

HOUSTONFEST

Classical Ensemble

Critique Sheet

School: _____

Number of players: _____ Beginning time: _____ Ending time: _____

Judge's initials: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO JUDGES

Please read the "Instructions to Judges" sheet in your packet.

RULES

Entry Limit: 1 ensemble per school: 3-6 musicians; 1 member may be a student who has never been enrolled in German.

Time Limits: 5-10 minutes, with a 30-second grace period (over or under)

The piece(s) must be by a German-speaking composer and be a recognized work of music, e.g., Beethoven, Bach, Brahms, Haydn, Schubert, Strauss, Mozart, Schumann, Mendelssohn. Music must be classical and groups may do medleys of songs. No electric instruments, other than one electric keyboard, are allowed. No music stands will be provided at the contest site. Attire is part of the judging criteria. **If a non-German student is included in the ensemble, this information must be given to the judges.** Two copies of the **sheet music** must be provided for the judges.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

1. **Selection and preparation:** The selection is interesting and appropriate. There are logical transitions between songs (if applicable). All the above-listed rules are followed. (0-20 points)
2. **Tone:** The contestants maintain good intonation and quality of sound. (0-20 points)
3. **Precision and instrumentation:** The contestants maintain pitch, rhythm, and good balance of instrumentation. (0-20 points)
4. **Interpretation:** The contestants observe dynamics and use changes in volume, rate, and inflection as appropriate. The contestants display feeling and musicianship. (0-20 points)
5. **Overall effect:** The contestants create and maintain a mood and have spirit. They maintain poise and have showmanship. Costumes and/or make-up (if any) enhance rather than distract. The performance leaves a lasting impression. (0-20 points)

TOTAL POINTS: (100 possible) _____

MORE COMMENTS TO HELP THE CONTESTANTS (Write on the back if necessary.)