VISUAL EFFECT
OPEN CLASS: INTERMEDIATE TO ADVANCED SKILLS

BOX 1	BOX 2			BOX 3			BOX 4			BOX 5		
VOID OF INTERMEDIATE	EMERGING INTERMEDIATE			ESTABLISHED INTERMEDIATE			EMERGING ADVANCED			ESTABLISHED ADVANCED		
0 – 49	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) when they happen and at what intensity level; dynamic variety and gradations; developments; impacts; resolutions; and the manipulation of tension and release.*

- **COORDINATION OF VISUAL AND MUSICAL ELEMENTS:** *The degree to which all of the designed elements are coordinated (including visual to visual and visual to musical) to achieve and enhance the programmed aesthetic, intellectual, and emotional effects.*

- **RANGE, VARIETY, AND DEPTH OF EFFECTS:** *The range, variety, and depth of aesthetic, intellectual, and emotional effects including (but not limited to) the use of form, body, equipment; props, colors, and costumes; expressive qualities and characterization; mood; and generation/release of tension, intensity, surprise, and excitement.*

- **CREATIVITY:** *The level of creativity and imagination displayed in the exploration, usage, and integration of effective ideas, components, qualities, and design.*

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/DRAMATIC CONTOURS AND QUALITIES:** *The degree to which the ability to deliver the expressive and dramatic contours and qualities in the program—including (but not limited to) tension and release; developments, impacts, and resolutions; moods; and emotional/dramatic intensities—is developed and achieved.*

- **ACHIEVEMENT OF PLANNED EFFECTS:** *The degree to which the ability to deliver the range, variety, and depth of the planned effects in the program—including (but not limited to) sufficient intensity, expression, excellence, and precision—is developed and achieved.*

- **CLARITY OF VISUAL STYLE AND IDENTITY:** *The degree to which the visual style and identity is developed and achieved throughout the ensemble.*

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+

OPEN CLASS
VISUAL EFFECT
(SAMPLE ALL ELEMENTS OF THE BAND)

