



# VISUAL EFFECT

## A CLASS: FUNDAMENTAL TO INTERMEDIATE SKILLS



BOX 1	BOX 2			BOX 3			BOX 4			BOX 5		
VOID OF FUNDAMENTAL 0 – 49	EMERGING FUNDAMENTAL			ESTABLISHED FUNDAMENTAL			EMERGING INTERMEDIATE			ESTABLISHED INTERMEDIATE		
	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-83	84-88	89-92	93-95	96-98	99-100
	SOME	MOST	ALMOST ALL	SOME	MOST	ALMOST ALL	SOME	MOST	ALMOST ALL	SOME	MOST	ALMOST ALL

### SAMPLE ALL ELEMENTS OF THE BAND

#### PROGRAM EFFECT

*Whose PROGRAM offered the greater:*

- **ENTERTAINMENT / APPEAL:** *The level of entertainment and appeal generated by the overall program.*
- **PACING AND CONTOURING OF VISUAL EFFECTS:** *The degree to which the pacing, shaping, and contouring of the visual effects engage the audience over time—including (but not limited to) both when they happen and at what intensity level; dynamic/expressive variety and gradations; developments; impacts; resolutions; and the manipulation of tension & release.*
- **COORDINATION OF VISUAL AND MUSICAL ELEMENTS:** *The degree to which all of the designed elements are coordinated (including both visual to visual and visual to musical) to achieve and enhance the programmed aesthetic, intellectual, and emotional effects.*
- **RANGE AND VARIETY OF EFFECTS:** *The range and variety of aesthetic, intellectual, and emotional effects—including (but not limited to) the use of form, body, equipment; props, colors & costumes; expressive qualities and characterizations; mood; and generation/release of tension, intensity, surprise, and excitement.*

SUB-CAPTION  
SCORE

100

#### PERFORMER EFFECT

*Whose PERFORMERS achieved the better:*

- **SHOWMANSHIP / COMMUNICATION / AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT:** *The degree to which the ability to engage the audience through showmanship skills—including (but not limited to) connection; communication; and emotional intensity—is developed and achieved.*
- **ACHIEVEMENT OF EXPRESSIVE CONTOURS AND QUALITIES:** *The degree to which the ability to deliver the expressive contours and qualities in the program—including (but not limited to) tension and release; developments, impacts, and resolutions; moods; and intensities—is developed and achieved.*
- **ACHIEVEMENT OF PLANNED EFFECTS:** *The degree to which the ability to deliver the range and variety of the planned effects in the program—including (but not limited to) sufficient intensity, expression, excellence, and precision—is developed and achieved.*

SUB-CAPTION  
SCORE

100

#### STYLISTIC DIVERSITY IS ENCOURAGED AND ALL STYLISTIC CHOICES HAVE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR SUCCESS.

The points of comparison listed above collectively represent a balanced assessment of the caption and are not intended to be in priority order.

Achievement should be recognized and rewarded through the balanced consideration of ALL aspects of BOTH sub-captions!

Measure the degree of success and achievement along the continuum and then compare to determine:

Who is better (ranking) and by how much (spreading), in order to arrive at each sub-caption score and the total score (rating).

TOTAL  
MAX  
SCORE

200

SPREAD GUIDELINES	Very Close	Slight Advantage	Advantage	Decision
100-point sub-caption scale	1	2	3	4+
200-point total score scale	1-2	3-4	5-6	7+

