

# Youth Arts Coalition Solo and Ensemble Festival

## Honors Track - Proficiency Information and Rules Entrance Requirements

Purpose: To select the best performers for the Honors Ensemble Concert to perform in May under the direction of a college or professional conductor. Students will be selected for the Honors Orchestra based on their final proficiency score. This ensemble will be a Full Orchestra of about 30-40 musicians and a Wind Ensemble. If there are enough qualified vocal students, an 8–12-member Honors Choir will be chosen.

### Vocal Honors Track:

All senior high school vocal soloists (9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades) choosing the honors track must take the Proficiency Examination. Proficiencies I - IV align with grades 9 - 12 (grade 9 - Proficiency I, grade 10 - Proficiency II, etc.). Students may perform any proficiency that they have not already passed, up to the proficiency at their grade level. Having passed Proficiency I in the previous year, the entrant must enter Proficiency II, etc. If an entrant fails to pass Proficiency I in the prior year, they may repeat Proficiency I.

The following categories are open at each grade:

- 9th grade — Proficiency I, may not enter II, III, or IV
- 10th grade — Proficiency I or II, may not enter III or IV
- 11th grade — Proficiency I, II or III, may not enter IV
- 12th grade — Proficiency I, II, III, or IV

### Rules and Information

Proficiency Exams: Vocal Proficiency examinations consist of three sections:

- Prepared Solo Selection #1 (foreign language selection) 35 points
- Prepared Solo Selection #2 (Art Song, Sacred Song, Folk Song, Patriotic Song or Spiritual in a classical style) 35 points
- Sight-Singing 30 points

Sight-Singing Proficiency Levels – All levels are cumulative

	<b>Keys</b>	<b>Intervals</b>	<b>Rhythmic Values</b>	<b>Meters</b>
<b>Proficiency I</b>	C Major	unisons, seconds & thirds	Quarter Notes Half Notes Dotted Half Notes Whole Notes	$\frac{2}{4}$ , $\frac{3}{4}$ , $\frac{4}{4}$
<b>Proficiency II</b>	Following Major Keys: Eb, B, F, C, G, D, A	unisons, seconds, thirds, fifths and octaves	Eighth Notes Dotted Rhythms	$\mathbb{C}$ , $\frac{6}{8}$
<b>Proficiency III</b>	All Major Keys with the possibility of accidentals	all possible intervals	Triplets	$\mathbb{C}$ , $\frac{3}{8}$ , $\frac{9}{8}$ , $\frac{12}{8}$
<b>Proficiency IV</b>	All Major and Minor Keys	all possible intervals	Sixteenth Notes (Sixteenth note dotted rhythms)	All possible time signatures; could change time

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## **Instrumental Honors Track:**

All senior high school instrumental soloists (9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> grade) choosing the honors track must perform the Proficiency Examination Section. Proficiencies I - IV align with grades 9 - 12 (grade 9 - Proficiency I, grade 10 - Proficiency II, etc.). Students may play any proficiency that they have not already passed, up to the proficiency at their grade level. Having passed Proficiency I in the previous year, the entrant must enter Proficiency II, etc. If an entrant fails to pass Proficiency I in the previous year, they may repeat Proficiency I.

## The following categories are open at each grade:

- 9th grade — Proficiency I, may not enter II, III, or IV
- 10th grade — Proficiency I or II, may not enter II or IV
- 11th grade — Proficiency I, II or III, may not enter IV
- 12th grade — Proficiency I, II, III, or IV

## Rules and Information

Proficiency Exams: Wind and String Instrument, and Harp and Proficiency examinations consist of three sections:

Scales	25 points
Sight Reading	25 points
Prepared Solo	50 points

Piano Proficiencies consist of four sections:

Scales and Arpeggios	25 points
Sight Reading	25 points
Prepared Solo	50 points

## Scales:

(Note: these appear on the following pages) The student must be prepared to play the scales listed for his/her instrument in the rhythm and tempo indicated. Scales must be memorized. Articulations for winds will be all slurred or all tongued. Strings use bowings on String Proficiency page. Melody percussion only roll the last note.

## Prepared Solo:

The student may prepare a solo of any length, but not less than two minutes or no rating will be given, and the judge shall have the right to start and stop the student in the solo as he/she desires. The judge must be furnished an ORIGINAL numbered copy of the solo, other than the one used by the student, for adjudication. Remember, no ORIGINAL numbered score, no rating.

## Sight Reading

- Sight-reading is to be prepared by a designated committee appointed by the Youth Arts Coalition Board.
- Sight reading shall be graded according to the Proficiency level.
- Sixty seconds will be allowed for study of proficiency sight reading. Following this, the student shall begin to play.
- Proficiency sight reading will be waived for all blind or visually impaired entrants as determined by their director. Full credit will be given.

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Percussionists Note: No equipment will be provided for the Percussion Proficiency Examinations.

### Miscellaneous

- Each examination is allowed a total of 15 minutes, 5 minutes for solo and 5 minutes for scales and sight reading (and Inventions and Fugues). The break-down of time is left to the discretion of the adjudicator, however, he/she must hear five scales and the sight reading in addition to the solo. Generally, the solo is played first, to allow the accompanist to leave. However, adjudicators will give the students their choice of the playing order of the proficiency items or sections. In each event the adjudicator is allowed two minutes in the schedule to complete the written and/or oral comments.
- A total of 85 points is required for successfully passing any proficiency examination provided all sections have been attempted.
- A Proficiency Certificate, which can be completed by the music director, will be issued with each rating sheet bearing a passing score.

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## WIND INSTRUMENT PROFICIENCY SCALES

These scales are not listed in concert pitch.



Chromatic: Even Rhythm - Such as even eighth notes or triplets

Minimum Tempo:      Proficiency I- quarter note = 70;  
                                  Proficiency II- quarter note = 88;  
                                  Proficiency III & IV- quarter note = 104

Articulation: All slurred or all tongued (adjudicator's choice)

Note: Proficiency examinations are cumulative, i.e., Proficiency II includes all scales listed in both I and II; Proficiency III includes scales listed for I, II, and III; and Proficiency IV includes scales listed for I, II, III, and IV. All Scales must be memorized. Upper case (B) indicates major scales, lower case (b) indicates minor, and "chr." indicates chromatic. The number after a scale indicates the number of octaves.

Please note: Minor scales for Proficiency I and II are melodic minor only.

Minor scales for **Proficiency III and IV are all forms of minor - natural, melodic and harmonic - cumulative.**

Instrument	Proficiency I (Melodic Minor only)	Proficiency II (Melodic Minor only)	Proficiency III (All Forms of Minor)	Proficiency IV (All Forms of Minor)
Piccolo	B-flat2, E-flat2, F2, C1 gm2, cml, dm2, am2, E-flat chr.2	A-flat2, G2, D2, fm2, b-flat m2, em2, mb2, G chr. 2	A2, E2, B2, G-flat2 f#m2, g#m2, e-flat m2, C chr. 2	C2, cm2, D Dorian 2, F Lydian 2, G Myxolydian 2
Flute	B-flat2, E-flat2, F2, C2 gm2, cm2, dm2, am2, E-flat chr. 2	A-flat2, D-flat2, G2, D2 fm2, b-flat m2, em2, bm2, G chr. 2	A2, E2, B2, G-flat2 f#m2, c#m2, g#m2, e-flat m2, C chr. 3	D Dorian 2, F Lydian 2, G Myxolydian 2
Oboe/English Horn	B-flat 1, FI, C2, G1 gml, dml, aml, eml, C chr. 2	E-flat 1, A-flat 1, D2, A1 cm2, fml, bm2, f#m1, D chr 2	D-flat 2, G-flat 1, E2, B2 b-flat ml, e-flat m2, c#m2, g#m1, E chr. 2	D Dorian 2, F Lydian 2, G Myxolydian 2
Bb Clarinet (Eb Soprano)	C2, F3, B-flat 2, G3 am2, dm2, gm3, em3, E chr 3	E-flat 2, A-flat 2, D2, A2 cm2, fm3, bm2, f#m3, F chr. 3,	D-flat 2, G-flat 3, E3, B2 b-flat m2, e-flat m2, c#m2, g#m2, G chr. 3	E Dorian 2, G Lydian 2, A Myxolydian 2
Alto and Bass (Contra.) Clar	C2, F2, B-flat 2, G2 am2, dm2, gm2, em2, E chr. 2	E-flat 1, A-flat 2, D1, A2 cm2, fm2, bm2, f#m2, F chr. 2	D-flat 2, G-flat 2, E3, B2 b-flat m2, e-flat ml, c#m1, g#m2, G chr 2	E Dorian 2, G Lydian 2, A Myxolydian 2

