HOW SHOWMANSHIP RELATES TO OTHER CATEGORIES HANDOUT

These are excerpts I have taken right from the Judging Category **Description Book.**

SOUND:--p. 13

"The sound judge seeks a musical sound that draws the audience out of their daily experiences into a world of joy and exhilaration. BEAUTIFUL SOUNDS,, CORRECTLY PRODUCED AND EXPRESSED from the heart, create an enduring musical experience and surely prove the greatest showcase for the barbershop style of music."

MUSIC—p.16

"The performance portion of the category includes those elements that transform the written arrangement from paper to living music. They include harmony accuracy and the ingredients that comprise the barbershop style: temp, rhythm, musical unity, phrasing, dynamics, musical energy."

EXPRESSION—p.10

"The expression judge evaluates a performance from two different listening orientations. The basic requirements that receive her attention are discussed in the preceding portion of this category description. She has also been given the responsibility of assessing the DEGREE OF ARTISTRY. With which the lyrics, or message, of the song are performed within the context of a total musical performance."

SHOWMANSHIP p. 14

"In evaluating the performance portion of the category, the showmanship judge considers the elements of successful MUSICAL PRESENTATIONS.....When a performance exceeds the basic requirements, when the performers are poised and in command, when audience rapport is successfully established and when careful preparation is flawlessly implemented and the audience is truly "sold" on the total presentation, the showmanship judge can award an above-average score. "

Interrelationship of the Judging categories –Sec. III—A—p.1

"Each category necessary focuses on a particular area and the majority of points within that category are allotted accordingly; however, a portion of each score is related to one or more other categories. For instance, tempo, phrasing, dynamics and emotional projection can be seen on both the music and expression category score sheet. Breath support and vowels are found on both sound and expression. Audience rapport and visual communication of a musical product, as found on the showmanship score sheet, are directly related to the emotional communication and artistic sound noted on the other score sheets. Vocal skills are a component of all four categories."

As you read these, hopefully, you will find a thread that demonstrates the PERFORMANCE quality based on solid barbershop music that is woven throughout connected by Showmanship.

Ida Bilodeau, Certified Showmanship Judge and Certified Faculty

HANDOUT FOR HOW SHOWMANSHIP RELATES (INTERACTS) TO OTHER CATEGORIES

1. Music category—beginning with the choice of song whose form, melody and lyrics are set in a strong barbershop arrangement.

2. Music category –then comes the plan for tempo, rhythm, phrasing, dynamics.

a. Showmanship can only be as strong as the vehicle that is chosen.

b. The visual plan of faces, emotions and body language are then created from the aspects stated in the Music category.

3. Expression category/judge – uses ears to *listen* for energy, finesse, emotional communication, forward motion, etc., based on solid vocal skills consisting of the unit sound, synch, vowels, etc.

a. Showmanship category/judge uses eyes to *see* and ears to *hear* these same aspects.

b. Showmanship is directly affected in creating the visual interpretation support of the music and lyrics when the above plans are formulated, as stated in the other categories.

4. The Sound category--values all the above and rewards "beautiful sounds, correctly produced and expressed from the heart."

A. Visual plan can support or detract from this.

5. When the physical expression, posture, choreography, characterization, and energy (Showmanship) meld with the characteristics of the Music, Expression and Sound Categories, we have the correct formula for a beautiful, magical performance.

6. As stated in all four categories:

ALL BASED ON VOCAL SKILLS AND ENERGY!!!!!!!

Ida Bilodeau
Certified Showmanship Judge
Certified International Faculty
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PERFORMANCE LEVEL GUIDELINES

