Credit the frequency and quality of the *intellectual, emotional, and aesthetic* effectiveness of the program and performers’ efforts to fulfill the effect by bringing the show to life. *Place emphasis on music.* Commonly accepted characteristics of each are listed and defined on this sheet.

**PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS**
- Coordination
- Enhancement
- Clarity of program concept
- Pacing of builds, climax, and resolution
- Variety / Range / Depth
- Creativity / Imagination

100

**PERFORMER FULFILLMENT**
- Technical excellence and artistic qualities that “bring the show to life”
- Details of interpretation and expression
- Believability through commitment to role, character, and style
- Emotion / Passion

100

JUDGE ____________________________ MAXIMUM TOTAL 200

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PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS

- Coordination is the extent to which the program is unified within and among visual and musical elements; it includes elements of staging.
- Enhancement includes all designed elements that enhance the value to the musical score.
- Clarity of program concept is the integration of all audio and visual components for unity of the message being communicated.
- Pacing of builds, climaxes, and resolutions is the phrasing and effects through time that punctuate program ideas.
- Variety / Range / Depth are found through the diversity and substance of development within the program.
- Creativity / Imagination are the utilization of original and novel musical and visual ideas that evoke a response.

PERFORMER FULFILLMENT

- Look to members of the ensemble as performers who are responsible for evoking a genuine response from the audience and from you, as the judge. The commonly accepted characteristics on the front side of the sheet can be communicated in various ways, all of which culminate around the notion that the performers demonstrate an understanding of their responsibilities to communicate with (and, at the highest levels, generate a spontaneous and meaningful response from) the audience. These responsibilities include the embodiment of all musical responsibilities. Performers should “bring the show to life” as an act of fulfillment.
Credit all musical elements (woodwinds, brass, percussion, electronics). Evaluation occurs at the press-box level and must consider the frequency of quality of both musical composition and ensemble achievement. Commonly accepted characteristics of each are listed and defined within this sheet.

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<td>Vocabulary / Skill set</td>
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**Ensemble Music**

**COMPOSITION:** Addresses the *range* (i.e., variety) and *depth* (i.e., substance) of *design* and *construction* as it relates to the criteria.

- Vertical orchestration considers the clarity of intent within the relationship of one musical voice to another in terms of voicing, density, and transparency of lead and supporting musical lines.
- Horizontal orchestration considers the clarity of intent within the musical structure across time.
- Musical palette considers the creation of musical character through color, texture, and timbre.
- Expressive components relate to those designed elements that contribute to musicality, nuance, and artistry.
- Vocabulary / Skill set relate to musical challenges that allow the performer to demonstrate musical demand in multiple ways, an abiding piece of which is a consideration of environmental challenges and simultaneous responsibilities.

**ENSEMBLE ACHIEVEMENT:** Addresses all elements of *technique* and *musicianship* as demonstration of training.

- Balance and blend refers to dynamic strength of sections and merging of voices for intended timbre and relationships.
- Mastery of technical and expressive responsibilities includes the excellence of mechanics of playing, technical flourishes, and artisanship as avenues to communicate compositional intent.
- Ensemble cohesion includes uniformity and precision of vertical alignment, horizontal fluidity, rhythmic stability, style, interpretation, and pulse control.
- Tone quality / Sound production include all efforts to produce an appropriate and meaningful sound with regards to pitch accuracy, resonance, intonation, and sonority.
Credit all musical contributions from individual (or small groups of) performers. Evaluation occurs at the field level and must consider the frequency of quality musical content and individual performer achievement. Commonly accepted characteristics of each are listed and defined within this sheet.

**CONTENT**
- Technical responsibilities
- Expressive components
- Simultaneous responsibilities
- Vocabulary / Skill set

**PERFORMER ACHIEVEMENT**
- Clarity and uniformity of method
- Tone quality / Sound production
- Accuracy
- Expressive qualities
- Achievement of musical challenges
- Concentration, stamina, recovery

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Individual Music Performance

CONTENT: Addresses the range (i.e., variety) and depth (i.e., substance) of design and construction as it relates to the criteria.