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Instrument	Proficiency I (Melodic Minor only)	Proficiency II (Melodic Minor only)	Proficiency III (All Forms of Minor)	Proficiency IV (All Forms of Minor)
Bassoon	B-flat 2, F2, C2, G2 gm2, dm2, am2, em2, B-flat chr. 2	E-flat 2, A-flat 2, D2, A2 cm2, fm2, bm2, f#m2, A chr. 2	D-flat 2, G-flat 2, E2, B2 b-flat m2, e-flat m2, c#m2, g#m2, B-flat chr. 3	D Dorian 2, F Lydian 2, G Myxolydian 2
Saxophone (Sop, Alto, Tenor, Bari)	G1, C2, F2, B-flat 2 em2, aml, dm2, gml, C chr. 2	D2, A1, E-flat2, A-flat 1, bm2, f#m1, cm2, f2, B-flat chr. 2	E2, B2, D-flat 2, F#2 c#m2, g#m1, b-flat m2, d#m2, F chr. 2	B Dorian 2, D Lydian 2, E Myxolydian 2
Cornet Trumpet	C1, F1, B-flat 2, G2 am2, dml, gm2, eml, G chr. 2	E-flat1 , A-flat 2, D1, A2 cm2, fm1, bm2, f#m2, B-flat chr. 2	E1, B2, G-flat2, D-flat2 c#m2, g#m2, e-flat m1, b-flat m2, C chr.2	E Dorian 2, G Lydian 2, A Myxolydian 2
French Horn	F2, B-flat 1, E-flat 1, C1 dml, gm2, cml, aml, F chr. 2	A-flat 2, D-flat1 , G2, D1 fm2, b-flat m1, em2, bml, G chr. 2	A2, E2, B2, G-flat 2 f#m2, c#m1, g#m2, e-flat m2, C chr. 3	D Dorian 2, F Lydian 2, G Myxolydian 2
Trombone	B-flat 1, E-flat 1, A-flat 2, F2 gm2, cm1, fm2, dml, F chr. 2	D-flat 1, G-flat 2, C1, G2 b-flat m2, e-flat m1, em2, am2, A-flat chr.2	D1, A2, E2, B2 bm2, f#m2, c#m1, g#m2, B-flat chr. 2	D Dorian 2, F Lydian 2, G Myxolydian 2
Baritone Bass Clef	B-flat 1, E-flat 1, A-flat 2, F2 gm2, cml, fm1, dml, F chr. 2	D-flat 1, G-flat 2, C1, G2 b-flat m2, e-flat m1, am2, em2, A-flat chr.2	D1, A2, E2, B2 bm2, f#m2, c#m1, g#m2, B-flat chr. 2	D Dorian 2, F Lydian 2, G Myxolydian 2
Baritone Treble Clef	C1, F1, B-flat 2, G2 am2, dml, gm2, eml, G chr. 2	E-flat 1, A-flat 2, D1, A2 cm2, fml, bm2, f#m2, B-flat chr. 2	E1, B2, G-flat 2, D-flat 2 c#m2, g#m2, e-flat m1, b-flat m2, C chr. 2	E Dorian 2, G Lydian 2, A Myxolydian 2
Tuba	B-flat 1, E-flat 1, A-flat 2, F2 gm2, cml, fm1, dl, F chr. 2	D-flat 1, G-flat 2, C1, G2 b-flat m2, e-flat m1, am2, em2, A-flat chr.2	D1, A2, E2, B2 bm2, f#m2, c#m1, g#m2, B-flat chr. 2	D Dorian 2, F Lydian 2, G Myxolydian 2