SOUND CATEGORY	SOUND CATEGORY	SOUND CATEGORY
A+ LEVEL (94-100)	**A LEVEL (86-93)**	**A- LEVEL (80-85)**
Complete mastery of vocal skills demonstrated Tuning of all chords is instant and impeccable Flawless delivery of vowels with matched resonance Barbershop balance is instinctive and always present Seamless vocal lines appear to float on a pillar of energy Artistry and finesse epitomize the barbershop style Performance completely transcends technique	Exceptional mastery of vocal skills demonstrated All chords instantly tuned into locked, ringing unit Vowels consistently produced 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 finesse Performance consistently transcends technique	High level of proficiency in vocal skills demonstrated Chords usually tuned into locked, ringing unit Vowels usually produced with matched resonance Balance usually maintained throughout performance Vocal lines usually seamless and fully energized Strong sense of barbershop style usually evident Performance usually transcends technique
B+ LEVEL (74-79)	**B LEVEL (66-73)**	**B- LEVEL (60-65)**
Strong vocal skills demonstrated Minor tuning problems affect chord accuracy Synch problems occasionally affect chord accuracy Minor errors in vowel production and resonance match Balance generally consistent throughout performance Vocal lines generally well energized and supported Artistry beginning to emerge over technique	Vocal skills strong but not habitual Solid sound overall, but chords not consistently locked Minor synch problems affect chord accuracy Most vowels matched and properly resonated Balance suffers at extreme ranges and dynamic levels Energy and support for vocal lines inconsistent Technique still evident and generally overrides artistry	Vocal skills generally good but inconsistent Frequent minor intonation and tuning problems Frequent internal synch problems affect chord accuracy Vowels initially matched but not sustained as tuned unit Singers need better awareness of balance adjustments Vocal lines occasionally supported and energized Focus on technique inhibits attempts at artistry
C+ LEVEL (54-59)	**C LEVEL (46-53)**	**C- LEVEL (40-45)**
Work on vocal skills apparent, but still in progress Consistent minor intonation and tuning problems Consistent minor synch problems affect overall unity Frequent errors in vowel production and resonance match Balance inconsistent due to vocal limitations Energy sporadic, with lack of consistent support Fleeting glimpses of at vocal artistry	Vocal skills understood, but application inconsistent Intonation and tuning errors, and some wrong notes Frequent synch problems impact chord alignment Vowels occasionally match in passing, not sustained Balance good in mid-range, but not at extremes Energy level weak, need for improved vocal stamina Attempts at artistry masked by vocal problems	Vocal skills weak, but beginnings of work apparent Consistent tuning and accuracy errors Consistent synch problems keep chords from aligning Vowels generally lack common approach to resonance Unable to maintain consistent, cone-shaped balance Vocal energy rarely demonstrated No discernible attempts at vocal artistry
D+ LEVEL (34-39)	**D LEVEL (26-33)**	**D-LEVEL (20-25)**
Vocal skills weak, but brief glimpses of beginning work General lack of chord accuracy with many wrong notes Vertical alignment rarely achieved Vowel match generally not achieved Cone-shaped balance rarely achieved Energized vocal line impacted by weak support Vocal artistry cannot be evaluated at this level	Vocal skills poor - need to focus attention here Major accuracy and/or tonality problems Consistent major synch errors Individual voices rather than musical unit Barbershop cone not recognized Energized delivery lacking due to poor breath support Vocal artistry cannot be evaluated at this level	No apparent understanding of vocal skills Chord accuracy rarely achieved due to wrong notes No apparent effort to sing together as a unit Blend impossible due to lack of vocal skills No understanding of barbershop cone No evidence of vocal energy Vocal artistry cannot be evaluated at this level

PERFORMANCE LEVEL GUIDELINES

MUSIC CATEGORY	MUSIC CATEGORY	MUSIC CATEGORY
A+ LEVEL (94-100)	**A LEVEL (86-93)**	**A- LEVEL (80-85)**
Highly creative arrangement of strong barbershop song Complete mastery of vocal skills demonstrated Tuning of all chords is instant and impeccable Interpretive plan captures essence of barbershop style Interpretive plan flawlessly executed Artistry and finesse epitomize the barbershop style. Performance completely transcends technique	Creative arrangement of strong song Exceptional mastery of vocal skills demonstrated All chords instantly tuned into locked, musical unit Interpretive plan fully supports song and arrangement High level execution of interpretive plan Strong sense of barbershop style with artistry and finesse Performance consistently transcends technique	Strong song, arrangement shows some creativity High level of proficiency in vocal skills demonstrated Chords usually tuned into locked, musical unit Creative interpretive plan appropriate to song Strong execution of interpretive plan Strong sense of barbershop style usually evident. Performance usually transcends technique.
B+ LEVEL (74-79)	**B LEVEL (66-73)**	**B- LEVEL (60-65)**
Good song, arrangement shows some creativity Strong vocal skills demonstrated Minor tuning problems affect chord clarity Synch problems occasionally affect chord alignment Interpretive plan well designed for song and performer Minor flaws in execution of interpretive plan Artistry beginning to emerge over technique.	Good song, well arranged Vocal skills strong, but not habitual Chord clarity inconsistent Minor synch problems affect chord alignment Good design for interpretive plan Focus on technique interferes with delivery of plan Some achievement in artistry and finesse evident	Good arrangement of acceptable song Vocal skills generally good, but inconsistent Frequent minor intonation and tuning problems Frequent internal synch problems affect chords Plan good, but some lapses in forward motion Delivery of plan controlled, lacks freedom Focus on technique inhibits artistry
C+ LEVEL (54-59)	**C LEVEL (46-53)**	**C- LEVEL (40-45)**
Good arrangement, presents challenges for performer Work on vocal skills apparent, but still in progress Consistent minor tuning problems impact chord clarity Sense of musical unity apparent, but inconsistent Interpretive plan evident Interpretive plan needs to be internalized for unit delivery Mechanical delivery overrides attempts at artistry	Song and arrangement good, but may be difficult Vocal skills understood, but application inconsistent Tuning errors and some wrong notes impact chords Frequent synch errors, but some sense of unit apparent Interpretive plan sometimes apparent Delivery of plan needs stronger support and stamina Vocal problems make artistry difficult to recognize	Good arrangement, too difficult for performer Vocal skills weak, but beginnings of work apparent Consistent tuning and accuracy errors affect chords Consistent lack of chord alignment Interpretive plan sometimes difficult for performer Stronger vocal skills needed to deliver plan effectively No apparent attempts at musical artistry
D+ LEVEL (34-39)	**D LEVEL (26-33)**	**D-LEVEL (20-25)**
Musical demands of arrangement exceed abilities Vocal skills weak, but brief glimpses of beginning work Many wrong notes cause major tuning problems Infrequent glimpses of identifiable, aligned chords Energy level weak and inconsistent Occasional hints of interpretive plan Stronger vocal skills needed to support musical plan	Arrangement not suitable for performer's abilities Vocal skills poor - need to focus attention here Major note accuracy problems make chords indistinct Consistent synch problems obscure four-part chords Energized delivery non-existent No interpretive plan clearly evident Stronger vocal skills needed to execute a musical plan	Arrangement beyond abilities of performer No apparent understanding of vocal skills Wrong notes consistently sung Chords not defined due to synch and vocal problems No apparent understanding of barbershop style Interpretive plan beyond performer's capabilities Stronger vocal skills needed to explore interpretive plan

PERFORMANCE LEVEL GUIDELINES

EXPRESSION CATEGORY	EXPRESSION CATEGORY	EXPRESSION CATEGORY
A+ LEVEL (94-100)	**A LEVEL (86-93)**	**A- LEVEL (80-85)**
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	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	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+ LEVEL (74-79)	**B LEVEL (66-73)**	**B- LEVEL (60-65)**
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	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 and generally overrides artistry	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+ LEVEL (54-59)	**C LEVEL (46-53)**	**C- LEVEL (40-45)**
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	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	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 and support Attempts at style lack musicality Nerves impair successful emotional communication
D+ LEVEL (34-39)	**D LEVEL (26-33)**	**D-LEVEL (20-25)**
Vocal skills weak, but brief glimpses of beginning work Unity impaired by inadequate vocal skills Lack of open resonance and target vowel production Interpretive plan ineffective due to lack of vocal skills Lack of vocal energy in phrase delivery Emotional communication not evident Need to focus on strengthening vocal skills	Vocal skills poor - need to focus attention here Consistent major synch problems No evidence of unit approach to vowel production Singers lack vocal skills to execute interpretive plan Energized lyric and phrase delivery non-existent Musical problems prevent emotional communication Need stronger vocal skills to raise performance level	No apparent understanding of vocal skills Consistent lack of vertical unity Consistent lack of vowel alignment No evidence of interpretive plan No evidence of energized lyric delivery High level of audience discomfort Need stronger vocal skills to raise performance level

PERFORMANCE LEVEL GUIDELINES

SHOWMANSHIP CATEGORY	SHOWMANSHIP CATEGORY	SHOWMANSHIP CATEGORY
A+ LEVEL (94-100)	**A LEVEL (86-93)**	**A- LEVEL (80-85)**
Complete mastery of vocal skills demonstrated Superb command of the stage Strong theatrical skills used to project character of story Audience totally captivated throughout Energized visual performance breathtaking! Impeccable visual plan supports and enhances music Performance completely transcends technique	Exceptional mastery of vocal skills demonstrated Total command of the stage Complete involvement in character of story High degree of audience rapport High level of energy exudes joy of performing Strong visual plan reinforces musical plan Performance transcends technique most of the time	High level of proficiency in vocal skills demonstrated Poised and confident stage persona Character and personality well defined and projected Strong rapport with audience High degree of energy consistently demonstrated Visual plan works well to enhance musical plan Fleeting moments of technique evident
B+ LEVEL (74-79)	**B LEVEL (66-73)**	**B- LEVEL (60-65)**
Strong vocal skills demonstrated Confidence apparent, and usually in command Some flaws in unit delivery of visual plan Character of song maintained throughout Consistent level of audience rapport High level of energy with minor lapses in unit Creative visual plan generally supports music	Vocal skills strong but not habitual Comfortable on stage and generally in command Need to improve unit delivery of visual plan Moments of identification with character and story Audience not completely drawn into performance Inconsistent energy level within group Good visual plan does not interfere with music	Vocal skills generally good but inconsistent Stage command inconsistent in group and performance Need higher energy level in delivery of visual plan Some evidence of personality and characterization Audience has little involvement in performance Energy level shows peaks and valleys Minor flaws in design of visual plan
C+ LEVEL (54-59)	**C LEVEL (46-53)**	**C- LEVEL (40-45)**
Work on vocal skills apparent, but still in progress Some moments of command Inconsistent stamina in execution of visual plan Lack of consistency in personality and characterization Audience rapport not clearly established Energy sporadic, but frequent attempts evident Some attempt at creative visual plan	Vocal skills understood, but application inconsistent Need more confidence to project past footlights More stamina needed to deliver visual plan Little attempt at characterization or identification Audience communication not securely established Energy level falls short of crossing footlights Visual plan evident, but some conflict with musical plan	Vocal skills weak, but beginnings of work apparent Insecure and tentative stage persona Execution of visual plan weak due to lack of stamina No projection of personality or characterization Little evidence of attempt at audience communication Infrequent glimpses of energized delivery Visual plan does not consistently support music
D+ LEVEL (34-39)	**D LEVEL (26-33)**	**D-LEVEL (20-25)**
Vocal skills weak, but brief glimpses of beginning work Nerves detract from performance Lack of unit execution for visual plan No clearly defined personality or character No attempt at audience communication Energy level weak and inconsistent Visual plan limited and sometimes inappropriate	Vocal skills poor - need to focus attention here Nerves consume performance Serious lack of visual and musical unity No evidence of character identification Musical problems prevent effective audience rapport No demonstration of positive energy Visual plan vague and lacks support for music	No apparent understanding of vocal skills No evidence of effective stage presence Little evidence of attempt at visual unity Characterization and personality not explored High level of audience discomfort evident No attempt at energized delivery Little evidence of unit visual plan

INSTANT LEVEL DESCRIPTORS - SOUND

LEVELS	Vocal Skills	Accuracy	Unit	Balance	Blend and Resonance	Vocal Energy
A+: 94 - 100 Flawless	Complete mastery	Total accuracy achieved	Flawless unit delivery	Perfectly balanced barbershop sound	Seamless unit, totally matched	Energized tones appear effortless
A: 86 - 93 Near Perfect	Exceptional mastery of vocal skill consistently transcends technique	Chords tuned accurately and locked consistently throughout	Voices achieve total unity with notes and word components precisely aligned	Cone consistently balanced by all voices throughout range and at all dynamic extremes	Consistent unit approach to well-produced vowels and matched resonance	Consistent, high level of vocal energy from all with vocal line energized and forward moving
A-: 80 - 85 Excellent	Highly proficient	Consistent, high level	Consistent unit evident	Balance generally consistent	Generally consistent unit	Energy level generally high
B+: 74 - 79 Very Good	High level of mastery	Occasional minor tuning problems	Occasional minor synch problems detract from unit	Occasional minor balance problems	Occasional vowel or resonance mismatch	Consistent, but need to increase energy level as a unit
B: 66 - 73 Good	Basic mastery of technique, but needs to become habitual in order to transcend	Notes generally accurate, but many need more precise tuning to lock and ring	Not all voices arrive at targets on time so chords don't always align properly	Inconsistencies due to demands of range or dynamics beyond performer's comfort zone	Some vowels lack resonance match from part to part or from one vowel to another	Energy level varies during performance and from each individual–unable to sustain high level
B-: 60 - 65 Promising	Need to integrate into performance	Frequent minor tuning problems	Frequent minor synch problems	Need awareness of position in chord	Inconsistent vowel resonance	Consistent energy and support needed
C+: 54 - 59 Satisfactory	Progress evident but more needed	Consistent minor tuning problems	Consistent minor synch problems	Inconsistent due to vocal limitations	Lack of common approach	Inconsistent vocal skills affect level
C: 46 - 53 Acceptable	Performance shows some understanding, but continued work necessary	Intonation and tuning errors, and some wrong notes prevent locked chords	Frequent problems with chord alignment affect chord accuracy and overall unity	Balance good in mid-range, but deteriorates when outer ends of range are required	Unmatched vowel resonance, production, or placement affects blend and overall unit sound	Sporadic vocal energy, each performer unable to maintain consistent, high level
C-: 40 - 45 Fair	Beginning to work to strengthen	Consistent, major tuning and accuracy errors	Consistent synch errors detract	Unable to maintain barbershop balance	Occasional blend, unable to maintain	Attempts masked by consistent vocal problems
D+: 34 - 39 Weak	Brief glimpses of beginning work	General lack of chord accuracy throughout	Unit delivery rarely achieved	Cone-shaped balance achieved only occasionally	Occasional blend appears accidental, not on purpose	Unable to sustain energized vocal delivery
D: 26 - 33 Poor	Performers need to concentrate on basic principles of good vocal production to raise level	Major accuracy and/or tonality problems make most chords impossible to identify	Consistent major problems with chord alignment make most chords difficult to isolate or identify	Barbershop cone seldom recognized due to consistent problems in other areas, especially lack of vocal skills	No apparent attention given to unit approach to production of well-resonated, matched vowels	Lack of good breath support and stamina makes achieving and maintaining vocal energy impossible
D-: 20 - 25 Very Poor	No apparent understanding	Chord accuracy rarely achieved	Consistent lack of unit vocal delivery	No understanding of barbershop style	Impossible due to lack of vocal skills	Need to improve vocal skills
F: 0 - 19 Unacceptable	Basic vocal kills need immediate attention	Total lack of accuracy with no chords identified	Need to build basic skills to achieve unity	Need to build basic skills to achieve barbershop balance	Need to build basic skills to achieve barbershop blend	Need to build basic skills to develop vocal energy

INSTANT LEVEL DESCRIPTORS - MUSIC

LEVELS	Vocal Skills	Song and Arrangement	Chord Accuracy and Unity	Ballad Interpretation	Uptune Interpretation	Musical Artistry
A+: 94 - 100 Flawless	Complete mastery	Highly creative arrangement	Flawless accuracy and musical unity	Captures essence of barbershop style!	Captures essence barbershop style!	Highest degree of finesse and artistry
A: 86 - 93 Near Perfect	Exceptional mastery of vocal skill consistently transcends technique	Very strong song and arrangement that showcases performer's musical strengths	Chords accurately tuned and locked into precisely aligned, total musical unit	Interpretive plan so well designed and performed that it is woven right into the musical fabric	Strong sense of tempo, pulse, and rhythmic delivery appropriate to song and arrangement	Consistent, high level of artistry and finesse from all, painting a musical picture for listener
A-: 80 - 85 Excellent	Highly proficient	Strong song, arranged with some creativity	Consistent unit with high level of chord accuracy	Creative design with high level execution	Appropriate to song with high level execution	High degree of artistry enhances musical plan
B+: 74 - 79 Very Good	High level of mastery	Good song, arr. shows creativity	Occasional minor problems	Minor flaws in unit delivery of plan	Minor stumbling blocks in execution	Artistry and finesse inconsistent
B: 66 - 73 Good	Basic mastery of technique, but needs to become habitual in order to transcend	Good song, well arranged and appropriate to performer's capabilities	Occasional synch and/or tuning errors affect chord accuracy, clarity, and alignment	Well designed, but performers too involved in plan itself to make it a part of the music	Good plan in place but occasional interruptions in tempo, pulse, and rhythmic flow	Some artistic ideas, evident, but not all performers able to convey effectively and naturally
B-: 60 - 65 Promising	Need to integrate into performance	Good arr. of acceptable song	Consistent minor problems	Frequent lapses in delivery as a unit	Stronger unit delivery needed	A few glimpses of artistic delivery
C+: 54 - 59 Satisfactory	Progress evident but more needed	Some challenges for performer	Sense of unit apparent	Plan lacks unit delivery	All singers need to internalize plan	Delivery appears controlled
C: 46 - 53 Acceptable	Performance shows some understanding, but continued work necessary	Acceptable song and arr. but not the best choice for vocal abilities of performer	Frequent synch and/or tuning errors affect chord accuracy, clarity, and alignment	Plan evident, but greater stamina and support needed for effective phrasing and dynamic levels	Inappropriate tempo or problems with musical unity detract from intended delivery	Problems in other areas make any attempts at artistry difficult to recognize and evaluate
C-: 40 - 45 Fair	Beginning to work to strengthen	Demands of arr. beyond skills of this performer	Consistent lack of aligned, accurately tuned chords	Plan needs higher level of vocal skill to be effective	Plan needs higher level of unity to be effective	No apparent attempts at artistic musical delivery
D+: 34 - 39 Weak	Brief glimpses of beginning work	Musical demands exceed abilities	General lack of accuracy/unity	Vocal skills need strengthening	Vocal skills need strengthening	Vocal skills need strengthening
D: 26 - 33 Poor	Performers need to concentrate on basic principles of good vocal production to raise level	Not suitable for performer's present abilities; need to establish sense of four-part chord delivery	Consistent major problems with accuracy, unity, and sense of tonality	Lack of good vocal skills obscures any creativity in planned phrasing and dynamic levels	Lack of good vocal skills obscures effectiveness of any plan for tempo or rhythmic interest	Artistic delivery requires a higher level of vocal skill than exhibited in this performance.
D-: 20 - 25 Very Poor	No apparent understanding of vocal production	Not suitable for performer's present abilities	Four-part chord accuracy never achieved	Performers lack skills needed for effective delivery	Performers lack skills needed for effective delivery	Need to strengthen vocal skills before addressing this area
F: 0 - 19 Unacceptable	Basic vocal skills need immediate attention	Gross errors prevent accurate evaluation	No clearly identifiable chords presented	No understanding of barbershop style evident	No understanding of barbershop style evident	Need to build basic skills to develop vocal energy

INSTANT LEVEL DESCRIPTORS - EXPRESSION

LEVELS	Vocal Skills	Unity	Vowels/ Diction	Ballad Interpretation	Uptune Interpretation	Barbershop Style	Emotional Communication
A+: 94-100 Flawless	Complete mastery	Flawless unit delivery	Exemplary unit performance	Flawless execution!	Flawless execution!	Excellent use of stylistic effects	Audience totally captivated
A: 86 - 93 Near Perfect	Exceptional mastery of vocal skill consistently transcends technique	All notes and word components aligned and performed with total unity	Vowels and consonants matched and fully resonated at all times	Excellent design using phrasing and dynamics to support and enhance story	Excellent design with appropriate tempo, dynamics, and strong rhythmic pulse	Artistic use of stylistic vocal technique adds musical tension and drama	Involvement in message with strong character identification to reach listener
A-: 80 - 85 Excellent	Highly proficient	Rare departure from total unity	Consistent unit performance	Minor flaws in unit execution	Minor flaws in unit execution	High level of stylistic use	High degree of involvement
B+: 74 - 79 Very Good	High level of mastery	Some internal synch problems	Occasional misalignment	Occasional flaws in unit execution	Successful delivery of plan	On the verge of artistic delivery	Genuine involvement
B: 66 - 73 Good	Basic mastery of technique, but needs to become habitual in order to transcend	Internal synch problems with diphthongs and consonants detract from unit	All vowels need consistent unit approach to production to achieve match	Good design but lack of freedom and musical drama in unit execution	Good plan, but occasional interruptions to tempo and/or rhythmic flow	Fleeting glimpses of artistry, but concern for mechanics of plan apparent	Involvement genuine but inconsistent within group as story unfolds
B-: 60 - 65 Promising	Need to integrate into performance	Frequent internal problems	Consonants and diphthongs interrupt flow	Technique overshadows artistry	Stronger unit with rhythmic pulse needed	Apparent only as part of technique	Technique overrides involvement
C+: 54 - 59 Satisfactory	Progress evident but more needed	Unit apparent, but inconsistent	Vowel match and alignment inconsistent	Plan evident, but lack of unit delivery	Need to sing tempo, not words	Need stronger support to be successful	Concern overrides sincerity
C: 46 - 53 Acceptable	Performance shows some understanding, but continued work necessary	Frequent internal and external synch errors from over articulation and variance in word stress	White space in vocal lines from interference by consonants and diphthongs	Plan emerges, but delivery mechanical; need vocal stamina for dynamic plan	Plan evident but synch problems impair successful delivery; minimal dynamic interest	Stronger vocal skills needed to successfully convey stylistic vocal effects	Communication rarely goes beyond footlights to reach audience
C-: 40 - 45 Fair	Beginning to work to strengthen	Synch problems throughout	Need free, unit approach	Word delivery choppy	Unable to set and maintain as unit	Attempts lack musicality	Nerves impair communication
D+: 34 - 39 Weak	Brief glimpses of beginning work	General lack of unity throughout	Consistent major problems	Choppy, lack of forward motion	Consistent lack of unit delivery	Attempts unsuccessful	No attempt to communicate
D: 26 - 33 Poor	Performers need to concentrate on basic principles of good vocal production to raise level	Consistent major synch problems result from lack of basic vocal skills, support, and stamina	No apparent attempt to use unit approach to matched and resonated vowel production	No evidence of dynamic plan or smooth phrase flow; need to develop strong vocal foundation	No evidence of dynamic plan; tempo unsteady and lacks proper downbeat or backbeat stress	No evidence that stylistic elements in arrangement are recognized or technique needed to perform	Audience concern for performer bars successful, emotional communication
D-: 20 - 25 Very Poor	No apparent understanding of vocal production	Constant lack of unity	Need stronger vocal skills to achieve here	Need stronger vocal skills to achieve here	Need to improve vocal skills to succeed here	No attempt to incorporate	Audience unable to relate
F: 0 - 19 Unacceptable	Basics vocal skills need immediate attention	Need to build basic skills to achieve unit	No evidence of work on vowel production	No evidence of phrasing or dynamic plan	No evidence that singers know plan for delivery	No evidence barbershop style is understood	No understanding of audience communication

