

Florida Vocal Association

Special Category - Ensemble

Final Rating

Time _____ Date _____ *Use no + or - in final rating*

Name of Ensemble _____

School _____ Number of Singers _____

City _____ District _____ School Enrollment _____

Selections _____

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Tone Quality</i></p> <p>1 2</p> <p>___ ___ Resonance</p> <p>___ ___ Focus and Placement</p> <p>___ ___ Breath Support</p> <p>___ ___ Vowels</p> <p>___ ___ Consonants</p> <p>___ ___ Beauty and Freedom</p> <p>___ ___ Register adjustment</p> <p>___ ___ Control</p> <p>___ ___ Blend</p>	<p>Circle one:</p> <p>A</p> <p>B</p> <p>C</p> <p>D</p> <p>E</p>	<p>Comments:</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Technical Preparation</i></p> <p>1 2</p> <p>___ ___ Intonation</p> <p>___ ___ Pitch accuracy</p> <p>___ ___ Rhythmic precision</p> <p>___ ___ Ensemble balance</p> <p>___ ___ Stability of pulse</p> <p>___ ___ Entrances</p> <p>___ ___ Releases</p> <p>___ ___ Balance of accompaniments</p>	<p>Circle one:</p> <p>A</p> <p>B</p> <p>C</p> <p>D</p> <p>E</p>	<p>Comments:</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Musical Effect</i></p> <p>1 2</p> <p>___ ___ Proper tempo</p> <p>___ ___ Phrasing, musical line</p> <p>___ ___ Dynamics</p> <p>___ ___ Style</p> <p>___ ___ Articulations</p> <p>___ ___ Dramatic effect</p> <p>___ ___ Staging/Movement</p> <p>___ ___ Expression</p> <p>___ ___ Interpretation</p> <p>___ ___ Sense of ensemble</p>	<p>Circle one:</p> <p>A</p> <p>B</p> <p>C</p> <p>D</p> <p>E</p>	<p>Comments:</p>

Adjudicator will record a + or - by the factors relating to each category, indicating exemplary work or needing improvement in this area. The absence of any such markings indicates an average performance level in this area.

General Comments: (Include literature selection, appearance, misc.)

Signature of Adjudicator 7/16/07

Special Category - Ensemble Criteria Reference

Tone Quality

A	B	C	D	E
A healthy, vibrant, resonant, and free tone that is consistently well-supported. Vowels are formed properly, resulting in a uniform, blended tone. Consonants clearly communicate the text. Register changes properly made throughout vocal range.	An energized tone that often displays focus and resonance in extreme registers. Vowel placement and formation are often consistent, with most consonants audible. Adjustments are made to correct discrepancies in volume of individual singers.	A generally good tone but sometimes breathy and with tension. Vowels are sometimes improper, creating a tone that is forced and strident. Consonants are sometimes audible, and some diphthongs not treated correctly. Individual voices are sometimes heard.	Tone seldom possesses space, resonance, and focus. Freedom and support, and/or beauty of tone are seldom achieved. Basic vowel formation is incorrect, diphthongs lack definition, most words are not clear. Individuals often dominate the ensemble.	Tone completely lacks space, support, focus, freedom, and beauty. Proper vowel formation is never achieved, and consonants are unidentifiable. Sections and/or individuals never adjust to blending problems relating to excessive vibrato and volume.

Technical Preparation

A	B	C	D	E
Intonation and tonal center are consistent throughout vocal registers. Pitch accuracy, rhythmic precision, and pulse awareness confirm a well-prepared performance. A proper balance is consistently maintained through various dynamics, textures, and ranges.	Intonation is often accurate, with adjustments made in extreme ranges and difficult harmonic passages. Control of pulse is evident with a few minor problems. Balance problems in extreme dynamics and ranges are quickly corrected.	Pitch is sometimes correct, with problems caused by harmonic challenges and vocal faults. Accuracy of pitch and rhythm, steady pulse, and releases and entrances are at times accurate. Balance is sometimes maintained with similarities of volume and tone.	Intonation is seldom accurate, showing a lack of listening skills and understanding of vocal adjustment. Rhythmic and/or pitch accuracy is seldom achieved. Pulse is dragging or rushing most of the time. Balance problems are frequent.	Tonal center is never established. Sense of steady pulse never occurs within the ensemble. Pitches and rhythms are poorly prepared. Entrances and releases are not executed. Sections are never in balance.

Musical Effect

A	B	C	D	E
The composer's intent regarding tempo, style, and markings are consistently followed. Dynamics, phrasing, articulations, and interpretative nuances are artistically executed. There is a consistent feeling of musical line. Expression is evident to convey the composer's message. Staging and movement consistently reflect the style of the music.	A musical performance that often exhibits proper tempo and style. Markings are often followed. Dynamic contrast, artistically shaped musical line, and appropriate articulations are present most of the time. Communication between singers and dramatic effect are often evident. Staging and movement is often appropriate to the style of the music.	Tempo, style, and phrasing sometimes follows the composer's intent. Uses of nuance, dynamics, and articulations are sometimes stylistically correct, but contrived. Musical line sometimes achieves a climax, and at times the composer's markings are followed. There is sometimes a good ensemble feeling. Movement is sometimes appropriate.	Performance seldom exhibits proper tempo and style, or does not follow musical markings. Phrasing is mostly mechanical or contrived. Dynamic range is very limited and/or too much contrast is used. Sensitivity or expression is seldom achieved at any level. There is rarely any dramatic effect. Staging and movement seldom relate to the music.	Tempo and style are never correct. There is an inaccurate use of dynamic ranges. There is never a feeling of phrase shape. The singers fail to establish a feeling of togetherness. There is a total absence of emotional involvement. Movement and staging never relate to the nature of the music.