# A CLASS VISUAL EFFECT (SAMPLE ALL ELEMENTS OF THE BAND)

BOX 1 VOID OF FUNDAMENTAL 0 – 49	BOX 2 EMERGING FUNDAMENTAL 50-54 SOME55-59 MOST60-64 ALMOST ALL			BOX 3 ESTABLISHED FUNDAMENTAL 65-69 SOME70-74 MOST75-79 ALMOST ALL			POINTS OF COMPARISON  A CLASS	BOX 4 EMERGING INTERMEDIATE 80-83 SOME84-88 MOST89-92 ALMOST ALL			BOX 5 ESTABLISHED INTERMEDIATE 93-95 ALMOST ALL96-98 ALMOST ALL99-100 ALMOST ALL		
Fundamental offerings are not present.	Fundamental, basic skills & qualities with variety limited to this scope. Single efforts or slight layering of basic efforts. Minimal dynamic/tempo/expressive range, with basic contrast & few gradations.							PROGRAM EFFECT	Skills & qualities offer some complexity & dimensionality, with moderate to good variety drawn from a basic to intermediate scope. Moderate to good dynamic/tempo/expressive range with clear contrasts & some gradations. Slight to moderate layering of efforts.				
	Very basic due to the narrow range & variety of effects offered.						ENTERTAINMENT / APPEAL	Programming choices, stylistic & expressive variety create an enjoyable program.					
	Emerging rudimentary levels vary over time.			Established fundamental levels are moderate & may vary over time.				Emerging intermediate levels are moderate & may vary over time.			Established intermediate levels are good & may vary slightly over time.		
	Simple effects & basic visual contrast—often irregularly paced.						PACING & CONTOURING OF VISUAL EFFECTS	Clear impact points & contrasts, moderately paced & contoured.					
	Emerging pacing fundamentals offer very basic contrasts to achieve moments of rudimentary effect.			Established pacing fundamentals offer basic contrasts & impact points to achieve basic effectiveness over time.				Emerging intermediate pacing offers moderate contrasts, impacts & some dynamic shaping to achieve basic dramatic contour over time.			Established intermediate pacing offers good variety of contrasts, impacts & contouring of dynamics & intensities to achieve intermediate dramatic contour over time.		
	Simple coordination between visual elements & with the music. Beginning understanding of functional staging to support the music.						COORDINATION OF VISUAL & MUSICAL ELEMENTS	Good coordination between visual elements & with the music. Staging supports & sometimes enhances the musical & visual presentation					
	Fundamental offerings are often presented singly. Basic coordination between visual elements &/or the music occasionally achieves rudimentary effectiveness.			Fundamental offerings show basic coordination between visual elements & a few obvious musical elements to achieve basic effectiveness.				Emerging intermediate coordination combines important visual elements along with some musical elements to achieve moderate intermediate effect.			Established intermediate coordination combines important visual & musical elements for good intermediate effect.		
	Simple visual effects—often very similar.						RANGE & VARIETY OF EFFECTS	Moderate to good range & variety of effects impact at aesthetic &/or emotional levels.					
	Fundamental offerings offer nascent effect in isolated moments.			Moderate variety of fundamental effects over time.				Moderate range &/or variety of intermediate effects over time.			Good range & variety of intermediate effects over time.		
A foundation for fundamental achievement is not present.	Fundamental, basic achievement that serves as a foundation for future growth. Individual skills dominate, with some emerging awareness of the ensemble & the individual’s basic role within the ensemble. Achievement may vary between responsibilities, sections & over time.						PERFORMER EFFECT	Moderate individual skill, strength & stamina emerging from a good technical foundation & a broader range & variety of responsibilities. Moderate to good ensemble awareness & individual ability to fulfill an intermediate role within the ensemble. Achievement may vary between responsibilities, sections & over time.					
	There may be a beginning awareness of the audience but the performers are just learning how to communicate effectively.						SHOWMANSHIP / COMMUNICATION / AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT	Greater understanding of communication & engagement is evident but may be inconsistent or one dimensional.					
	Nascent achievement of the most fundamental skills is emerging.			Moderate achievement of fundamental skills engages at a nascent level.				Moderate achievement of an intermediate range of skills engages at a moderate level but may vary.			Good achievement of an intermediate range of skills engages at a good level but may vary.		
	An understanding of simple effects & impacts is emerging but there is flat approach to expression and intensities.						ACHIEVEMENT OF EXPRESSIVE CONTOURS & QUALITIES	Performers understand & have some success in achieving many of the written expressive/dynamic contours. Stylistic performance is mostly successful.					
	Nascent achievement of the most fundamental skills is emerging.			Moderate achievement of fundamental skills is established but may vary.				Moderate achievement of intermediate contours & qualities is established but may vary.			Good achievement of intermediate contours & qualities is established but may vary.		
	Effects are often hampered by lack of training, stamina, or technique.						ACHIEVEMENT OF PLANNED EFFECTS	Performers understand planned effects (aesthetic &/or emotional) & have some success in achieving them.					
	Nascent achievement of the most fundamental skills is emerging.			Moderate achievement of a fundamental range of effects is established but may vary.				Moderate achievement of an intermediate range of effects is emerging but may vary.			Good achievement of an intermediate range of effects is established but may vary.		