INSTANT LEVEL DESCRIPTORS - SHOWMANSHIP

LEVELS	Vocal Skills	Command of Stage	Imagery, Character	Visual Plan	Visual Unity	Visual Energy
A+: 94 - 100 Flawless	Complete mastery	Exceptional!	Flawless unit delivery	Impeccable design and execution	Superb! Joy abounds!	Breathtaking! Amazing!
A: 86 - 93 Near Perfect	Exceptional mastery of vocal skill consistently transcends technique	Total command with poise, confidence, and charisma in communication with audience	Strong theatrical skills create and project illusion to appropriately enhance musical storyline	Strong design that consistently supports and reinforces musical performance and interpretive plan	Consistent, high degree of unity characterizes all facets of visual performance	High level of energy and intensity consistently exhibited by all; all faces exude joy of performing
A-: 80 - 85 Excellent	Highly proficient	Very poised and confident	Well defined with minor lapses	Minor flaws in execution	Minor flaws in unit execution	High degree, very energized
B+: 74 - 79 Very Good	High level of mastery	Confidence apparent	Strong sense of personality	Very good, but lapses in delivery	Generally performs as visual unit	Minor lapses in energy level
B: 66-73 Good	Basic mastery of technique, but needs to become habitual in order to transcend	Performer seems comfortable on stage and generally in command	Appropriate unit approach to portrayal of character and musical storyline	Good design with some moments of strong support for musical performance	Inconsistent level of visual unity fails to keep audience continually involved in story	Energy level not consistently maintained by all performers from start to finish
B-: 60 - 65 Promising	Need to integrate into performance	Inconsistent within unit	Inconsistent within unit	Inconsistent execution detracts	Need stronger unit involvement	Some lapses in energy level
C+: 54 - 59 Satisfactory	Progress evident but more needed	Some moments of "take charge"	Some attempts at character evident	Stamina inconsistent	Basic unit evident, but inconsistent	Attempts at energy apparent
C: 46 - 53 Acceptable	Performance shows some understanding, but continued work necessary	Performers seem composed, but fail to establish any sense of "ownership"	Performance lacks personality and signs of establishing setting for musical story	Planning evident, but performers need to build physical stamina to present plan effectively	Unity in small details, but missing the bigger picture of unit approach to selling the music	Energy level needs a jump start to add life and reach beyond footlights to grab the audience
C-: 40 - 45 Fair	Beginning work to strengthen	Shows signs of insecurity	Stage persona tentative	Impacted by lack of physical stamina	Efforts evident, but unity fleeting	Glimpses of energy, not sustained
D+: 34 - 39 Weak	Brief glimpses of beginning work	Nerves override confidence	Attempts in this area appear stifled	Brief glimpses of support for music	Individuals rather than part of unit	Positive energy lacking
D: 26 - 33 Poor	Performers need to concentrate on basic principles of good vocal production to raise level	Performance marked by signs of concern and nervousness that performer can't get beyond	Characterization, personality, and acting out a story appear to be unexplored territory	Plan shows limited support for musical story, and overall execution ragged with no emotional involvement	Even small details of costume and appearance need a tighter approach to unity; performers overcome by nerves	Energy level weak, lacks spark; nervous energy consumes performers; seem anxious for performance to end
D-: 20 - 25 Very Poor	No apparent understanding of vocal production	Audience feels discomfort and concern	Lack of vocal skill needs attention before attempting	Performer unable to execute plan at this time	Concept of unity seems foreign to this performer	Nervous energy approaches actual fear factor
F: 0 - 19 Unacceptable	Basic vocal skills need immediate attention	Unable to demonstrate	Musical problems too great to permit evaluation	No plan observable or manageable	No identifiable concept of visual unity	Stiff and robotic performance lacking energy

Judge _____ **SOUND**

Contestant's Name _____ Contestant # _____

Contest: Region # _____ Chorus Region # _____ Quartet Date _____

☐ Int'l Quartet Semifinals ☐ Int'l Chorus Semifinals ☐ Int'l Quartet Finals ☐ Int'l Chorus Finals ☐ Harmony Classic

JUDGING CRITERIA

UNIT SOUND (0-70 points)

VOCAL SKILLS
- Posture
- Breathing
- Phonation
- Resonation
- Articulation

ACCURACY
- Notes
- Intervals
- Chords
- Tuning/Intonation
- Section/Part Accuracy
- Synchronization

BARBERSHOP BLEND
- Tone Production
- Vowel Production

BARBERSHOP BALANCE

ARTISTIC SOUND (0-30 points)

Energized Vocal line
Tone Flow
Dynamic Flexibility
Vocal Style

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 _____ SONG #2 _____

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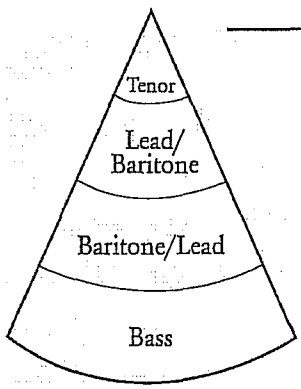
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SCORING LEVELS (for one song)	
94 - 100	A+
86 - 93	A
80 - 85	A-
74 - 79	B+
66 - 73	B
60 - 65	B-
54 - 59	C+
46 - 53	C
40 - 45	C-
34 - 39	D+
26 - 33	D
20 - 25	D-
0 - 19	F

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

score song 1 _____

score song 2 _____

BONUS POINTS _____

TOTAL SCORE _____

Judge _____

Judge _____ **MUSIC**

Contestant's Name _____ Contestant # _____

Contest: Region # _____ Chorus Region # _____ Quartet Date _____

☐ Int'l Quartet Semifinals ☐ Int'l Chorus Semifinals ☐ Int'l Quartet Finals ☐ Int'l Chorus Finals ☐ Harmony Classic

JUDGING CRITERIA

SONG & ARRANGEMENT (0-30 points)

- Merit as Barbershop Material
- Form/Melody/Lyrics
- Arrangement
  - Harmonization
  - Voicing

PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)

- Vocal Skills
- Harmony Accuracy
- Barbershop Style
  - Tempo
  - Rhythm
  - Musical Unity
  - Phrasing
  - Dynamics
  - Musical Energy
- Musical Artistry
- Suitability to Performer

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 _____ SONG #2 _____

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score song 1

score song 2

SCORING LEVELS (for one song)	
94 - 100	A+
86 - 93	A
80 - 85	A-
74 - 79	B+
66 - 73	B
60 - 65	B-
54 - 59	C+
46 - 53	C
40 - 45	C-
34 - 39	D+
26 - 33	D
20 - 25	D-
0 - 19	F

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

BONUS POINTS

TOTAL SCORE

Judge _____

EXPRESSION

Judge _____

Contestant's Name _____ Contestant # _____

Contest: Region # _____ Chorus Region # _____ Quartet Date _____

☐ Int'l Quartet Semifinals ☐ Int'l Chorus Semifinals ☐ Int'l Quartet Finals ☐ Int'l Chorus Finals ☐ Harmony Classic

JUDGING CRITERIA

BASIC REQUIREMENTS (0-40 points)

Vocal Skills
Synchronization
Vowels
Diphthongs
Consonants
Enunciation

ARTISTIC LYRICAL INTERPRETATION (0-60 points)

Lyric Flow
Phrasing
Forward Motion
Embellishments
Dynamics
Tempo/Rhythm
Inflection
Energy
Finesse
Emotional Communication

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 _____ SONG #2 _____

score song 1

score song 2

BONUS POINTS

SCORING LEVELS (for one song)	
94 - 100	A+
86 - 93	A
80 - 85	A-
74 - 79	B+
66 - 73	B
60 - 65	B-
54 - 59	C+
46 - 53	C
40 - 45	C-
34 - 39	D+
26 - 33	D
20 - 25	D-
0 - 19	F

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

Judge _____

TOTAL SCORE

Judge _____

SHOWMANSHIP

Contestant's Name _____ Contestant # _____

Contest: Region # _____ Chorus Region # _____ Quartet Date _____

☐ Int'l Quartet Semifinals ☐ Int'l Chorus Semifinals ☐ Int'l Quartet Finals ☐ Int'l Chorus Finals ☐ Harmony Classic

JUDGING CRITERIA

PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)
VISUAL COMMUNICATION
OF MUSICAL PRODUCT

Vocal Skills
Poise and Command
Entrance/break/exit
Pitch pipe technique
Physical Expression
Posture
Unity
Choreography
Characterization
Audience Rapport
Energy

PREPARATION (0-30 points)
VISUAL PLAN

Entrance/break/exit

Costume

Makeup/Grooming

Choreography

Creativity

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 _____ SONG #2 _____

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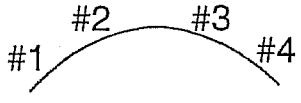
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score song 1



SCORING LEVELS (for one song)	
94 - 100	A+
88 - 93	A
80 - 85	A-
74 - 79	B+
66 - 73	B
60 - 65	B-
54 - 59	C+
46 - 53	C
40 - 45	C-
34 - 39	D+
26 - 33	D
20 - 25	D-
0 - 19	F

score song 2

Director _____

_____

_____

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

BONUS POINTS

Judge _____

TOTAL SCORE