

PERFORMANCE LEVEL GUIDELINES – SOUND CATEGORY

A+ Superior (94-100)	A Nearly Perfect (86-93)	A- Excellent (80-85)
FOCUS AREA: PERFORMANCE MAGIC Complete mastery of vocal skills demonstrated Tuning of all chords is instant and immaculate Ensemble sound is impeccably blended and ringing Flawless delivery of vowels with matched resonance Barbershop balance is always present Seamless vocal lines flow on a river of energy Artistry and musicality showcase the barbershop style Performance is totally captivating	FOCUS AREA: ARTISTRY Exceptional mastery of vocal skills demonstrated All chords instantly tuned into locked, ringing, blended ensemble sound Vowels carry continuous sound with matched resonance Balance maintained at all dynamic levels and ranges Seamless vocal lines consistently energized and flowing Strong sense of barbershop style with artistry and character Performance consistently transcends technique	FOCUS AREA: MUSICALITY High level of vocal skill mastery is demonstrated Chords consistently tuned into locked, ringing ensemble sound Vowels effortlessly produced with matched resonance Balance usually maintained throughout performance Vocal lines usually seamless and fully energized Strong sense of barbershop style usually evident Performance starting to transcend technique; only fleeting moments of concentration/technique showing
B+ Very Good (74-79)	B Good (66-73)	B- Promising (60-65)
FOCUS AREA: MASTERY Strong vocal skills demonstrated; confident delivery Minor lapses in tuning and synch affect chord accuracy Minor errors in vowel production and resonance match inhibit ringing ensemble sound Balance generally consistent throughout the performance Vocal lines well energized and supported with minor lapses Artistry and musicality beginning to outweigh technique Vocal character emerging	FOCUS AREA: CONSISTENCY Vocal skills strong but not habitual Solid sound overall, but chords not consistently locked Minor synch problems affect chord accuracy Most vowels matched/properly resonated; some ring evident Balance may suffer at extreme ranges and dynamic levels Energy and support for vocal lines inconsistent across the ensemble Technique still evident and generally overrides artistry Integration of skills not yet present	FOCUS AREA: ACHIEVEMENT Vocal skills generally good but inconsistent in performance Vocal lines occasionally supported Occasional minor intonation and tuning problems Occasional synch problems affect chord accuracy Vowels initially matched but not consistently resonated; sporadic ring/overtone Balance adjustments inconsistent Energy inconsistent Focus on technique inhibits attempts at artistry and character
C+ Satisfactory (54-59)	C Fair (46-53)	C- Poor (40-45)
FOCUS AREA: UNITY Work on vocal skills apparent, but still unreliable Periodic intonation and tuning problems Synch problems affect ensemble sound and unity Errors in vowel production and resonance match Balance achieved in mid-range, but not yet at extremes Energy sporadic, with lack of consistent support Occasional glimpses of vocal artistry and character; attempts sometimes successful	FOCUS AREA: ACCURACY Vocal skills understood, but application inconsistent Frequent intonation and tuning errors, some wrong notes Part inaccuracies detract from blended ensemble sound Frequent synch problems impact chord alignment/accuracy Vowels occasionally match in passing, but not sustained Balance inconsistent due to vocal limitations Energy level weak, breath stamina inadequate for the demands of the music Attempts at artistry and character masked by vocal problems	FOCUS AREA: SKILL BUILDING Vocal skills weak Individual vocal qualities override ensemble sound Tuning, accuracy and intonation errors Frequent wrong notes apparent, inhibiting unit sound Synch problems keep chords from aligning Vowels generally lack common approach or resonance Barbershop balance not achieved or maintained Vocal energy rarely demonstrated Attempts at vocal artistry or character not yet apparent
D+ Weak (34-39) • D Very Weak (26-33) • D- Very Poor (20-25)		
Performances below C- are uncomfortable for the audience. Vocal skills are underdeveloped and chord accuracy is rarely demonstrated, making any real evaluation of the performance difficult. Artistic efforts cannot be appreciated as the performers' level of vocal and performance capability makes it nearly impossible to interpret and perform the music.		

