating Descriptions

GOLD Rating – The **GOLD** rating is the *highest level of musical achievement performance* in the MSHSAA sponsored music festivals. This performance is musically artistic and exemplary in all aspects. It is worthy of the distinction of being recognized as among the very best. The performance is “thorough”, nearly flawless, and “always consistent” in maturity of tone, pitch center, technical facility and musical expression. The performer(s) demonstrate the highest level of preparation, poise and confidence. The adjudicator comments are positive and complimentary in all areas of the performance. There may be suggestions for continued growth and development.

SILVER Rating – The **SILVER** rating is a *highly commendable level of musical achievement*. This performance is artistic and outstanding in many aspects. There are “minor” inconsistencies and the performance is not completely “thorough” and “consistent” in maturity of tone, pitch center, technical facility and musical expression. The performer(s) demonstrate an outstanding level of preparation, poise and confidence. The adjudicator comments are mostly positive and complimentary. There will be suggestions and techniques for continued growth and development regarding the minor inconsistencies in the performance.

BRONZE Rating – The **BRONZE** rating is a *commendable level of musical achievement*. This performance has some musically artistic aspects and shows accomplishment and potential but needs more polish and refinement. There are several inconsistencies in maturity of tone, pitch center, technical facility and musical expression. The performer(s) demonstrate an excellent level of preparation, poise and confidence. The adjudicator comments are somewhat positive and complimentary. There will be suggestions for continued growth and development regarding the several inconsistencies in the performance.

GOLD

Highest Level
Worthy of Distinction
Thorough/consistent nearly flawless
Highest level preparation/poise/confidence
Comments positive/complimentary
May be suggestions for
growth/development

SILVER

Highly Commendable
Outstanding/Artistic in many aspects
“Minor” inconsistencies, not completely thorough
Outstanding level preparation/poise/confidence
Comments mostly positive/complimentary
Will be suggestions/techniques
growth/development regarding the minor
inconsistencies

BRONZE

Commendable
Some artistic aspects need polish/refinement
Several inconsistencies
Excellent level preparation/poise/confidence
Comments somewhat positive/complimentary
Will be suggestions/techniques growth
development regarding the several
inconsistencies

STATE INSTRUMENTAL WIND SOLO EVALUATION FORM

Rating

Festival:
Time of Performance:
Soloist:
Selection:

Name of School:
Event:
Accompanist:

TONE QUALITY & INTONATION

Resonance, Sonority, Vibrato, Beauty, Intonation, Awareness of Key & Pitch Center

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Articulation, Technical / Lyrical Approach, Facility Clarity & Precision, Stability of Pulse

MUSICAL EFFECT

Musicianship, Interpretation, Expression, Phrasing, Shaping, Style, Tempo(s), Dynamics, Poise, Sensitivity and Communication with Accompaniment

Adjudicator:

STATE INSTRUMENTAL SMALL ENSEMBLE EVALUATION FORM

Rating

Festival:
Time of Performance:
Ensemble:
Selection:

Name of School:
Event:
Accompanist:

TONE QUALITY & INTONATION

Resonance, Sonority, Vibrato, Beauty, Blend, Intonation and Key Center Awareness Melodic/Harmonic

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Articulation Technical / Lyrical Approach, Facility Clarity & Precision, Attack & Release, Stability of Pulse

MUSICAL EFFECT

Musicianship, Interpretation, Expression, Phrasing, Shaping, Style, Tempo(s), Dynamics, Ensemble / Accompaniment
Communication, Balance/Blend

Adjudicator:

STATE SNARE DRUM SOLO EVALUATION FORM

Rating

Festival:
Time of Performance:
Soloist:
Selection:

Name of School:
Event:
Accompanist:

TONE QUALITY & INTONATION

Stick Selection for Appropriate Resonance, Sonority, Clarity, Roll Quality, Striking Area, Tuning/Tension

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Articulation, Technical Facility, Clarity, Mechanics of Hand/Arm Motion, Sticking Requirements/Control, Stability of Pulse, Playing Position

MUSICAL EFFECT

Musicianship, Interpretation, Expression, Phrasing, Shaping, Style, Tempo(s), Dynamics, Accents, Sensitivity & Communication with Accompaniment

Adjudicator:

STATE KEYBOARD PERCUSSION SOLO EVALUATION FORM

Rating

Festival:
Time of Performance:
Soloist:
Selection:

Name of School:
Event:
Accompanist:

TONE QUALITY & INTONATION

Mallet(s) Selection for Appropriate Resonance, Sonority, Clarity, Roll Quality, Striking Area

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Articulation, Technical / Lyrical Approach, Facility, Clarity, Mechanics of Hand/Arm Motion, Stability of Pulse, Pedaling (Vibraphone)

MUSICAL EFFECT

Musicianship, Interpretation, Expression, Phrasing, Shaping, Style, Tempo(s), Dynamics, Accents, Sensitivity & Communication with Accompaniment

Adjudicator:

STATE MULTIPLE PERCUSSION SOLO EVALUATION FORM

Rating

Festival:
Time of Performance:
Soloist:
Selection:

Name of School:
Event:
Accompanist:

TONE QUALITY & INTONATION

Tuning/Characteristic Tone, Mallet/Stick Selection for Resonance/Sonority/Clarity, Roll Quality, Striking Area, Tuning Changes

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Articulation, Technical / Lyrical Approach, Facility, Clarity, Mechanics of Hand/Arm Motion, Appropriate Techniques, Physical Set-Up, Stability of Pulse

