

Suzuki Performance Descriptors

The following areas are identified by the Suzuki Association of the Americas as key areas in evaluating Suzuki Student Performances.

Repertoire

- Technical and interpretive demands of the selection(s) are commensurate with performer's technical and musical abilities

Physical Aspects

- Demonstrates balanced, erect posture, appears physically comfortable
- Demonstrates ease of movement, efficient motion (no unnecessary tension)

Tone Production

- Produces tone that is pleasing, resonant and full
- Varies tone when appropriate
- Volume is even, but varies when appropriate
- Uses vibrato as appropriate (strings)

Technical Accuracy

- Plays correct notes
- Intonation is accurate
- Tempo is appropriate
- Musical pulse is steady, yet varies when appropriate (eg, rubato, ritard)
- Rhythm is accurate and precise

Musicianship

- Dynamics varied to create expressive effect
- Notes are articulated appropriately and consistently
- Creates motion in melodic line (phrase shape, rise and fall)
- Phrases end gracefully (eg, tapered dynamics, ending notes sustained)
- Performance conveys the character of the piece (eg, march is march-like)
- (Piano, harp) Performance demonstrates voicing of melodic lines and accompaniment

Stage Presence

- Demonstrates appropriate poise and bearing
- In the event of an error, continues without pause

Focus of Attention

- Performance conveys a sense of concentration
- Performance conveys a sense of confidence (little hesitation or timidity evident)

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