



SPRING FESTIVAL
Student Performance Adjudication

JUDGE'S GUIDELINES

DATE: March of each year

LOCATION: Albright College Arts Center, Center for the Arts 13th & Bern Streets, Reading PA 19604

GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. Open to all students actively studying with and RMTA member. Students of all ages, levels and abilities, including college and adult students, are encouraged to participate.
- B. Students may participate in both solo and ensemble events.
- C. **Memory:** Students perform two contrasting selections as decided with the teacher. Piano and vocal solos are memorized. Memory optional for instrumentalists and ensembles.
- D. **Technique:** Pianists will play the scale and cadence for the key of each selection; level of difficulty determined by the teacher. Instrumentalists will play the scale for the key of each selection. None for vocal or ensembles.
- E. **Repertoire:** Two contrasting selections. For intermediate and advanced levels pianists, one selection must be from the classical tradition. Arrangements are acceptable for the second piece.
- F. All participants will receive a Comment Sheet and Certificate of Participation reflecting their performance rating of Very Good, Excellent or Superior.

RATING

- A. The purpose of this event is to encourage a love of music. The students you will hear reflect a variety of ages, levels and abilities. There will be some spectacular performances and some very sincere but average performances. Be honest but encouraging with comments.
- B. This is NOT a competition and quotas or a predetermined number of slots do not limit you. You may award as many S's or any other grade that you deem students have earned. **A good example of an 'S' rating is that both pieces are performance ready today.** Students who have one S piece and one not so S piece do not have to be rated Superior, but may if you feel the rating is deserved. A '+' or '-' may be added to the letter score (e.g. E+ or S-). You should at no time compare students.
- C. Regarding memory.... if a student gets lost, feel free to hand them the score to finish. Then continue to judge the performance according to the rating sheet. But the student will not receive a rating higher than Excellent.
- D. Make sure your marks and comments support the overall rating. A 'minus' mark in a box reflects that improvement is needed; a 'plus' reflects an element that is particularly exceptional. No mark is needed for an average or adequate performance. You do NOT have to fill in every block.
- E. More importantly are the written comments. Always write something on the sheet, even if it's to commend the student's posture or hand position, to keep up the good work, or to thank them for playing today.
- F. Indicate on the sheet which selection is to be performed at the recital, if eligible.
- G. You should not remark on the suitability of the piece or attempt to teach in any way during the performance. Feel free, however, to write a note to the teacher if appropriate.
- H. If a student has no music, let them play for comments only and indicate on the rating sheet "No Music." They will not play in the recital.
- I. If a student hands you photocopied music, judge and rate the performance, but place a post-it note on it stating "photocopies." The committee will handle it directly with the teacher. It is assumed you could receive a photocopy of the duet literature, since the student will be using the original.

Finally, RMTA thanks you for sharing your expertise with us. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve this event for the benefit of our students, we welcome your comments.

