

# Concert Critique Guidelines

This concert needs to be by another high school (NOT BBHHS), college, and professional or community orchestra. **Any concert that you are participating in will not count for your critique requirement;** however, you can earn extra credit when you turn a critique telling us about the experience (excluding our school orchestra concerts). If you're looking for concert opportunities, check your local newspaper.

Enjoy the concert you're attending--you may write down a couple of thoughts--but concentrate on being an ACTIVE LISTENER throughout the whole concert.

## Please turn in 2 things:

1. program or ticket stub
2. 1-2 page typed reaction to the concert (It is best to do this within 48 hours so you don't forget. Handwritten papers will not be accepted.) Critiques will not be accepted after one week following the concert.

When writing your critique/review, please include the following:

- Title of concert, date, place and name of performing groups
- Discuss your AESTHETIC reaction to the concert (aesthetic = intellectual and emotional responses)
- Any other observations that you make
- What did you like/dislike about the concert and why
  - critique the music (was it all the same style?), the way it was performed, the conductor, etc.
  - talk about one piece in detail (what was the piece about and how did the phrasing, tone, articulation, instrumentation convey the meaning of the piece.)

## Summary paragraph--

- What did you learn from the performance ***and*** how can you apply that to your own playing? (*If this paragraph is missing, you will not receive full credit.*)

## Examples of what not to say!!

- Anything too vague or general
- "I like that song because I know it."
- "It inspired me." (be more specific)
- "They need to practice more." (WHY?)
- "THE DYNAMICS WERE GOOD." (HOW?)
- "They sounded good." (You can do better than that!)
- "The orchestra had nice harmonies." (huh?)
- "The rhythms were interesting." (HOW?)
- "Their outfits did not match at all. And this woman behind me kept on unwrapping cough drops and this one girl at the back of the violin section was moving so much that it distracted everyone from her big hair."

You may only write one sentence containing a non-musical criticism. Full credit will not be given if you focus on peripheral, non-musical matters. If any of the above items are left out, you will not receive full credit. **See page 17 of your handbook for the grading criteria.**

# Community Service Performance Guidelines

If you choose to perform instead of attend a concert, you must gather your own group of musicians together without the assistance of your director. You can choose to perform as one mini ensemble (no more than 8 people in a group), or as several solos/duets/trios or both.

You must contact the place that you would like to perform at (grocery store, retirement home, office party, etc.....), get the contact persons information, and set up this performance before 12/25/. **You should have around 20-30 minutes of music to perform for this to count.** Once this is set up, submit the bottom portion of this paper with all of the information listed at least two weeks prior to the performance. If you need help with music, just ask me.

***Each individual must submit their own paper. NO EXCEPTIONS.***

**Please turn in the following items:**

- 1) Pre-concert paper
- 2) Video recording of your concert
- 3) Program that is signed by the contact person (no credit issued if this is missing)
- 4) 1 page reflection paper about why you initially chose to perform, what benefit you received from this experience, and explain how this is giving back to the community (It is best to do this within 48 hours so you don't forget. Handwritten papers will not be accepted.) Critiques will not be accepted after one week following the concert.

## **Grading Criteria**

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|-------------------------------|---|
| 1) Program turned in (10 pts) | 3) Video recording of your performance (40 pts) |
| 2) Pre-Concert paper (10 pts) | 4) Post Concert Paper (40 pts)                  |

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Concert Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of performance: \_\_\_\_\_

Concert Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for concert at this location: \_\_\_\_\_

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