BOX 1	BOX 2			BOX 3			POINTS OF COMPARISON	BOX 4			BOX 5		
VOID OF INERMEDIATE	EMERGING INTERMEDIATE			ESTABLISHED INTERMEDIATE			*OPEN CLASS*	EMERGING ADVANCED			ESTABLISHED ADVANCED		
0 – 49	50-54 SOME	55-59 MOST	60-64 ALL	65-69 SOME	70-74 MOST	75-79 ALL		80-83 SOME	84-88 MOST	89-92 ALL	93-95 SOME	96-98 MOST	99-100 ALL
Intermediate offerings are not present.	*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.*						**PROGRAM EFFECT**	*Skills & qualities offer good complexity, dimensionality & frequency, with moderate to strong range, variety & depth drawn from an intermediate to advanced scope. Good to strong dynamic/tempo/rhythmic/spacial/expressive range, with clear contrasts & a variety of gradations. Moderate to strong layering of efforts.*					
	Programming choices, stylistic & expressive variety create an enjoyable program.						**ENTERTAINMENT / APPEAL**	*A highly entertaining program. Entertainment & appeal are successful throughout.*					
	Emerging **int.** levels are **moderate** & **may vary** over time.			Established **int.** levels are **good** & **may vary** slightly over time.				Emerging **adv.** levels are **moderate** & **may vary** slightly over time.			Established **adv.** levels are **good** to **strong** & sustained over time.		
	Clear impact points & contrasts, moderately paced & contoured.						**PACING & CONTOURING OF VISUAL EFFECTS**	*Good complexity & frequency of well-planned, paced & contoured visual events.*					
	Emerging **int.** pacing offers **moderate** contrasts, impacts & some dynamic shaping to achieve **basic** dramatic contour over time.			Established **int.** pacing offers **good** variety of contrasts, impacts & contouring of dynamics & intensities to achieve **int.** dramatic contour over time.				Emerging **adv.** pacing offers a **good** range & variety of developments, impacts & resolutions to achieve **good** dramatic contour over time.			Established **adv.** pacing offers a **broad** range & variety of developments, impacts & resolutions to sustain **strong** dramatic contour over time.		
	Good coordination between visual elements & with the music. Staging supports & sometimes enhances the musical & visual presentation						**COORDINATION OF VISUAL & MUSICAL ELEMENTS**	*Strong coordination of all elements. Multiple musical ideas are reflected & enhanced by the visual. Staging consistently supports & enhances the musical & visual presentations.*					
	Emerging **int.** coordination combines important visual elements along with some musical elements to achieve **moderate int.** effect.			Established **int.** coordination combines important visual & musical elements for **good int.** effect.				Emerging **adv.** coordination blends & layers a **good** range of visual & musical elements to create **good** levels of interest & effect.			Established **adv.** coordination blends & layers a **broad** range of visual & musical elements to create & sustain **strong** levels of interest & effect.		
	Moderate to good range & variety of effects impact at aesthetic &/or emotional levels.						**RANGE, VARIETY & DEPTH OF EFFECTS**	*Good to strong range, variety & depth of effects impact at aesthetic, emotional & intellectual levels.*					
	Moderate range &/or variety of **int.** effects over time.			**Good** range & variety of **int.** effects over time. Depth is emerging.				**Moderate** range, variety & depth of **adv.** effects over time.			**Good** to **strong** range, variety & depth of **adv.** effects over time.		
	Some distinctive moments & novel approaches may be present.						**CREATIVITY**	*New/different ways to create & enhance unique visual effects & performance opportunities are explored/presented.*					
	Emerging **int.** creativity employs **int.** qualities & skills to explore a **moderate** range of effect options.			Established int. creativity employs **int.** qualities & skills to create **moderate** interest & effect.				Emerging **adv.** creativity employs **int. to adv.** qualities & skills to create a **good** range of interest & effect.			Established **adv.** creativity & imagination employs **adv.** qualities & skills to create a **broad** range of interest & effect.		
A foundation for intermediate achievement is not present.	*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.*						**PERFORMER EFFECT**	*Good to strong individual skill, strength and stamina emerging from a strong technical foundation and a broad range and variety of more advanced responsibilities. Good to strong ensemble awareness and individual ability to fulfill a more advanced role within the ensemble.*					
	Greater understanding of communication & engagement is evident but may be inconsistent or one dimensional.						**SHOWMANSHIP / COMMUNICATION / AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT**	*Communication and engagement consistently enliven the show within the ensemble & from performer to audience.*					
	Moderate achievement of an **int.** range of skills engages at a **moderate** level but **may vary**.			**Good** achievement of an **int.** range of skills engages at a **good** level but **may vary**.				**Good** achievement of an **adv.** range of skills engages at a very **good** level but **may vary**.			**Strong** achievement of an **adv.** range of skills engages at a **high** level throughout.		
	Performers understand & have some success in achieving many of the written expressive/dynamic contours. Stylistic performance is mostly successful.						**ACHIEVEMENT OF EXPRESSIVE / DRAMATIC CONTOURS & QUALITIES**	*The expressive range is expansive & performers are capable of shaping the dramatic contour throughout the performance.*					
	Moderate achievement of **int.** contours & qualities is established but **may vary**.			**Good** achievement of **int.** contours & qualities is established but **may vary**.				**Good** achievement of **adv.** contours & qualities is emerging but **may vary**.			**Strong** achievement of **adv.** contours & qualities is established & sustained **throughout the ensemble**.		
	Performers understand planned effects (aesthetic &/or emotional) & have some success in achieving them.						**ACHIEVEMENT OF PLANNED EFFECTS**	*Performers achieve a variety of planned effects (aesthetic, emotional & intellectual) clearly & consistently.*					
	Moderate achievement of an **int.** range of effects is emerging but **may vary**.			**Good** achievement of an **int.** range of effects is established but **may vary**.				**Good** achievement of an **adv.** range of effects is emerging but **may vary**.			**Strong** achievement of an **adv.** range of effects is established & sustained over time.		
	One or more chosen visual style(s)/identities are evident & often demonstrated.						**CLARITY OF VISUAL STYLE & IDENTITY**	*Multiple visual styles/identities may be explored & are consistently clear & well developed.*					
	Moderate clarity of **int.** qualities is emerging but **may vary**.			**Good** clarity of **int.** qualities is established but **may vary**.				**Good** clarity of **adv.** qualities is established but **may vary**.			**Strong** clarity of **adv.** qualities is established & sustained throughout.		