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Sight-Reading: Students are allowed 60 seconds to look over music for the sight-reading part of the examination. Sight Reading contains some alternate clefs. There are Horn - bass clef, Bassoon - tenor clef, Trombone - alto/tenor clef

Sight-Reading Proficiency Levels – All levels are cumulative

	<b>Keys</b>	<b>Intervals</b>	<b>Rhythmic Values</b>	<b>Meters</b>
<b>Proficiency I</b>	F, Bb Major	unisons, seconds & thirds	Eighth Notes Quarter Notes Half Notes Dotted Half Notes Whole Notes	<b><math>\frac{2}{4}</math> <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> <math>\frac{4}{4}</math></b>
<b>Proficiency II</b>	Following Major Keys: Eb, Bb, C, G, Ab	unisons, seconds, thirds, fifths and octaves	Sixteenth Notes (sixteenth note dotted rhythms)	<b>c <math>\frac{6}{8}</math></b>
<b>Proficiency III</b>	All Major Keys with the possibility of accidentals	all possible intervals	Dotted Rhythms Triplets	<b><math>\frac{3}{8}</math> <math>\frac{9}{8}</math> <math>\frac{12}{8}</math></b>
<b>Proficiency IV</b>	All Major and Minor Keys	all possible intervals	all possible rhythms	All possible time signatures; could change time signature

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## STRING INSTRUMENT PROFICIENCY SCALES

Bowings: Adjudicator's Choice - A or B



Minimum Tempo: Proficiency I- quarter note = 70;  
 Proficiency II- quarter note = 88;  
 Proficiency III & IV- quarter note = 104

Articulation: All slurred or all separate (adjudicator's choice)

Note: Proficiency examinations are cumulative, i.e., Proficiency II includes all scales listed in both I and II; Proficiency III includes scales listed for I, II, and III; and Proficiency IV includes scales listed for I, II, III, and IV. All Scales must be memorized. Upper case (B) indicates major scales, lower case (b) indicates minor, and “chr.” indicates chromatic. The number after a scale indicates the number of octaves.

Please note: Minor scales for Proficiency I and II are melodic minor only.

Minor scales for **Proficiency III and IV are all forms of minor - natural, melodic and harmonic - cumulative.**

Instrument	Proficiency I Minor Scales – Melodic Form Only	Proficiency II Minor Scales – Melodic Form Only	Proficiency III Minor Scales – All Forms	Proficiency IV Minor Scales – All Forms
Violin	G2, A-flat2, A2, B-flat2, B2, C2, gm2, a-flat m2, am2, b-flat m2, bm2, cm2 D Chr. 1	D-flat2, D2, E-flat2, E2, F2, F#2, c#m2, dm2, e-flat m2, em2, fm2, f#m2 G Chr. 2	G3, A-flat3, A3, B-flat3, B3, C3, gm2, a-flat m2, am2, b-flat m2, bm2, cm2 D Chr. 2	D-flat 3, D3, E-flat 3, E3, F3, F#3, c#m2, dm2, e-flat m2, em2, fm2, f#m2 G Chr.3
Viola	C2, D-flat 2, D2, E-flat 2, E2, F2 cm2, c#m2, dm2, e-flat m2, em2, fm2 G Chr.1	F#2, G2, A-flat2, A2, B-flat 2, B2 f#m2, gm2, a-flat m2, am2. b-flat m2. bm2 C Chr. 2	C3, D-flat3, D3, E-flat3, E3, F3 cm2, c#m2, dm2, e-flat m2, em2, fm2 G Chr. 2	F#3, G3, A-flat3, A3, B-flat3, B3 f#m2, gm2, a-flat m2, am2. b-flat m2. bm2 C Chr. 3
Cello	C2, D-flat 2, D2, E-flat 2, E2, F2 cm2, c#m2, dm2, e-flat m2, em2, fm2 G Chr.1	F#2, G2, A-flat2, A2, B-flat 2, B2 f#m2, gm2, a-flat m2, am2. b-flat m2. bm2 C Chr. 2	C3, D-flat3, D3, E-flat3, E3, F3 cm2, c#m2, dm2, e-flat m2, em2, fm2 G Chr. 2	F#3, G3, A-flat3, A3, B-flat3, B3 f#m2, gm2, a-flat m2, am2. b-flat m2. bm2 C Chr. 3
String Bass	A1, B-flat1, B1, C1, D-flat1, D1 am1, b-flat m1, bm1, cm1, c#m1, dm1 A Chr. 1	E1, F1, F#1, G1, A-flat1, Eb1 em1, fm1, f#m1, gm1, a-flat m1, e-flat m1 E Chr. 1	E2, F2, F#2, G2 em2, fm2, f#m2, gm2, E Chr. 2	A2, B-flat2, B2, C2 am2, b-flat m2, bm2, cm2 A Chr. 2

