

Evaluation Rubric

SKILL	9-10	7-8	5-6	3-4	1-2	Points earned
Posture/Stance	Excellent: standing or sitting with back straight, instrument held perfectly, parallel to the floor and slightly to the left	Very Good: standing or sitting straight, instrument slightly sagging or positioned incorrectly	Good: Mostly standing or sitting straight, instrument sagging or positioned incorrectly	Fair: some attempt made to sit or stand straight, still lacking good posture, instrument mostly held incorrectly	Poor: slouched, leaning too far forward or too far back, elbows sticking out or tucked too close to body, instrument held incorrectly	
Bow hold	Excellent: (violin/viola) Bent thumb, fourth finger curved, fingers curved onto stick at first bend and spaced correctly on bow, hand slightly leaning toward tip, relaxed, secure hold; (cello/bass) Thumb curved, fingers curved over stick and spaced correctly on bow, relaxed, secure hold	Very Good: Bent thumb, flexed fingers, straight fourth finger, too much or not enough lean toward tip, some tension apparent in hand or fingers	Good: Bent thumb, fingers somewhat flexed, hand leaning too much or not enough toward tip, straight fourth finger, tension evident in hand or fingers	Fair: Some attempt to have fingers and thumb in correct placement, still awkwardly bent or straight fingers and/or pronated hand	Poor: Straight or awkwardly bent fingers and thumb, pronated hand, no correctness	

Bow arm/bow use	<p>Excellent: (violin/viola) Correctness of bow arc, forearm moves separately from upper arm with fluidity, student uses whole bow, bow is straight and at the sounding point</p>	<p>Very Good: Slight incorrectness of bow arc, forearm mostly moves separately from upper arm, some hinderance at frog, bow is mostly straight, can almost use whole bows, not fluid</p>	<p>Good: Slight incorrectness of bow arc, bow is mostly straight but student only uses half the bow, bow is tipped correctly</p>	<p>Fair: Incorrect bow arc, elbow too low or too high, occasional separate forearm motion, less stiffness but bow still slides across lanes, student can use six inches of bow, bow is tipped incorrectly and is somewhat crooked</p>	<p>Poor: Incorrect bow arc, elbow too low or too high, arm moves with elbow locked, stiffness, student uses very little bow, bow slides across lanes, bow tipped incorrectly and is crooked</p>	
Left arm	<p>Excellent: (violin/viola) Arm is under instrument, wrist is lined up with arm, not hyperextended (cello/bass) arm is held up open and free to move around, wrist is lined up correctly with arm</p>	<p>Very Good: (violin/viola) arm is under instrument but wrist isn't completely in line with elbow; (cello/bass) arm is nearly correct, some incorrect wrist alignment</p>	<p>Good: (violin/viola) arm is under instrument, wrist is improperly angled, flattened or hyperextended; (cello/bass) arm is lifted but wrist is incorrectly aligned</p>	<p>Fair: (violin/viola) Arm closer to instrument, wrist is angled incorrectly, flattened or hyperextended (cello/bass) arm is slightly lifted</p>	<p>Poor: (violin/viola) Arm sticks out to the left, wrist is angled incorrectly, flattened or hyperextended (cello/bass) arm is along side body, wrist is cocked incorrectly</p>	

Left hand	Excellent: (violin/viola) Hand is correctly positioned along the right side of the fingerboard with finger in proper playing position, curved and directly above the fingerboard at all times. Left wrist is in line with the forearm, thumb relaxed and kept slightly angled toward the scroll	Very Good: Hand is generally positioned correctly with finger curved in playing position. Left wrist is generally in line with forearm, with the thumb mostly relaxed and angled toward the scroll	Good: Left hand is held incorrectly positioned in relation to the fingerboard, with finger curved correctly, some tension in fingers	Fair: Some tension in hand and fingers, some fingers collapse, hand is angled incorrectly under neck, slightly grabbing neck	Poor: Tension in hand and fingers, awkward / incorrect position, fingers collapse, hand angled incorrectly, grabbing neck, thumb incorrectly placed	
Intonation	Excellent: Intonation is accurate in all ranges and required keys	Very Good: Intonation is mostly accurate; the student adjusts the few problem pitches to an acceptable standard	Good: Intonation is somewhat accurate but consistently includes out-of-tune notes; the student adjusts these pitches with fair success	Fair: A basic sense of intonation is evident, yet major errors occur; the student makes little attempt to adjust pitch	Poor: Intonation is consistently inaccurate and hinders the quality of performance; student makes no attempt to correct pitch	
Tone quality	Excellent: Tone quality is clear, full, rich and characteristic of the instrument	Very good: Tone quality is mostly clear and full with occasional lapses	Good: Tone quality exhibits some flaws in production (slightly thin/unfocused/scratchy or forced sound)	Fair: Tone quality has several flaws in basic production (consistently thin/unfocused/scratchy or forced sound)	Poor: Tone production is of a quality that hinders the performance	

Rhythm/Counting ability	Excellent: Rhythms are accurate and precise throughout the performance	Very Good: Rhythms are nearly accurate; occasionally rhythms lack precise interpretation	Good: Most rhythm patterns are accurate, but errors in precision are present	Fair: Many rhythms performed incorrectly or inconsistently, major errors are present	Poor: Rhythms are consistently performed incorrectly; clarity and precision are essentially nonexistent	
Musicality	Excellent: Performance demonstrates full control of tempo, dynamics, phrasing and expression consistent with the style of the piece	Very Good: Performance demonstrates good control of tempo, phrasing and expression consistent with the style of the piece; consistency may be somewhat limited, but rarely distracts from the performance	Good: Performance demonstrates basic control of tempo, phrasing and expression; basic knowledge of style is evident; many stylistic inconsistencies are present	Fair: Major errors in control of tempo, phrasing and expression; stylistic inconsistencies prevail throughout	Poor: Lack of control of tempo, phrasing and expression hinders the performance; attempts at stylistically correct performance are unsuccessful or non-existent	
Note Reading	Excellent: Correct notes, rhythmically correct, correct key	Very Good: A few note reading mistakes, mostly rhythmically correct, mostly correct key differentiations, correct attempts at dynamics, tempo and articulations in sight reading	Good: Mostly correct notes, some rhythmic correctness, some ability to distinguish key differentiations, very little notice of dynamics, tempo, articulations in sight reading	Fair: Some idea of what the notes are, no rhythmic understanding, unable to distinguish key differentiations, no notice of dynamics, tempo, articulations in sight reading	Poor: No comprehension of written music, plays wrong notes with incorrect rhythms	