

SAA PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTORS

(a) **Repertoire:** technical and interpretive demands of the selection(s) are commensurate with performer's technical and musical abilities

(b) **Physical aspects:**

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

(c) **Tone production:**

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

(d) **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.

(e) **Musicianship:**

- Dynamics 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).

(f) **Stage presence:**

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

(g) **Focus of attention:**

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