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### CHROMATIC SCALES

Even Rhythm- such as even eighth notes or triplets.

Start on the lowest available open string. Suggested fingering patterns are:

Violin and Viola - 0 1-1 2-2 3 4 0 etc.

Cello-0 1 2 3 1 2 3 0 etc.

String Bass-0 1-1 2-4 0 etc.

**Sight-Reading: Students are allowed 60 seconds to look over music for the sight-reading part of the examination. Sight Reading contains some alternate clefs for viola, cello, and bass.**

	Keys	Intervals	Rhythmic Values	Meters
<b>Proficiency I</b>	D, G Major	unisons, seconds & thirds	Eighth Notes Quarter Notes Half Notes Dotted Half Notes Whole Notes	$\frac{2}{4}$ , $\frac{3}{4}$ , $\frac{4}{4}$
<b>Proficiency II</b>	Following Major Keys: Bb, F, C, A, E	unisons, seconds, thirds, fifths and octaves	Sixteenth Notes (sixteenth note dotted rhythms)	$\text{C}$ , $\frac{6}{8}$
<b>Proficiency III</b>	All Major Keys with the possibility of accidentals	all possible intervals	Dotted Rhythms Triplets	$\text{C}$ , $\frac{3}{8}$ , $\frac{9}{8}$ , $\frac{12}{8}$
<b>Proficiency IV</b>	All Major and Minor Keys	all possible intervals	all possible rhythms	All possible time signatures; could change time signature

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## PIANO PROFICIENCY

Piano Proficiencies will include

- |                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| 1) Prepared Solo | 50 points |
| 2) Sight-Reading | 25 points |
| 3) Scales        | 25 points |

### Proficiency I Requirements

Scales: All white key major scales and arpeggios, played hands together, parallel motion, 4 octaves, ascending and descending in eighth notes at the minimum tempo of eighth note =80.

### Proficiency II Requirements

Scales: All major scales and arpeggios, all white key minor scales in melodic minor form, played hands together, parallel motion, 4 octaves, ascending and descending in eighth notes at the minimum tempo of eighth note =100

### Proficiency III Requirements

Scales: All major scales and arpeggios, all minor scales in melodic minor form, all white key minor arpeggios, played hands together, parallel motion, 4 octaves, ascending and descending in eighth notes at the minimum tempo of eighth note =120

### Proficiency IV Requirements

Scales: All major scales and arpeggios, all minor scales in melodic or harmonic minor form, all white key minor arpeggios, played hands together, parallel motion, 4 octaves, ascending and descending in eighth notes at the minimum tempo of eighth note =120

### Piano Sight-Reading

	Keys	Intervals	Rhythmic Values	Meters
<b>Proficiency I</b>	F, C, G Major	unisons, seconds & thirds	Eighth Notes Quarter Notes Half Notes Dotted Half Notes Whole Notes	$\frac{2}{4}$ , $\frac{3}{4}$ , $\frac{4}{4}$
<b>Proficiency II</b>	Following Major Keys: Eb, Ab, D, A	unisons, seconds, thirds, fifths and octaves	Sixteenth Notes (sixteenth note dotted rhythms)	$\text{C}$ , $\frac{6}{8}$
<b>Proficiency III</b>	All Major Keys with the possibility of accidentals	all possible intervals	Dotted Rhythms Triplets	$\text{C}$ , $\frac{3}{8}$ , $\frac{9}{8}$ , $\frac{12}{8}$
<b>Proficiency IV</b>	All Major and Minor Keys	all possible intervals	all possible rhythms	All possible time signatures; could change time signature

# Youth Arts Coalition Solo and Ensemble Festival

## HARP PROFICIENCY

Harp Proficiencies will include

- |                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| 1) Prepared Solo | 50 points |
| 2) Sight-Reading | 25 points |
| 3) Scales        | 25 points |

### Proficiency I Scale Requirements

All major scales, played hands together, minimum of 1½ octaves, ascending and descending in eighth notes at the minimum tempo of  $e = 80$ .