Rev 12/21



PERFORMANCE LEVEL GUIDELINES – MUSIC CATEGORY

A+ Superior (94-100)	A Nearly Perfect (86-93)	A- Excellent (80-85)
FOCUS AREA: PERFORMANCE MAGIC Complete mastery of vocal skills demonstrated Highly creative song/arr. that showcases barbershop style Song, arrangement, and performer seamlessly integrated Tuning of all chords is instant and impeccable All elements synergistically unified Highly creative interpretive plan, intuitive & compelling Artistic delivery epitomizes the barbershop style Performance completely transcends technique	FOCUS AREA: ARTISTRY Exceptional mastery of vocal skills demonstrated Creative, strong barbershop song/arrangement Song/arrangement embodied by the performer All chords instantly tuned into locked, musical unit Outstanding musical unity Creative interpretive plan executed instinctively Strong sense of barbershop style with artistry & finesse Performance consistently transcends technique	FOCUS AREA: MUSICALITY High level of proficiency in vocal skills demonstrated Strong barbershop song/arrangement Song/arrangement showcases performer 's skills Chords usually tuned into locked, musical unit Well-unified musical performance Strong execution of creative interpretive plan Strong sense of barbershop style with consistent energy Performance usually transcends technique
B+ Very Good (74-79)	B Good (66-73)	B- Promising (60-65)
FOCUS AREA: MASTERY Strong vocal skills demonstrated Good song/arr. highlights hallmarks of barbershop Song/arr. may present minor challenges to performer Minor tuning errors affect chord clarity Strong unity, occasional synch errors affect chords Interpretive plan well designed, lacks vocal freedom Artistry beginning to emerge over technique	FOCUS AREA: CONSISTENCY Good vocal skills, but not habitual Good song/arr. highlights hallmarks of barbershop Song/arr. demands occasionally impact performance Occasional tuning errors affect chord clarity Good unity, minor synch errors affect chords Focus on technique interferes with delivery of good plan Some achievement in artistry and finesse evident	FOCUS AREA: ACHIEVEMENT Vocal skills generally good, but inconsistent Good song/arr. highlights hallmarks of barbershop Song/arr. presents some challenges to the performer Frequent minor tuning errors affect chord clarity Generally good unity, frequent synch errors Good basic interpretive plan impeded by skill level Attempts at artistry inhibited by skill level
C+ Satisfactory (54-59)	C Fair (46-53)	C- Poor (40-45)
FOCUS AREA: UNITY Work on vocal skills apparent, but still in progress Song/arr. meets the basic requirements of barbershop style Song/arr. mismatch to skills often result in errors Consistent minor tuning problems impact chord clarity Sense of musical unity present, but inconsistent Interpretive plan evident, energy inconsistent Mechanical delivery overrides attempts at artistry	FOCUS AREA: ACCURACY Vocal skills understood, but application inconsistent Song/arr. meets the basic requirements of barbershop style Song/arr. may be too difficult for current skills Tuning problems and some wrong notes impact chords Emerging musical unit destabilized by synch problems Interpretive plan sometimes apparent, lacks energy Artistry is elusive until technical elements improve	FOCUS AREA: SKILL BUILDING Vocal skills weak, but beginnings of work apparent Song/arr. meets the basic requirements of barbershop style Song/arr. overwhelms developing skills Consistent tuning problems, wrong notes affect chords Consistent lack of chord alignment/unity Interpretive plan is missing or too difficult, energy absent Artistry is elusive until technical elements improve
D+ Weak (34-39), D Very Weak (26-33), D- Very Poor (20-25)		
Performances at the D Level are uncomfortable for the audience. Vocal skills are underdeveloped, and chord accuracy is rarely demonstrated, making any real evaluation of the performance difficult. Artistic efforts cannot be appreciated as the performers' level of vocal and performance capability makes it nearly impossible to interpret and perform the music.		