MUSICAL EFFECT

Musicianship, Interpretation, Expression, Phrasing, Shaping, Style, Tempo(s), Dynamics, Accents, Poise/Posture, Sensitivity/Communication with Accompaniment

Adjudicator:

STATE TIMPANI SOLO EVALUATION FORM

Rating

Festival:
Time of Performance:
Soloist:
Selection:

Name of School:
Event:
Accompanist:

TONE QUALITY & INTONATION

Mallet(s) Selection for Appropriate Resonance, Sonority, Clarity, Roll Quality, Striking Area, Tuning/Tuning Changes

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Articulation, Technical / Lyrical Approach, Facility, Clarity, Mechanics of Hand/Arm Motion, Stability of Pulse, Playing Position, Pedaling

MUSICAL EFFECT

Musicianship, Interpretation, Expression, Phrasing, Shaping, Style, Tempo(s), Dynamics, Accents, Sensitivity & Communication with Accompaniment

Adjudicator:

STATE SMALL PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE EVALUATION FORM

Rating

Festival:
Time of Performance:
Ensemble:
Selection:

Name of School:
Event:
Accompanist:

TONE QUALITY & INTONATION

Tuning/Characteristic Tone, Mallet/Stick Selection for Resonance/Sonority/Clarity, Roll Quality, Striking Area, Tuning Changes

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Articulation Technical / Lyrical Approach, Facility Clarity, Attack & Release, Precision, Appropriate Techniques, Physical Set-Up, Stability of Pulse

MUSICAL EFFECT

Musicianship, Interpretation, Expression, Phrasing, Shaping, Style, Tempo(s), Balance across Ensemble, Dynamics, Accents, Poise/Posture, Ensemble / Accompaniment Communication

Adjudicator:

STATE PIANO SOLO EVALUATION FORM

Rating

Festival:
Time of Performance:
Soloist:
Selection:

Name of School:
Event:

TONE QUALITY & INTONATION

Resonance, Sonority, Tone/Touch Control, Sensitivity, Hand Position

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Articulation, Finger Dexterity Technical / Lyrical Approach, Facility, Clarity, Mechanics of Finger/Wrist/Hand/Arm
Motion, Attacks/Releases, Pedaling, Dampening, Stability of Pulse

MUSICAL EFFECT

Musicianship, Interpretation, Expression, Phrasing, Shaping, Style, Tempo(s), Dynamics, Accents, Balance of Melody with
Accompaniment, Poise, Mannerisms, Memorization

Adjudicator:

STATE STRING SOLO EVALUATION FORM

Rating

Festival:
Time of Performance:
Soloist:
Selection:

Name of School:
Event:
Accompanist:

TONE QUALITY & INTONATION

Resonance, Sonority, Vibrato, Bow Placement & Stroke, Intonation, Awareness of Key & Pitch Center

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Articulation, Bow & Finger Placement, Shifts, Technical / Lyrical Approach, Facility Clarity & Precision, Stability of Pulse

MUSICAL EFFECT

Musicianship, Interpretation, Expression, Phrasing, Shaping, Style, Tempo(s), Dynamics, Poise, Sensitivity /
Communication with accompaniment

Adjudicator:

STATE STRING SMALL ENSEMBLE EVALUATION FORM

Rating

Festival:
Time of Performance:
Ensemble:
Selection:

Name of School:
Event:
Accompanist:

TONE QUALITY & INTONATION

Resonance, Sonority, Vibrato, Bow Placement & Stroke, Blend, Intonation & Key Center Awareness Melodic/Harmonic

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Articulation, Bow & Finger Placement, Shifts, Technical /Lyrical Approach, Facility Clarity & Precision, Attack/Release, Stability of Pulse

MUSICAL EFFECT

Musicianship, Interpretation, Expression, Phrasing, Shaping, Style, Balance, Tempo(s), Dynamics, Ensemble / Accompaniment Communication

Adjudicator:

STATE VOCAL SOLO EVALUATION FORM

Rating

Festival:
Time of Performance:
Soloist:
Selection:

Name of School:
Event:
Accompanist:

TONE QUALITY & INTONATION

Focus, Maturity, Resonance, Sonority, Vibrato, Breath Control, Pitch Center & Awareness of Key Tonality, Intervals

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Language, Syllabic/Word Stress, Diction, Consonants, Vowels, Memorization, Stability of Pulse

MUSICAL EFFECT

Musicianship, Interpretation, Expressive Use of Diction Elements, Artistic Use of Phrasing, Shaping, Style, Dynamics, Tempo(s), Appearance, Facial Expression, Poise, Sensitivity/Communication with Accompaniment

Adjudicator:

STATE VOCAL SMALL ENSEMBLE EVALUATION FORM

Rating

Festival:
Time of Performance:
Ensemble:
Selection:

Name of School:
Event:
Accompanist:

TONE QUALITY & INTONATION

Focus, Maturity, Resonance, Sonority, Vibrato, Breath Control, Pitch Center, Awareness of Key Tonality, Intervals, Unisons & Chords, Blend in Section & across Ensemble

TECHNICAL PREPARATION

Language, Syllabic/Word Stress, Clarity of Diction Consonants, Vowels, Attack/Release, Stability of Pulse

MUSICAL EFFECT

Musicianship, Interpretation, Expressive Use of Diction Elements, Artistic Use of Phrasing, Shaping, Style, Balance across ensemble, Dynamics, Tempo(s), Appearance, Facial Expression, Poise, Ensemble / Accompaniment Communication

Adjudicator: