**National Coalition for Core Arts Standards**

**Music Model Cornerstone Assessment: High School Ensembles**

**Discipline:** Music  
**Artistic Processes:** Perform

**Title:** MUSIC: Performing: Realizing artistic ideas and work through interpretation and presentation.  
**Description:** Students will document their ability to:  
1. Select, analyze, and interpret appropriate music for performance.  
2. Develop rehearsal plans, rehearse, evaluate, and refine selected music over time.  

**Grade:** High School

In this MCA you will find: (mark all that apply)

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**Estimate Time for Teaching and Assessment:** (mark the appropriate box)  
(Note: This task will be piloted during the 2014-2015 school year. Once piloted, the estimated time may be revised. If a time is entered below, it is to assist teachers for planning purposes. If a time is not entered, the developers recognize the task has many purposes, and implementation strategies and times are highly teacher dependent. In all cases, time estimates are to be used as a guideline.)

☐ Approximately _____ hours  ☐ To be determined by the individual teacher
### Strategies for Embedding in Instruction

- identifying resources for preparing and presenting diverse music for performance (select)
- developing music literacy skills (select, analyze, interpret, rehearse, evaluate and refine)
- identifying and applying criteria for selecting appropriate music for performance (select)
- critically listening to recordings of music (analyze, evaluate)
- identifying performance challenges (analyze)
- recognizing how musical elements are utilized (analyze)
- organizing and preparing for rehearsals (rehearse, evaluate and refine)
- communicating and collaborating with others (rehearse, evaluate and refine)
- manipulating elements in the music to explore expressive options (interpret)
- identifying and applying factors that inform performance practice and interpretation (interpret)
- creating criteria for quality performance (rehearse, evaluate and refine)
- exploring and implementing practice strategies for specific challenges (rehearse, evaluate and refine)
- diagnosing performance challenges and prescribe solutions (evaluate and refine)
- responding (listening and adjusting) to others (rehearse, evaluate and refine)
- eliciting and applying feedback from multiple sources (evaluate and refine)
- reflecting on self and peer performance to identify areas of success and for improvement (evaluate and refine)
- discussing criteria for performance decorum and audience etiquette appropriate for the context, venue, genre and style (present)
- connecting with audience members before, engaging with and responding to them through performance (present)

### Data Detailed Assessment Procedures

One of the primary goals of the Model Cornerstone Assessment for Perform is to remind music teachers to foster independence, exploration of diverse music and performing experiences in their students by focusing on the following essential questions:

- How do performers select repertoire?
- How does understanding the structure and context of musical works influence performance?
- How do performers interpret musical works?
- How do musicians prepare music in collaboration with others and independently?
- How do context and the manner in which a musical work is presented influence audience response?

#### Select, Analyze & Interpret

Students will document steps 1 – 5 using the **Select, Analyze & Interpret Documentation Form**.

**Students will:**

1. Select music a) for a solo, (b) for a student-led ensemble or (c) from a section of music being rehearsed in class/ensemble that has technical and expressive performance challenges (not ready for performance). Ensembles require resources and opportunities to meet and rehearse during class.
2. Provide a written rationale for why the music is good fit for the performer(s) in regard to student interest, musical abilities, performance context and programming.
3. Identify criteria for a meaningful performance and create a **Performance Rubric**
4. Analyze and describe prominent musical features (e.g., musical elements, compositional techniques), cultural/historical context of selected music and their implications for performance.
5. Develop interpretations that consider expressive intent.

#### Rehearse, Evaluate and Refine
Students will complete steps 6-8 using a digital audio recording device, Select, Analyze & Interpret Documentation Form, Performance Rubric and the Rehearse, Evaluate and Refine Documentation Form.

Students will:
6. Discuss and develop a plan for rehearsals that identifies expectations, goals, and rehearsal strategies to address music challenges.
7. Capture (record) a performance of the music near the beginning of the rehearsal process and use it to individually evaluate the performance using the Performance Rubric.
8. Implement the sectional rehearsals using the Rehearse, Evaluate and Refine Documentation Form to independently document how challenges addressed, successes, new learning and ideas for improving the music or the rehearsal process.

Present
Students will complete steps 9-10 using a digital audio recording device, Performance Rubric and the Rehearse, Evaluate and Refine Document.

Students will:
9. Once the music is determined to be ready for performance, capture (record) a performance (for the class or a public performance) of the music and individually assess the performance using the Performance Rubric.

Using the Rehearse, Evaluate and Refine Document, individually evaluate performance improvement over time by assessing differences in the first and last recording. In addition, describe how the music has changed, if the goals were met, what was learned about preparing music and personally through this experience.

All forms and the Performance Rubric will be submitted to the teacher for evaluation.

Knowledge, Skills and Vocabulary [focusing on concepts required to successfully complete the task]

Key Vocabulary
It is expected that teachers promote academic language development that is relevant to the music being studied, for example:

- to define and describe elements of music (e.g., melody, harmony, rhythm, timbre, texture) and compositional devices used
- to describe genre, type, style, historical context, purpose of specific works
- to interpret symbols and terms encountered in notated music, as appropriate
- to employ process terms such as: practice, rehearse, perform, accompany, balance, blend, evaluate, isolate, prioritize, tune, synchronize, vary, compose, interpret, improvise
- to apply general and specific terms that describe performance technique such as: breathe, articulate, tongue, enunciate, shape vowel, shift, vibrate, finger, bow, etc.

Knowledge and Skills

Knowledge
- identify resources (e.g., sheet music, recordings, instruments, performers, performance space, technology, a/v equipment)(select)
- describe performer literacy and performance abilities (select)
- develop and apply relevant criteria for selecting diverse solo and ensemble music performer interest, abilities, and performance context (select)
- describe theoretical and structural elements of music (analyze)
- describe how expressive qualities (such as dynamics, tempo, articulation, phrasing) and their interpretive decisions convey creator’s intent (interpret)
- identify characteristics of music from various cultures, styles, genres, and composers (interpret)
- develop appropriate outcomes and techniques specific to the instrument or voice used in a quality performance (rehearse, evaluate, refine, and present)
- plan rehearsal strategies for developing and refining artistic techniques for performance (rehearse, evaluate, refine, and perform)
- elicit feedback, to evaluate the accuracy, expressiveness, and effectiveness of a performance (evaluate and refine)
- identify and overcome musical challenges through rehearsal (rehearse, evaluate, and refine)
- demonstrate performance decorum and audience etiquette appropriate for the context (present)

Skills

- communicate and/or collaborate with others (rehearse, evaluate, and refine)
- read music notation at a developmentally appropriate level and/or be able to realize music as appropriate (analyze, interpret, rehearse, evaluate, and refine)
- refine technical skills as needed to perform music with expression and accuracy (present)
- connect with audience members before, engaging with and responding to them through performance (rehearse, evaluate, and refine)

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<tr>
<th>Strategies for Inclusion (Specially designed instruction and support for students with disabilities to provide equitable learning opportunities. This may be filled in by individual teachers based on their own students’ needs.)</th>
<th>Differentiation Strategies (Instructional approaches that respond to individual student needs and strengths to maximize student learning and success.)</th>
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| Resource: (sample) http://hepg.org/her-home/issues/harvard-educational-review-volume-83-number-1/herarticle/_1229 | • pre-assessing to determine levels of student prior knowledge and abilities
• determining and teaching to reduce learning gaps
• creating independent enrichment/enhanced work for students who show mastery
• grouping students to accommodate learning needs
• using provocative, complex questioning to stimulate high level thinking
• devising open-ended tasks to allow students of all ability levels to achieve success at their own levels
• creating tiered tasks to address levels of abilities and supporting students within each tier
• assuring that students are given choice in tasks in order to address their learning styles, interests, etc. |


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<th>Resources [for task implementation] (Resources to be added as MCA is piloted)</th>
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<th>Scoring Devices [rubrics, checklists, rating scales, etc. based on the Traits] (Scoring Devices to be added as MCA is piloted)</th>
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<th>Task-specific Rubrics (Rubrics to be added as MCA is piloted)</th>
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## Assessment Focus

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<tr>
<td><strong>Select</strong></td>
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<td>Select varied musical works to present based on interest, knowledge, technical skill, and context.</td>
<td>Performers’ interest in and knowledge of musical works, understanding of their own technical skill, and the context for a performance influence the selection of repertoire.</td>
<td>How do performers select repertoire?</td>
<td>Common Anchor #4: Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation.</td>
<td>• Cite personal interest in and/or knowledge of work(s). • Reflect understanding of the technical challenges in work(s) in relation to self/performers’ skill level. • Describe the context for performance. • Use music vocabulary accurately and appropriately</td>
<td>MU:Pr4.1.E.Ia Explain the criteria used to select a varied repertoire to study based on an understanding of theoretical and structural characteristics of the music, the technical skill of the individual or ensemble, and the purpose or context of the performance.</td>
<td>MU:Pr4.1.E.Ila Develop and apply criteria to select a varied repertoire to study and perform based on an understanding of theoretical and structural characteristics and expressive challenges in the music, the technical skill of the individual or ensemble, and the purpose and context of the performance.</td>
<td>MU:Pr4.1.E.Illa Develop and apply criteria to select varied programs to study and perform based on an understanding of theoretical and structural characteristics and expressive challenges in the music, the technical skill of the individual or ensemble, and the purpose and context of the performance.</td>
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<td><strong>Analyze</strong></td>
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<td>Analyze the structure and context of varied musical works and their implications for performance.</td>
<td>Analyzing creators’ context and how they manipulate elements of music provides insight into their intent and informs performance.</td>
<td>How does understanding the structure and context of musical works inform performance?</td>
<td>Common Anchor #4: Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation.</td>
<td>• Demonstrate understanding of theoretical and structural aspects of musical work(s). • Cite evidence of historical/cultural context for a work(s). • Explain how historical/cultural context may influence its performance. • Use music vocabulary accurately and appropriately</td>
<td>MU:Pr4.2.E.Ia Demonstrate, using music reading skills where appropriate, how compositional devices employed and theoretical and structural aspects of musical works impact and inform prepared or improvised performances.</td>
<td>MU:Pr4.2.E.Ila Document and demonstrate, using music reading skills where appropriate, how compositional devices employed and theoretical and structural aspects of musical works may impact and inform prepared and improvised performances.</td>
<td>MU:Pr4.2.E.Illa Examine, evaluate, and critique, using music reading skills where appropriate, how the structure and context impact and inform prepared and improvised performances.</td>
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<td><strong>Interpret</strong></td>
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Develop personal interpretations that consider creators' intent. Performers make interpretive decisions based on their understanding of context and expressive intent. How do performers interpret musical works?