PERFORMANCE LEVEL GUIDELINES – EXPRESSION CATEGORY

A+ Superior (94-100)	A Nearly Perfect (86-93)	A- Excellent (80-85)
FOCUS AREA: PERFORMANCE MAGIC Complete mastery of vocal skills demonstrated Exemplary performance of open, matched vowels Flawless unit word delivery Flawless execution of masterful interpretive plan Excellent use of barbershop style and vocal drama Strong emotional communication captivates audience Performance fully transcends technique	FOCUS AREA: ARTISTRY Exceptional mastery of vocal skills demonstrated Vowels and diphthongs fully matched and resonated Total unity evident in word delivery Excellent interpretive plan consistently performed as unit Artistic use of stylistic elements and vocal textures Strong character and genuine involvement in message Performance consistently transcends technique	FOCUS AREA: MUSICALITY High level of proficiency in vocal skills demonstrated Vowels consistently matched as a unit Consistent vertical alignment of word elements Minor flaws in execution of strong interpretive plan Strong sense of unit delivery in barbershop style High degree of involvement in character and message Performance usually transcends technique
B+ Very Good (74-79)	B Good (66-73)	B- Promising (60-65)
FOCUS AREA: MASTERY Strong vocal skills demonstrated Minor internal synch problems Occasional problems in vowel alignment Interpretive plan well designed, minor flaws in execution Artistry and finesse frequently evident Genuine involvement in communication of message Artistry beginning to emerge over technique	FOCUS AREA: CONSISTENCY Vocal skills strong but not habitual Internal synch problems with consonants and diphthongs Most vowels well matched, some consonant interference Good interpretive plan, but inconsistent unit delivery Some glimpses of artistry and finesse Inconsistent unit involvement in message Technique still evident & generally overrides artistry	FOCUS AREA: ACHIEVEMENT Vocal skills generally good but inconsistent Frequent internal synch problems with word elements Vowels initially matched but not sustained as unit Good interpretive plan, but stronger unit needed Artistry only evident as part of technique Emotional involvement overshadowed by technique Focus on technique inhibits attempts at artistry
C+ Satisfactory (54-59)	C Fair (46-53)	C- Poor (40-45)
FOCUS AREA: UNITY Work on vocal skills apparent, but still in progress Consistent problems with internal synch Vowels not aligned as a unit, consonants interfere Interpretive plan evident but not executed as a unit Sporadic energy with lack of consistent stamina Insufficient support for effective stylistic use Concern with technique overrides sincere involvement	FOCUS AREA: ACCURACY Vocal skills understood, but application inconsistent Frequent internal and external synch errors Vowels need unit approach to resonated production Interpretive plan emerges, but stronger support needed Vocal energy weak, choppy delivery results Stronger vocal skills needed to convey barbershop style Communication rarely reaches beyond footlights	FOCUS AREA: SKILL BUILDING Vocal skills weak, but beginnings of work apparent Consistent synch problems Vowels need free, unit approach to production Interpretive plan needs stronger vocal skills Phrase delivery choppy due to lack of energy & support Attempts at style lack musicality Nerves impair successful emotional communication
D+ Weak (34-39), D Very Weak (26-33), D- Very Poor (20-25)		
Performances at the D Level are uncomfortable for the audience. Vocal skills are underdeveloped and chord accuracy is rarely demonstrated, making any real evaluation of the performance difficult. Artistic efforts cannot be appreciated as the performers' level of vocal and performance capability makes it nearly impossible to interpret and perform the music.		

PERFORMANCE LEVEL GUIDELINES – VISUAL COMMUNICATION CATEGORY

A+ Superior (94-100)	A Nearly Perfect (86-93)	A- Excellent (80-85)
FOCUS AREA: PERFORMANCE MAGIC Complete mastery of vocal skills demonstrated Impeccable and unforgettable stage presence Magnetically compelling characterization & physical expression Audience totally captivated throughout Energized visual performance breathtaking! Impeccable visual plan supports and enhances music Visual musicality & artistry completely transcend technique	FOCUS AREA: ARTISTRY Exceptional mastery of vocal skills demonstrated Captivating stage presence and star quality on display Authentic characterization and physical expression High degree of audience connection High level of energy exudes joy of performing Visual plan design strongly enhances musical plan Visual artistry and musicality evident most of the time	FOCUS AREA: MUSICALITY High level of proficiency in vocal skills demonstrated Charismatic & effortless stage presence most of the time Characterization and physical expression well defined and naturally projected Strong connection with the audience High degree of energy consistently demonstrated Visual plan design reinforces musical plan Visual musicality mostly evident; fleeting moments of technique
B+ Very Good (74-79)	B Good (66-73)	B- Promising (60-65)
FOCUS AREA: MASTERY Strong vocal skills demonstrated & musicality emerging Strong stage presence and exploring personal charisma Strong visual unity with minor distractions Characterization and engaging physical expression maintained throughout Consistent level of audience connection High level of energy with minor lapses Creative visual plan design that generally supports music	FOCUS AREA: CONSISTENCY Vocal skills strong but still inconsistent Comfortable on stage and generally confident Good visual unity but need further improvement Moments of characterization and natural physical expression Audience connection is good but inconsistent Inconsistent energy level across ensemble Good visual plan design that does not interfere with music	FOCUS AREA: ACHIEVEMENT Vocal skills generally good but inconsistent Stage presence is evident but inconsistent in group & performance Need higher degree of visual unity to limit distractions Some evidence of characterization & involved physical expression Audience beginning to become interested Energy level shows peaks and valleys throughout performance Minor flaws in the design of the visual plan
C+ Satisfactory (54-59)	C Fair (46-53)	C- Poor (40-45)
FOCUS AREA: UNITY Work on vocal skills apparent, but still in progress Moments of confidence support beginnings of stage presence Inconsistent visual unity across ensemble Lack of consistency in characterization/physical expression Increasing attempts at audience connection sometimes successful Energy sporadic, but frequent attempts evident A visual plan apparent, but not always effective	FOCUS AREA: ACCURACY Vocal skills understood but inconsistent and more stamina needed Stage presence tentative and inconsistent Lack of ensemble approach creates visual distraction Little attempt at characterization or natural physical expression Some attempt at audience connection Energy level insufficient Visual plan evident, but may conflict with musical plan	FOCUS AREA: SKILL BUILDING Vocal skills weak and lack of stamina evident Stage presence is insecure Visual unity lacking and is completely individual in approach No projection of characterization or natural physical expression No attempt at audience connection Some attempts at performance energy Visual plan often conflicts with music
D+ Weak (34-39), D Very Weak (26-33), D- Very Poor (20-25)		
Performances at the D Level are uncomfortable for the audience. Vocal skills are underdeveloped and chord accuracy is rarely demonstrated, making any real evaluation of the performance difficult. Artistic efforts cannot be appreciated as the performers' level of vocal and performance capability makes it nearly impossible to interpret and perform the music.		

Vocal Skills per the JCDB

Body Alignment:

The body houses the singer's instrument. A dynamic yet stable stance supports the instrument and allows the freely-produced sound that is inherent in the production of ringing chords and overtones. Optimal singing alignment is an upright stance with the ears, shoulders and hip joints vertically aligned and weight evenly distributed on the feet. The chin is parallel to the floor, the jaw is relaxed, and the head is balanced over the spine. The rib cage is open with the shoulders relaxed and the head aligned over the spinal column so that the column of air in the pharynx (the primary resonating chamber) is unobstructed.

Breathing:

Breathing for singing has been described as the sensation of inhaling and exhaling at the same time as the intercostal muscles work antagonistically (against each other) to maintain the ribcage in an open, expanded position, allowing most of the work to be done by the diaphragm and the abdominal muscles.

Phonation:

Phonation in singing is the process where air from the lungs passes through the larynx and causes the vocal folds to vibrate, creating the foundational sound of the voice.

Resonance:

A sound truly amplified, not just louder. Resonance is a quality or timbre of the voice; amplification and enrichment of the tones produced. A resonate sound is multidimensional.

Intonation:

Intonation refers to the physical production of tone, or how pitch is produced by individual voices or with an entire section of a chorus. In general, intonation deals with the manner in which pitch is produced.

Articulation/Precision:

Articulation is the process by which sounds are shaped to form intelligible thoughts. In speech, consonants are the primary element in enunciating words and vowels are not sustained. In singing, vowels are sustained and consonants provide only split-second interruption.

Impact of Vibrato:

Acoustically, vocal vibrato is a fluctuation in pitch, intensity and timbre — a perfectly normal phenomenon. When the sound is properly produced, the singer regulates the amount of vibrato in the voice to give authoritative, lyrical beauty and color to the sound without adding so much vibrato that blend and tuning are impacted. Since locked chords are a vital characteristic of barbershop sound, vibrato that impairs that lock and ring cannot be rewarded. Generally speaking, the quality that results from a desirable, natural vibrato should be outstanding; the vibrato itself should not.

C Level (46-53) Fair

Focus Area: **Accuracy**

HALLMARKS

SOUND	MUSIC	EXPRESSION	VISUAL COMMUNICATION
Vocal skills are weak, unreliable Tension affects production Breath support/supported sound lacking Vocal quality harsh/no resonance Large blend issues Phrases fade; ragged phrase endings; choppy delivery Cone is narrow in bass clef Pitch issues We learned the song and will start and finish together	Singing is generally acceptable with frequent, often major deviations from correct notes, clear chords, manageable dynamics These issues override the plans for the performance Tuning issues occur Unit is destabilized by sync problems Voice stick out Tonal center is lost	VS unreliable, insecure Word to word delivery Choppy Tension in vocal production Lacks breath support External sync errors Note/Word inaccuracy Vertical singing	Inconsistent VS lack inspiration; not consistent Cautious/tentative overall Independent v unit performance Lack of sufficient physical and breath support Stamina issues Performers ability to sing and dance is taxed Reliant on director Some moments of visual planning Physical energy is a struggle Visual plan can interfere with vocal line Mismatch between face and music

C LEVEL SKILLS ACROSS ALL CATEGORIES

You should see/hear evidence of work in these skill areas

INDIVIDUAL FOCUS

Relaxed Vocal Production (All)
Note Accuracy (All)
Pitch Accuracy (All)
Work on Body Alignment! (VC)

GROUP (CHORUS/QUARTET) FOCUS

Relaxed Group Vocal Production (All)
Section Note & Pitch Accuracy (All)
Sync (All)
Ensure Group is Using Effective Body Alignment (VC)

TO MOVE UP

Develop education and opportunities to build/strengthen/add skills below

INDIVIDUAL FOCUS

Relaxed Vocal Production (All)
Note Accuracy (All)
Pitch Accuracy (All)
Add the element of tempo (Mus.)
Add the element of rhythm (Mus.)
Add Focused Efforts in Target Vowel Production (Exp.)
Work on Body Alignment! (VC)

GROUP (CHORUS/QUARTET) FOCUS

Relaxed Group Vocal Production (All)
Section Note & Pitch Accuracy (All)
Sync (All)
focus on note/chord arrivals & departures (Spind & Music)
focus on unit starts & stops (Exp.)
Focus vowel production work (Sound)
Focus work on tempo and rhythm agility (Mus.)
Solidify Body Alignment (VC)
Fuse in education focused on facial expressions & physical expression to support vocal and story line(s) (VC)

C+ Level (54-59) Satisfactory

Focus Area: **Unity**

HALLMARKS

SOUND	MUSIC	EXPRESSION	VISUAL COMMUNICATION
Some VS showing; main chords lock in place VS "coming along" Some good and some ouch moments May be tentative on ballads and raucous on uptune Intros and tags are better than the song itself All intervals need more accuracy Individual qualities apparent Need more lead/bass relationship Energy is random/sporadic Balance/Blend better in mid-range v. extremes	Work on VS is apparent Consistent minor tuning problems impact chord clarity Low voicings unclear Plan is evident, inconsistent energy Phrase endings drop Sense of unity, but inconsistent Phrases are satisfactory with disagreements occurring at the beginning and ends of phrases Individual singers are successful with note accuracy. More collaboration needed across the ensemble.	VS: work shows, still in progress Breath management issues Plans are evident Notes/words generally correct, not always accurate Sense of unit starts Frequent sync errors Singing someone else's plan Concentration shows Frantic or timid Energy sporadic	VS are more defined as satisfactory esp. in "part zones" Sporadic energy Confidence begins to appear; moments, but not yet consistent More right than wrong demonstrated Emerging Varieties of characterization throughout the group Will have a couple of moments that connect with the audience

C+ LEVEL SKILLS ACROSS ALL CATEGORIES

You should see/hear evidence of work in these skill areas

INDIVIDUAL FOCUS

Relaxed Vocal Production (All)
Note Accuracy (All)
Pitch Accuracy (All)
Add the element of tempo (Mus.)
Add the element of rhythm (Mus.)
Add Focused Efforts in Target Vowel Production (Exp.)
Work on Body Alignment! (VC)

GROUP (CHORUS/QUARTET) FOCUS

Relaxed Group Vocal Production (All)
Section Note & Pitch Accuracy (All)
Sync (All)
focus on note/chord arrivals & departures (Spind & Music)
focus on unit starts & stops (Exp.)
Focus vowel production work (Sound)
Focus work on tempo and rhythm agility (Mus.)
Solidify Body Alignment (VC)
Fuse in education focused on facial expressions & physical expression to support vocal and story line(s) (VC)