- Technical responsibilities include elements such as length of phrase, fluid manipulation of tempo, stylistic demands, and technical flurries, musical vocabulary.
- Expressive components relate to those designed elements that contribute to musicality, nuance, and artistry.
- Simultaneous responsibilities include those designed elements that require individual performers to demonstrate multiple skills at the same time, whether visual or musical.
- Vocabulary / Skill set relate to musical challenges that allow the performer to demonstrate musical demand in multiple ways, an abiding piece of which is a consideration of environmental challenges.

PERFORMER ACHIEVEMENT: Addresses all elements of technique and musicianship as demonstration of training.

- Clarity and uniformity of method includes, among other things, articulations, note length, idiomatic appropriateness, and breath management.
- Tone quality / Sound production include all efforts to produce an appropriate and meaningful sound using appropriate techniques that evidence training.
- Expressive qualities include nuances of phrasing, shaping, inflection, style appropriate to the idiom, and other performer effort that elevates the aesthetics and/or emotion of performance.
- Accuracy includes attacks, releases, and rhythmic interpretation.
- Achievement of challenges recognizes simultaneous responsibilities and environment.
- Concentration, stamina, and recovery include performer involvement and awareness for the need to adapt, adjust, and recover to the changing performance environment.
Credit the frequency and quality of the *intellectual, emotional, and aesthetic* effectiveness of the program and performers’ efforts to fulfill the effect by bringing the show to life. *Place emphasis on visual.* Commonly accepted characteristics of each are listed and defined on this sheet.

**PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS**
- Coordination
- Visual enhancement of the music
- Clarity of program concept
- Pacing of builds, climax, and resolution
- Variety / Range / Depth
- Creativity / Imagination

100

**PERFORMER FULFILLMENT**
- Technical excellence and artistic qualities that “bring the show to life”
- Details of interpretation and expression
- Believability through commitment to role, character, and style
- Emotion / Passion

100

JUDGE ________________________________

MAXIMUM TOTAL 200
Effect Visual

PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS

- Coordination is the extent to which the program is unified within and among visual and musical elements; it includes elements of staging.

- Visual enhancement of the music includes all visual elements that add value to the musical score.

- Clarity of program concept is the integration of all audio and visual components for unity of the message being communicated.

- Pacing of builds, climaxes, and resolutions is the phrasing and effects through time that punctuate program ideas.

- Variety / Range / Depth are found through the diversity and substance of development within the program.

- Creativity / Imagination are the utilization of original and novel musical and visual ideas that evoke a response.

PERFORMER FULFILLMENT

- Look to members of the ensemble as performers who are responsible for evoking a genuine response from the audience and from you, as the judge. The commonly accepted characteristics on the front side of the sheet can be communicated in various ways, all of which culminate around the notion that the performers demonstrate an understanding of their responsibilities to communicate with (and, at the highest levels, generate a spontaneous and meaningful response from) the audience. These responsibilities include the embodiment of all visual and role/character responsibilities. Performers should “bring the show to life” as an act of fulfillment.
Credit all visual elements. Evaluation occurs at the press-box level and must consider the frequency of quality within both visual composition and ensemble achievement. Commonly accepted characteristics of each are listed and defined within this sheet.

**COMPOSITION**
- Visual orchestration
- Visual musicality
- Unity
- Craftsmanship

100

**ENSEMBLE ACHIEVEMENT**
- Ensemble control
- Articulation of body and equipment
- Uniformity
- Adherence
- Management of simultaneous responsibilities
- Achievement of effort changes

100

JUDGE ____________________________  MAXIMUM TOTAL 200

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- 0-9
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- 20-29

Rarely 30-49
- 30-34
- 35-42
- 43-49

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Frequently 75-92
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Consistently 93-100
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- 99-100
ENSEMBLE VISUAL PERFORMANCE

COMPOSITION: Addresses the range (i.e., variety) and depth (i.e., substance) of design and construction as it relates to the criteria.