**Common Anchor #4:** Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation.

- Demonstrate and/or explains personal interpretative decisions about work(s)
- Realize the creator’s use of elements for expressive effect/intent
- Demonstrate treatment of elements appropriate to genre, style, function, and historical/cultural context within work(s)
- Use music vocabulary accurately and appropriately

**MU:Pr4.3.E.Ia** Demonstrate an understanding of context in a varied repertoire of music through prepared and improvised performances.

**MU:Pr4.3.E.IIa** Demonstrate how understanding the style, genre, and context of a varied repertoire of music informs prepared and improvised performances as well as performers’ technical skill to connect with the audience.

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<th>Rehearse, Evaluate and Refine</th>
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<td>Evaluate and refine personal and ensemble performances, individually or in collaboration with others.</td>
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<td>To express their musical ideas, musicians analyze, evaluate, and refine their performance over time through openness to new ideas, persistence, and the application of appropriate criteria.</td>
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<td>How do musicians improve the quality of their performance?</td>
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**Common Anchor #5:** Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation.

- Apply appropriate criteria to evaluate the accuracy, expressiveness, and effectiveness of personal or ensemble performances.
- Identify and apply appropriate strategies to overcome performance challenges and implement interpretation.
- Seek collaboration: Collaborate and apply others' feedback in the refinement of performance.

**MU:Pr5.3.E.Ia** Develop strategies to address expressive challenges in a varied repertoire of music, and evaluate their success using feedback from ensemble peers and other sources to refine performances.

**MU:Pr5.3.E.IIa** Develop and apply appropriate rehearsal strategies to address individual and ensemble challenges in a varied repertoire of music, and evaluate their success.

**MU:Pr5.3.E.IIIa** Develop, apply, and refine appropriate rehearsal strategies to address individual and ensemble challenges in a varied repertoire of music.
Perform expressively, with appropriate interpretation and technical accuracy, and in a manner appropriate to the audience and context.

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<th>Present</th>
<th>Musicians judge performance based on criteria that vary across time, place, and cultures. The context and how a work is presented influence the audience response.</th>
<th>When is a performance judged ready to present? How do context and the manner in which musical work is presented influence audience response?</th>
<th>Common Anchor #6: Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.</th>
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<td>• Convey creator’s intent</td>
<td>• Reflect performer’s interpretation</td>
<td>• Demonstrate expressiveness and technical accuracy</td>
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<td>• Exhibit quality standards for style, genre, culture, and historical period.</td>
<td>• Demonstrate performances of a varied repertoire of music representing diverse cultures, styles, and genres.</td>
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<td>• Demonstrate expressiveness and technical accuracy</td>
<td>MU:Pr6.1.E.Ia Demonstrate attention to technical accuracy and expressive qualities in prepared and improvised performances of a varied repertoire of music representing diverse cultures, styles, and genres.</td>
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<td>MU:Pr6.1.E.IIa Demonstrate mastery of the technical demands and an understanding of expressive qualities of the music through prepared and improvised performances of a varied repertoire representing diverse cultures, styles, genres, and historical periods.</td>
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<td>MU:Cr6.1.E.IIIa Demonstrate an understanding and mastery of the technical demands and expressive qualities of the music through prepared and improvised performances of a varied repertoire representing diverse cultures, styles, genres, and historical periods in multiple types of ensembles.</td>
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Perform appropriately for the nature of the audience and context (venue and purpose) Include effective stage presence (etiquette, attire, behavior) and staging (lighting, sound, seating arrangement, visual enhancements, etc.)

MU:Pr6.1.E.Ib Demonstrate an understanding of expressive intent by connecting with an audience through prepared and improvised performances.

MU:Pr6.1.E.Iib Demonstrate an understanding of intent as a means for connecting with an audience through prepared and improvised performances.

MU:Pr6.1.E.IIIb Demonstrate an ability to connect with audience members before and during the process of engaging with and responding to them through prepared and improvised performances.

**Benchmarked Student Work** [Above Standard, At Standard, Near Standard and Below Standard work to illustrate expectations on web site] (Anchor work to be collected and scored as MCA is piloted)