

EVALUATION AREAS - INSTRUMENTAL

RHYTHM

KEY ASPECTS | **Pulse & Meter Stability; Rhythms & Rhythm Pattern Accuracy; Clarity of Entrances & Releases**

ADDITIONAL FACTORS: Pulse stability; Weight within the given meter; Meter changes; Rhythm concerning precise length of sound and silence; Accuracy within basic and complex rhythm patterns and pattern combinations, including ties, dotted notes, syncopation and tuplets; Rhythmic precision through subdivision

PITCH/INTONATION

KEY ASPECTS | **Note Accuracy; Pitch Accuracy/Intonation; Consistency of Intonation throughout Range of Pitch & Dynamics; Intonation within Melodic Line & Tonality**

ADDITIONAL FACTORS: Note accuracy overall within the context of key and tonality, including key signatures, key changes and accidentals outside of the key; Accuracy within intervals and role within a given chord; Listening and making adjustments

INTERPRETATION

KEY ASPECTS | Tempo, Dynamics, Phrasing, Style, Articulation, Expression

ADDITIONAL FACTORS: Tempo – stability, changes, range and contrast; Dynamics – levels, changes, range and contrast; Phrasing, note shaping, phrase shaping, and overall linear contouring; Realization of the composer's aesthetic intent; Style in terms of performance practice and historical context; Articulation implied by the style; Vibrato as an aspect of expression; Nuance and artistic subtleties; Sensitivity; Musicality; Effect; Emotion or Feelingfulness

TECHNIQUE

KEY ASPECTS | **Articulation; Facility & Flexibility; Control & Consistency; Breathing; Aspects specific to the instrument**

ADDITIONAL FACTORS: Articulation method/Bowing; Slur clarity and precision; Consistency of approach within articulation (tonguing itself, legato, staccato, accent, marcato, sforzando, etc.); Facility as the ease of execution of technical passages reflecting scope and depth of content; Flexibility as the ease of maneuverability throughout range; Bowing; Vibrato as an aspect of technique; Clarity; Precision; Dexterity; Coordination; Mechanical Skill; Smoothness;

TONE

KEY ASPECTS | **Quality, Clarity & Projection; Use of Air or Bow; Control & Consistency throughout Range of Pitch and Dynamics**

ADDITIONAL FACTORS: Focus; Maturity; Warmth; Naturalness; Characteristic timbre throughout range; Use of air speed, amount and support/Use of bow; Control and consistency throughout range of both pitch and dynamics; Consistency and evenness of sonority; Pitch center; Resonance; Vibrato as an aspect of tone