- Orchestration is the uninterrupted flow of design through time (horizontally) and the layering and combination of design choices at any given moment (vertical) with respect to elements and principles of visual design.

- Visual musicality is visual representation, reflection, and enhancement of all musical elements (including structure and phrasing) through the principled use of form, body, and equipment.

- Unity is the purposeful agreement among visual elements and includes thematic, stylistic, or physical integration.

- Craftsmanship includes the utilitarian mathematical and mechanical logic of composition as well as aesthetic artisanship.

ENSEMBLE ACHIEVEMENT: Addresses all elements of technique as demonstration of training.

- Ensemble control is the demonstration of form, pictorial integrity, spacing, and orientation.

- Articulation of body and equipment relates to the demonstration of clear and distinct choreography and movement with appropriate qualities.

- Uniformity is the demonstration of similar training across, or within segments of, the ensemble.

- Adherence includes fidelity to style, role, characterization, training, and intent.

- Management of simultaneous responsibilities refers to the performers’ achievement in multiple musical and/or visual tasks.

- Effort changes include the shift among qualities of movement, including consideration of speed, boundness, and weight.
Credit all visual contributions from individual (and small groups of) performers. Evaluation occurs at the field level and must consider the frequency of quality within both visual content and performer achievement. Commonly accepted characteristics of each are listed and defined within this sheet.

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Individual Visual Performance

CONTENT: Addresses the range (i.e., variety) and depth (i.e., substance) of design and construction as it relates to the criteria.

• Form, body, and equipment include technical responsibilities with consideration of layered events within a form and environmental challenges designed into the program.

• Expressive components relate to those designed elements that contribute to visual musicality and artistry.

• Simultaneous responsibilities include those designed elements that require individual performers to demonstrate multiple skills at the same time, whether visual or musical.

• Vocabulary / Skill set includes design choices that allow the performers to demonstrate numerous performance skills, with upright marching being only one skill.

PERFORMER ACHIEVEMENT: Addresses all elements of technique as demonstration of training.

• Technical excellence includes consideration of clarity; uniformity of method; tempo control; timing; management of simultaneous responsibilities; and articulation of efforts with body, form, and equipment.

• Expressive qualities include nuances of adherence to role, style, character, movement, and other performer effort that elevates the aesthetics and/or emotion of performance.

• Effort changes include the shift among qualities of movement, including consideration of speed, boundness, and weight.

• Concentration, stamina, and recovery include performer involvement and awareness for the need to adapt, adjust, and recover to the changing performance environment.
Credit all percussion and rhythm section contributions. Evaluation occurs at the **field level** and considers the frequency of both high quality content and performer achievement. Commonly accepted characteristics of each are listed and defined within this sheet.

### CONTENT
- Orchestration
- Technical responsibilities
- Expressive components
- Vocabulary / Skill set
- Simultaneous responsibilities

100

### PERFORMER ACHIEVEMENT
- Rhythmic clarity
- Uniformity
- Expression and phrasing
- Ensemble cohesion
- Tone quality / sound production

100

### MAXIMUM TOTAL 200
Percussion

CONTENT: Addresses the range (i.e., variety) and depth (i.e., substance) of design and construction as it relates to the criteria.

- Orchestration is the thoughtful and creative planning used to convey musical ideas in terms of voicing, density, clarity of intent, and transparency of texture and color.
- Technical responsibilities include elements such as length of phrase, fluid manipulation of tempo, stylistic demands, technical flurries, and musical vocabulary.
- Expressive components relate to those designed elements that contribute to musicality, taste, nuance, and artistry to vary sound production.
- Vocabulary / Skill set relate to musical challenges that allow the performer to demonstrate musical demand in creative ways.
- Simultaneous responsibilities include those designed elements that require individual performers to demonstrate multiple skills at the same time, whether visual or musical.

PERFORMER ACHIEVEMENT: Addresses all elements of technique and musicianship as demonstration of training.