TO MOVE UP

Develop education and opportunities to build/strengthen/add skills below

INDIVIDUAL FOCUS

Solid Vocal Production
100% Note Accuracy
Solidifying Pitch Accuracy
Develop and understanding of the role your part plays in the overall unit (Sound)
Strengthen tempo maintenance (Mus)
Strengthen rhythm delivery (Mus)
Add element of Dynamics to solid vocal production - learn to maintain solid sound during softs & louds (Mus)
Strengthen Target Vowel Production (Exp)
Add Focus on Word Delivery areas of Diphthongs & Enunciation (Exp)
Begin "playing" with Dynamics - working to maintain good vocal production (Exp)
Strengthen physical expression and characterization Work to build personal stamina while adding energy (VC)

GROUP (CHORUS/QUARTET) FOCUS

Consistent Unit Group Vocal Production
100% Section Note & Pitch Accuracy
Interval accuracy - sections independently AND overall unit (Sound)
Sync - focus on note/ chord arrivals & departures (Sound & Mus.)
Focus vowel production delivery as a unit (Sound)
Further develop the group understanding of chord structure and part-specific responsibilities (Sound)
Focus efforts in Harmony Accuracy (Mus.)
Focus tempo maintenance as a unit (Mus.)
Focus rhythm delivery as a unit (Mus.)
Begin developing group dynamics - maintain solid vocal production! (Mus. & Exp)
Solidify Target Vowel & Consonant Delivery (Exp.)
Focus work on unity Diphthong Delivery (Exp.)
Focus work on Unit Enunciation (Exp.)
Ensure Lyric Flow and Phrasing is a focused skill being honed (Exp.)
Strengthen unit facial expressions & physical expression that support vocal and story line(s) (VC)
Further challenge & develop energy maintenance & delivery (VC)

B- Level (60-65) Promising

Focus Area: **Achievement**

HALLMARKS

SOUND	MUSIC	EXPRESSION	VISUAL COMMUNICATION
Unmatched or inconsistent resonance Balance and technique inhibit character VS are generally good; decent skills Happy to listen to it still not a solid unit getting it together; "nearly", "nice" Intervals not precise; chords not locked dropped phrase ends; unsupported softs Frantic or mechanical Singing a song Really trying; sweet	Individual part lines begin to understand and execute their responsibilities and the unit improves Arrangements and interp plans are often ambitious Minor errors occur as stress and stamina play a role in the performance Sync errors are frequent within a good unit Musical energy appears Attempts at artistry inhibited by skill level	VS generally good Inconsistent Good tempos but pulse needed Dynamics through mechanics Energetic but out of control or inconsistent Going for it, just not always successful Power, needs polish Sync issues are internal Artistic plans are evident	VS are showing but inconsistently delivered More unit showing in vocal delivery "you'd love to coach these guys" Vocal product: Power v polish Confident but controlled Breaths are for stamina v characterization Characterization/physical expression fused into performance thought not connected to story Stamina still at play but can boost energy at key areas

B- LEVEL SKILLS ACROSS ALL CATEGORIES

You should see/hear evidence of work in these skill areas

INDIVIDUAL FOCUS

Solid Vocal Production
 100% Note Accuracy
 Solidifying Pitch Accuracy
 Develop and understanding of the role your part plays in the overall unit (Sound)
 Strengthen tempo maintenance (Mus)
 Strengthen rhythm delivery (Mus)
 Add element of Dynamics to solid vocal production - learn to maintain solid sound during softs & louds (Mus)
 Strengthen Target Vowel Production (Exp)
 Add Focus on Word Delivery areas of Diphthongs & Enunciation (Exp)
 Begin "playing" with Dynamics - working to maintain good vocal production (Exp)
 Strengthen physical expression and characterization Work to build personal stamina while adding energy (VC)