All major arpeggios, played hands over hand, 4 octaves, ascending and descending in eighth notes at the minimum tempo of eighth note  $= 80$ .

### Proficiency II Scale Requirements

All major and harmonic minor scales, played hands together, minimum of 1½ octaves, ascending and descending in eighth notes at the minimum tempo of  $e = 100$ .

All major and minor arpeggios, played hands over hand, 4 octaves, ascending and descending in eighth notes at the minimum tempo of eighth note  $= 100$ .

### Proficiency III Scale Requirements

All major and harmonic minor scales, played hands together, minimum of 1½ octaves, ascending and descending in eighth notes at the minimum tempo of  $e = 120$ .

All major, minor and dominant seventh arpeggios, played hands over hand, 4 octaves, ascending and descending in eighth notes at the minimum tempo of eighth note  $= 120$ .

### Proficiency IV Scale Requirements

All major and harmonic minor scales, played hands together, minimum of 1½ octaves, ascending and descending in eighth notes at the minimum tempo of  $e = 126$ .

All major, minor and dominant seventh arpeggios, played hands over hand, 4 octaves, ascending and descending in eighth notes at the minimum tempo of eighth note  $= 126$ .

Glissando Exercise

Please note: For troubadour harps, only C and sharp keys are required on the arpeggios. Top right hand grouping for arpeggios may be altered to reflect the range of the instrument.

**Youth Arts Coalition**  
**Solo and Ensemble Festival**  
**PERCUSSION PROFICIENCY**

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Proficiencies are for solos, not percussion ensemble events.
- Percussion Ensemble will be considered one of the student’s four events.

The Mallet Percussion Proficiency will include:

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1. prepared solo using two or four mallets | 50 points |
| 2. scales, arpeggios/chords                | 25 points |
| 3. sight reading                           | 25 points |

- All proficiency scales/modes require that scale/mode are played for as many octaves as student’s mallet instrument allows, followed immediately by arpeggios (the same number of octaves); adjudicator selects major and/or minor key (including if natural, melodic or harmonic minor form) listed below.
- All mallet percussion proficiencies scales will have the following rhythmic pattern: each measure beginning with quarter note, followed by eighth notes
- Proficiency II and III Chords require specific rolled four-mallet chord progressions after the scales and arpeggios
- Scales, arpeggios and chords are cumulative throughout all four levels of proficiencies

Proficiency I Minor Scales – All	Proficiency II Minor Scales – All	Proficiency III Minor Scales – All	Proficiency IV Minor Scales – All
Major Scales: C, F, Bb, Eb	Major Scales: Ab, Db, G, D	Major Scales: A, E, B, F#	Modes: Dorian starting on C
Minor Scales: a, d, g, c	Minor Scales: f, bb, e, b	Minor Scales: f#, c#,	Lydian Starting on G

The Snare Drum Percussion Proficiency will include:

1. Prepared solo: All solos are to be performed on a concert snare drum 50 points  
 (Students may choose one of the following: rudimental solo with open rolls; OR a concert/orchestral-solo with closed style rolls)

Concert solo:

R R R L R R L L R

Rudimental

solo:

2. Sight-reading/Stick control evaluation aligned with type of solo 50 points

## **Youth Arts Coalition Solo and Ensemble Festival**

The Timpani Percussion Proficiency will include:

1. Prepared solo and sight reading 50 points
  - Proficiency I, II must use at least three timpani; III, IV at least four timpani
  - Proficiency III and IV solos must include at least one tuning change on all four timpani
  - Use of timpani gauges is not allowed
2. Sight-reading 50 points
  - Proficiency III and IV sight reading will include at least one tuning change on all four timpani