



Advancing Music Education in Maryland Schools

Repertoire List Grade Level Rubric

Grade Level	Level Description	Appropriate Level	Technical Requirements
1	Very Easy-Easy	Middle School or beginning High School ensembles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Largely homophonic writing. Similar cello and bass lines if not doubled. One violin part or viola doubling 2nd. • Basic rhythmic patterns (eighths, quarters, halves, dotted half and whole) • Simple duple or quadruple meter only. • Simple repeats and simple form. Can allow for road signs. • Loud vs. soft dynamics. • Key of D and G major (no key changes) • 1st position only (1st and 3rd for basses) and no high 3 and extended position (cello/bass). Limited or no use of chromatics. • Limited use of hooked and slurred bowing. Can have accents.
2	Easy-Medium Easy	Middle School or developing High School ensembles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes elements of previous class • Keys of D, G, A, F, and C (minimal key changes) and relative minors • Mostly 1st position. Basses mostly 1st and 3rd. Limited use of chromatics • Slurs, staccato, spiccato, hooked bowing, tremolo, accents. Uses varied articulation and bow techniques • Limited use of polyphony • Add eighth notes, sixteenth notes, simple dotted rhythms, some syncopation, triplets. • Minimal meter change. 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 5/4, 6/8, and 2/2 • DC/ DS al fine / al coda • f, mf, mp, p and crescendo and decrescendo
3	Medium Easy-Medium	Upper-level Middle School or High School ensembles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes elements of previous class • 3 sharps and 2 flats major and minor and some key changes • Allow for extended positions and shifting. Violins up to 3rd position. Violas up to 3rd position. Cellos up to 3rd position. Basses up to 5th position.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow for any type of bowing, including spiccato • More polyphony and independent part writing • Allow for more syncopation and more complex rhythms • Allow for more mixed meter • Multiple road-signs, and allow for more complex forms. • Full dynamic range.
4	Medium	Outstanding Middle School or High School ensembles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes elements of previous class • 4 sharps, 4 flats, relative minors, and multiple key changes. • Violins up to 5th position, Violas up to 3rd position, Cellos 5th position, and Basses 5th • Any meter or meter change • Tempo changes • Clear phrasing throughout the piece
5	Medium Advanced	Advanced High School, college, and professional ensembles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes elements of previous class • All keys and key changes • All positions • All meters and changes
6	Advanced	Most advanced ensembles, which requires a professional level of technical development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes elements of previous class • Many parts require a professional level of technical development. <p>Guidelines regarding symphonies and overtures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be within time limit • Must be a substantial representation of the work.

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