GROUP (CHORUS/QUARTET) FOCUS

Consistent Unit Group Vocal Production
 100% Section Note & Pitch Accuracy
 Interval accuracy - sections independently AND overall unit (Sound)
 Sync - focus on note/ chord arrivals & departures (Sound & Mus.)
 Focus vowel production delivery as a unit (Sound)
 Further develop the group understanding of chord structure and part-specific responsibilities (Sound)
 Focus efforts in Harmony Accuracy (Mus.)
 Focus tempo maintenance as a unit (Mus.)
 Focus rhythm delivery as a unit (Mus.)
 Begin developing group dynamics - maintain solid vocal production! (Mus. & Exp)
 Solidify Target Vowel & Consonant Delivery (Exp.)
 Focus work on unity Diphthong Delivery (Exp.)
 Focus work on Unit Enunciation (Exp.)
 Ensure Lyric Flow and Phrasing is a focused skill being honed (Exp.)
 Strengthen unit facial expressions & physical expression that support vocal and story line(s) (VC)
 Further challenge & develop energy maintenance & delivery (VC)

TO MOVE UP

Develop education and opportunities to build/strengthen/add skills below

INDIVIDUAL FOCUS

Solid Vocal Production
100% Note Accuracy
100% Pitch Accuracy
Develop vocal contribution to support balance - consistency across ALL ranges/ areas (highs/lows) (Sound)
Add visualization to practice regime - focus on your personal contribution to the group (VC)
Solid tempo maintenance (Mus.)
Solid rhythm & Phrasing delivery (Mus.)
Strengthen Dynamics while using vocal production (Mus.) Fuse in Musical Energy to phrases - airflow & micro dynamics (Mus.)
100% Word Delivery (Exp.)
Strengthen dynamic skill (Exp.)
Fuse in Forward Motion (Exp.)
Solidify physical expression & characterization (VC) Strengthen personal stamina & energy (VC)

GROUP (CHORUS/QUARTET) FOCUS

Repetition, Repetition, Repetition
Pitch Work - get that drone goin' and give 'er! (Sound)
Sync
focus vowel production (air flow) as a unit on the "harder" vowel sounds (short vowels) (Sound)
focus on note/ chord arrivals & departures (Mus.)
starts & stops AND word sounds/ delivery - Vertical Alignment of Words (Exp)
Focus on chord structure and part-specific duties throughout (Sound)
Challenge and develop group stamina level to support the entire performance (Sound) Develop group/ unit delivery of vocal energy (Sound)
Consistent Harmony Accuracy - ensuring the vocal product is supporting all the harmonies (Mus.)
Consistent tempo & rhythm maintenance as a unit (Mus. & Exp.)
Consistent rhythm delivery as a unit (Mus.)
Solidify dynamics - maintain solid vocal production! (Mus.)
Focus development of Musical Energy - airflow & micro dynamics (Mus.)
Consistent Lyric & Phrase Unit Delivery (Exp.)
Strengthen Unit Dynamic Delivery (Exp.)
Focus development of Unit Forward Motion (Musical Energy in the music category) (Exp.) Check in on vocal skills when adding Embellishments - keep them consistent (Exp.) Consistent unit facial expressions & physical expression that support vocal and story line(s) (VC)
Consistent energy maintenance & delivery (VC)
Develop the performance to a level that the technique is evident only in fleeting moments (VC)

B Level (66-73) Good

Focus Area: **Consistency**

HALLMARKS

SOUND	MUSIC	EXPRESSION	VISUAL COMMUNICATION
Precision; consistency VS are under control; some ring Wall of sound appears Good bass and bari; phrase ends lift Still some fuzz in the sound; more fine tuning needed individual vocal qualities pop out Dynamic contrast shows Ensemble sound is more solid Individuality is still evident; hard working lead Confidence Singing for the audience	Vocal skills are good but not habit Chords affected by occasional tuning errors Technical delivery of a good plan Careful performance Demands of song/arr. may impact performance All singers know music and execute together Clear understanding of BBS style needed, but suffer in the performance of style	VS are good and more of a unit Plans are well defined but not always unified in approach Glimpses of character driven More musician than musical Dynamics are manipulated OH then Oops Do no harm Can hear the directors hands Missed opportunities to be swell	Brains need to be fully engaged in skills Audience connection is part of the ensemble effort Comfortable and confident A general ease Visual unity is good but needs more development Rogue choreo move Physical. expression often supports the story Visual plans no longer cause distraction Gaps in energy delivery Moments of "oo-oh-oo-oh"

