

# Adjudicators Instructions

To be read to the judges during meetings prior to Assessment.

It is the intention of the Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association that all performing ensembles at the District Concert Assessments across the state will be assessed on, and held to, the same standards.

The purpose of this assessment is for the performing ensemble to receive feedback on precisely where the ensemble is in their musical growth and development.

With this in mind a Superior rating in this District should be reflective of the same performance qualities found in any VMEA District. Your ratings here should be consistent with ratings earned in other District Assessment events. Terminology used during your evaluation should definitely categorize the final outcome of your sheet. Terms such as incredible, outstanding, wow, wonderful, etc. establish a Superior Rating. Using the terms excellent and good state exactly the box your final evaluation should be placed.

Assess the ensemble you are hearing in comparison to what you hear on a National level. **It is the intent that the “National Standards” be applied in each District** whether an Urban, Suburban, or **Rural** area.

The back of the Assessment Sheet contains a rubric. You do not have to address every item on the rubric. Rather, use it as a guide for addressing certain specific areas with your comments. Comment on the “quality” of the repertoire performed as well as the “suitability” for the participating ensemble. Please familiarize yourself with the rubric prior to the assessment.

Caption Integrity: We ask that you establish your final rating through caption integrity. At the conclusion of the performance please put your caption letters in the box according to the comments you have made concerning the topics in each caption. Do not let one caption bleed into other captions. The letters assigned to the captions WILL determine the final rating-- make sure your caption letter grades justify your final rating. **You may use + and – in your caption letters. However, you may not use + or – in the Final Assessment Roman numeral.**

Make sure the letter grades are supported by your comments on the recording. Finals summation comments should give your overall impression of the performance. Make your audio recordings “student friendly”. Any comment for the director specifically should be written and not spoken on the recording (“student friendly” recording).

Be honest, and fair.

- Final Ratings:
  - I – Superior
  - II – Excellent
  - III – Good
  - IV – Fair
  - V – Poor
- Categories [Captions]:
  - A – Superior
  - B – Excellent
  - C – Good
  - D – Fair
  - F – Poor
- Success can be achieved at all Grade levels of music selected for performance.
- **All Selections performed by the ensemble will be adjudicated towards the final rating. This includes the march by the wind bands and warm-up selection by the orchestras.**
- Although we want you to assess each ensemble as an individual, consulting with other adjudicators on a final rating is permitted.
- Be consistent throughout the Assessment
- Please sign all Assessment Sheets before starting the event.
- Use pencils for all comments, letters, and roman numerals you put on the sheet.
- Initial all letter or numerical changes on the assessment sheet.
- You may hold sheets for the first three or four bands.