MARYLAND MARCHING BAND ASSOCIATION
ENSEMBLE MUSIC — RUBRIC

Composition and Performance Quality are each scored 100 points; Total 200.

SCORING DESCRIPTORS

Box 1 Rarely	Box 2 Sometimes	Box 3 Frequently	Box 4 Consistently	Box 5 Superior
60 to 65 Experience	66 to 73 Discover	74 to 89 Know	90 to 97 Understand	98 to 100 Apply

COMPOSITION — 100 POINTS

Criteria	Rarely 60 to 65	Sometimes 66 to 73	Frequently 74 to 89	Consistently 90 to 97	Superior 98 to 100
Orchestration	Musical ideas are rarely supported by the orchestration.	Orchestration sometimes supports musical ideas but lacks consistency.	Orchestration frequently supports and communicates musical ideas.	Orchestration consistently supports the musical intent.	Orchestration demonstrates superior planning and effectiveness.
Elements of Design	Melody, harmony, rhythm, and dynamics are rarely used effectively.	Elements are sometimes developed or connected effectively.	Elements are frequently used effectively.	Elements are consistently developed and purposeful.	Elements are superior in development, integration, and purpose.
Range of Content	Limited musical and technical vocabulary.	Some range of musical and technical content.	Effective range of musical and technical content.	Broad and purposeful range of musical and technical vocabulary.	Exceptional breadth and depth of musical and technical vocabulary.
Variety	Limited variety of instrumentation, color, texture, timbre, intensity, or tempo.	Some variety is present but inconsistently developed.	Variety is frequently used effectively.	Variety is consistently diverse and purposeful.	Variety is superior, integrated, and sophisticated.
Continuity	Musical ideas rarely create a clear flow or form.	Connections between ideas are sometimes successful.	Musical ideas frequently create an effective flow and form.	Musical ideas consistently create unified and purposeful form.	All elements combine into a superior unified structure.
Clarity of Intent	Compositional ideas are rarely clear.	Musical intent is sometimes identifiable.	Musical intent is frequently clear and understandable.	Compositional intent is consistently clear and purposeful.	Musical intent is superior in clarity, focus, and effectiveness.
Simultaneous Responsibility	Layered responsibilities are rarely coordinated effectively.	Some simultaneous responsibilities are successfully layered.	Multiple responsibilities are frequently coordinated effectively.	Complex responsibilities are consistently integrated and purposeful.	Highly complex responsibilities are superior in layering, balance, and effectiveness.

PERFORMANCE QUALITY — 100 POINTS

Criteria	Rarely 60 to 65	Sometimes 66 to 73	Frequently 74 to 89	Consistently 90 to 97	Superior 98 to 100
Sound Production	Sound is rarely clear, balanced, or consistent.	Quality, balance, and blend are sometimes effective.	Sound production is frequently clear with effective balance and blend.	Quality, balance, and blend are consistently strong.	Exceptional sound quality, balance, blend, and projection.
Musicianship	Performers rarely communicate musical intent or expression.	Musical intent and expression are sometimes communicated.	Performers frequently demonstrate musical understanding and expression.	Musical intent and expressive qualities are consistently communicated.	Exceptional musical understanding, expression, and artistry.
Rhythmic and Tonal Clarity	Rhythmic and tonal content is rarely accurate or clear.	Accuracy is sometimes demonstrated.	Rhythmic and tonal content is frequently accurate and clear.	Rhythmic and tonal accuracy is consistently strong.	Exceptional rhythmic and tonal precision is maintained.
Uniformity	Significant differences exist from player to player.	Some consistency is evident, but differences remain.	Technique, phrasing, and sound are frequently consistent.	Technique, phrasing, and sound are consistently uniform.	Exceptional uniformity exists across the ensemble.
Clarity and Method of Articulation	Articulation is rarely consistent or clear.	Articulation is sometimes consistent in technique, style, and note length.	Articulation is frequently clear and appropriately executed.	Articulation is consistently uniform, clear, and stylistically appropriate.	Articulation is superior in precision, unity, and expression.
Ensemble Cohesiveness	Pulse control and rhythmic stability are rarely maintained.	Pulse and rhythmic stability are sometimes maintained.	Vertical and horizontal coordination are frequently effective.	Pulse control and rhythmic stability are consistently maintained.	Exceptional cohesiveness, precision, pulse control, and rhythmic stability.

COMPARATIVE SPREADS

1 to 2 percentage points — Very comparable	3 to 4 percentage points — Minor Differences	5 to 7 percentage points — Definitive Differences	8 & higher percentage points — Significant Difference

TOTAL: 200 POINTS