B LEVEL SKILLS ACROSS ALL CATEGORIES

You should see/hear evidence of work in these skill areas

INDIVIDUAL FOCUS

Solid Vocal Production
100% Note Accuracy
100% Pitch Accuracy
Develop vocal contribution to support balance - consistency across ALL ranges/ areas (highs/lows) (Sound)
Add visualization to practice regime - focus on your personal contribution to the group (VC)
Solid tempo maintenance (Mus.)
Solid rhythm & Phrasing delivery (Mus.)
Strengthen Dynamics while using vocal production (Mus.) Fuse in Musical Energy to phrases - airflow & micro dynamics (Mus.)
100% Word Delivery (Exp.)
Strengthen dynamic skill (Exp.)
Fuse in Forward Motion (Exp.)
Solidify physical expression & characterization (VC) Strengthen personal stamina & energy (VC)

GROUP (CHORUS/QUARTET) FOCUS

Repetition, Repetition, Repetition
Pitch Work - get that drone goin' and give 'er! (Sound)
Sync
focus vowel production (air flow) as a unit on the "harder" vowel sounds (short vowels) (Sound)
focus on note/ chord arrivals & departures (Mus.)
starts & stops AND word sounds/ delivery - Vertical Alignment of Words (Exp)
Focus on chord structure and part-specific duties throughout (Sound)
Challenge and develop group stamina level to support the entire performance (Sound) Develop group/ unit delivery of vocal energy (Sound)
Consistent Harmony Accuracy - ensuring the vocal product is supporting all the harmonies (Mus.)
Consistent tempo & rhythm maintenance as a unit (Mus. & Exp.)
Consistent rhythm delivery as a unit (Mus.)
Solidify dynamics - maintain solid vocal production! (Mus.)
Focus development of Musical Energy - airflow & micro dynamics (Mus.)
Consistent Lyric & Phrase Unit Delivery (Exp.)
Strengthen Unit Dynamic Delivery (Exp.)
Focus development of Unit Forward Motion (Musical Energy in the music category) (Exp.) Check in on vocal skills when adding Embellishments - keep them consistent (Exp.) Consistent unit facial expressions & physical expression that support vocal and story line(s) (VC)
Consistent energy maintenance & delivery (VC)
Develop the performance to a level that the technique is evident only in fleeting moments (VC)

TO MOVE UP

Develop education and opportunities to build/strengthen/add skills below

INDIVIDUAL FOCUS

100% Solid/ Strong Vocal Skills
Consistent vocal production across all ranges (Sound)
Develop vocal energy and air flow further and consistently (Sound)
Begin to challenge vocal skill set with artistic additions - supported softs, tension-free louds. (Sound)
Solid tempo maintenance (Mus.)
Solid rhythm & Phrasing delivery (Mus.)
Strengthen Dynamics while using vocal production (Mus.) Fuse in Musical Energy to phrases - airflow & micro dynamics (Mus.)
100% Word Delivery (all elements, vowel, consonant, diphthong & enunciation) (Exp.)
100% Dynamics Delivery Skill (Exp.)
Strengthen Forward Motion (Air Flow!!!) (Exp.)
Authentic physical expression & characterization (VC)
Solid personal stamina & energy (VC)

GROUP (CHORUS/QUARTET) FOCUS

Repetition, Repetition, Repetition (All)
Consistent Unit Group Vocal Production (All)
Focus on tuning in extreme ranges/ challenging dynamics. (Sound)
Focus unit vowel production on the "harder" vowel sounds adding in the challenge of interval work (Sound)
Chord Stacking drill work (Sound)
Make group/ unit delivery of vocal energy consistent (Sound)
Fuse in artistry and musicality to the unit sound (Sound)
Consistent Harmony Accuracy - ensuring the vocal product is supporting all the harmonies (Mus. & Exp.)
Solid tempo & rhythm maintenance as a unit (Mus. & Exp.)
Solidify dynamics - maintain solid vocal production! (Mus & Exp.)
Solidify Musical Energy - airflow & micro dynamics (Mus.)
Focus work on Musical Artistry (Mus.)
Solidify Musical Energy - airflow & micro dynamics (Mus.)
Focus work on Musical Artistry - All category elements working as a unit - creating emotional characterization (Mus.)
Ensure Musicality is in place - the plans and execution of those plans reflect and enhance the musical intent of the song. (Mus.)
100% unit facial expressions & physical expression that support vocal and story line(s)(VC)
100% energy maintenance & delivery (VC)
Develop Musicality - the ease of the performance, take the audience on a journey. (VC) Maintain everything, all the time! (Sound)