

Caption Overview - Music Ensemble (DCI)

- Through a complete performance, ***Music Analysis evaluation is a holistic view of the full music ensemble with the added dimension of content.***
- The caption headings and elements contribute to the overall assessment of the music performance.
- Evaluation of both captions can and should be considered simultaneously as the performance dictates

Caption Basics

- Music Analysis evaluation is a performance based caption.
- As with all other performance captions, ***Music Analysis evaluation is based on a dual look at the content and the achievement by the performers.***
- Music Analysis evaluation takes place from the press box, nearest the 50 yard line as possible.

Content

- The musical “what” including the principals of orchestration.
- Credit the use of the many musical devices available and the clarity through which these devices are utilized.
- Of particular importance is the depth, complexity and quality of orchestration.

Be aware of how textures are created through scoring including, but not limited to:

voicing

density

tessitura

interdependence

combinations

Judges should consider the timbres created by using electronics within the brass and percussion arrangement that become integral components of the orchestration.

Awareness and understanding of the written musical challenges and content must be rewarded.

Examples may include but are not limited to:

- Vertical and horizontal musical challenges
- The array of compositional devices applied
- Musicality and musical expression

Congruent and complementary communication through style, harmony, and counterpoint as related to the brass and percussion sections should be considered as necessary in the overall musical presentation.

It is important to remember that we are judging the output of the performers.

We are not judging the writers. The score may be impacted by the design team's writing, but in Achievement, we categorically judge the performers.

Achievement is the fulfillment of the content.

Summary

- Continue to evaluate the “What” & “How” through the achievement process
- Consider simultaneous responsibilities and the number of performers involved in the various challenges
- Broaden your commentary to include all of the various segments of the ensemble equitably
- The commentary must be substantive regarding the contribution of the musical segment to the full ensemble
- Summarize the commentary with a total ensemble assessment through time