- Rhythmic clarity includes the demonstration of accuracy among performers with respect to rhythmic content—the extent to which the ensemble is rhythmically clean.
- Uniformity is the consistent presentation of technique and implement control with reference to the management of simultaneous responsibilities and environmental conditions.
- Expression and phrasing includes the performers’ ability to communicate compositional intent through quality sound production, an abiding piece of which are shaping and touch.
- Ensemble cohesion includes uniformity and precision of vertical alignment, horizontal fluidity, rhythmic stability, style, interpretation, pulse control, and balance and blend.
- Tone quality / Sound production include all efforts to produce an appropriate and meaningful sound with regards to pitch accuracy, resonance, intonation, and sonority.
Credit the color guard and related elements (dance team, majorettes, etc). Evaluation should occur at the press-box level and considers the frequency of quality in both composition and ensemble achievement. Commonly accepted characteristics of each are listed and defined within this sheet.

**COMPOSITION**
- Use of form, body, and equipment
- Visual musicality
- Expressive components
- Integration
- Creativity / Imagination

**ENSEMBLE ACHIEVEMENT**
- Precision
- Mastery of technical and expressive responsibilities
- Communication of identity
- Concentration, stamina, recovery

JUDGE ___________________________ MAXIMUM TOTAL 200
**COMPOSITION:** Addresses the range (i.e., variety) and depth (i.e., substance) of design and construction as it relates to the criteria

- Form, body, and equipment include technical responsibilities with consideration of layered events within a form and environmental challenges designed into the program.

- Visual musicality is visual representation, reflection, and enhancement of all musical elements (including structure and phrasing) through the principled use of form, body, and equipment.

- Expressive components relate to those designed elements that contribute to visual musicality and artistry.

- Integration includes the thematic, stylistic, and physical integration, an abiding piece of which is staging; the goal of integration is the creation of a sense of unity/totality both within the guard and between the guard and the rest of the performing ensemble.

- Creativity / Imagination are the utilization of original and novel ideas that evoke a response

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**ENSEMBLE ACHIEVEMENT:** Addresses all elements of technique and communication as demonstration of training.

- Precision is recognized as effortless clarity within articulation of form, body, and equipment.

- Mastery of technical and expressive responsibilities includes the excellence of mechanics within the choreographic totality, and artisanship as avenues to communicate compositional intent and/or to elevate the aesthetics and/or emotion of the performance.

- Communication of identity is demonstrated through fidelity to role, character, and style.

- Concentration, stamina, and recovery include performer involvement and awareness for the need to adapt, adjust, and recover to the changing performance environment.
Credit all efforts from the drum major(s). Evaluation occurs at the field level and considers the frequency of quality of both technique and effectiveness. Commonly accepted characteristics of each are listed and defined within this sheet.

CONDUCTING TECHNIQUE
- Patterns
- Entrances and releases
- Command of tempos

100

PERFORMANCE EFFECTIVENESS
- Musical communication
- Leadership and presence
- Concentration, stamina, and recovery
- Confidence and poise

100

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MAXIMUM TOTAL 200

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  99-100
**Drum Majors**

**CONDUCTING TECHNIQUE:** Addresses the *range* (i.e., variety) and *depth* (i.e., substance) of the drum majors’ skill set relative to the clarity of the conducting.

- Patterns include identifiable number of beats and definitive ictus.
- Entrances and releases refer to the use of technique to cue segments of the band.
- Command of tempos refers to the use of technique to establish, maintain, and change tempo.

**EFFECTIVENESS:** musical, visual, leadership, and showmanship

- Musical communication includes the nuanced communication of phrasing, dynamics, inflection, style, expressive qualities, and other contributions that lead musical effectiveness.
- Leadership and presence includes the salute, communication with the audience, and other leadership responsibilities that add to the effectiveness of the band’s presence or performance.
- Concentration, stamina, and recovery include performer involvement and awareness for the need to adapt, adjust, and recover to the changing performance environment.
- Confidence and poise include the communication of self-assurance, bearing, and personality of the drum major as a performer.

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