

West Michigan Homeschool Fine Arts
Solo and Ensemble Festival
Honors Track - Proficiency Information and Rules
Entrance Requirements

Purpose: To select the best performers for Honors Ensemble Concert to Perform in May under the direction of a college or professional conductor. Students will be chosen for the Honors Orchestra by their final proficiency score. This ensemble will be a Chamber (full) Orchestra of about 30-38 homeschool musicians from Michigan.

Instrumental Honors Track:

All senior high school instrumental soloists (9th,10th, 11th, 12th grade) choosing the Honors Track must perform the Proficiency Examination Section. Proficiencies I - IV line up with grades 9 -12 (grade 9 - Proficiency I, grade 10 - Proficiency II, etc.). Students may play any proficiency which 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 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 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: 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 15 points
JS Bach Invention/Fugue 15 points
Sight Reading 20 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.

Piano Invention or Fugue: (Piano Solo events only):

The piano invention or fugue does not have to be memorized. WMHFA will provide the adjudicator's copy of the Bach Selection. Piano entries play the scale and arpeggio as a unit and are rated on them as one item.

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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 WMHFA.
- Sight reading shall be graded per 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.

Miscellaneous:

- Each examination is allowed a total of 15 minutes. 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 = 80;

Proficiency II- quarter note = 100;

Proficiency III & IV- quarter note = 120

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. Students are allowed 60 seconds to look over music for the sight-reading part of the examination. 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 ALL Proficiencies are melodic minor only.

Instrument	Proficiency I	Proficiency II	Proficiency III	Proficiency IV
Piccolo	Bb2, Eb2, F2, g2, c1, d2, Eb chr.2	C1, Ab2, G2, a2,f2, bb2, G chr. 2	D2, A2, E2 e2, b2, f#2, C chr. 2	Gb2, Db2, B2 g#2, eb2, c#2 Db chr. 2
Flute	Bb2, Eb2, F2, g2, c2, d2, Eb chr. 2	C2, Ab2, Db2, a2, f2, bb2, G chr. 2	G2, D2, A2, e2, b2, f#2, Ab chr. 2	E2, B2, Gb2 c#2, g#2, eb2, C chr. 3
Oboe/English Horn	Bb1, F1, C2, g1, d1, a1, C chr. 2	G1 Eb1, Ab1, e1, c2, f1, D chr 2	Db2, D2, A1, bb1, b2, f#1, E chr. 2	Gb1, E2, B2 eb2, c#2, g#1, G chr. 2
Bb Clarinet (Eb Soprano)	C2, F3, Bb2, a2, d2, g3, E chr 3	G3, Eb2, Ab2, e3, c2, f3, F chr. 3	D2, A2, Db2, b2, f#3, bb2, F# chr. 3	Gb3, E3, B2 eb2, c#2, g#2, G chr. 3
Alto and Bass (Contra.) Clarinet	C2, F2, Bb2, a2, d2, g2, E chr. 2	G2, Eb1, Ab2, e2, c2, f2, F chr. 2	D1, A2, Db2, b2, f#2, bb2, F# chr 2	Gb2, E3, B2 eb1, c#1, g#2, G chr 2
Bassoon	Bb2, F2, C2, g2, d2, a2, Bb chr. 2	G2, Eb2, Ab2, e2, c2, f2, F chr. 2	D2, A2, Db2, b2, f#2, bb2, A chr. 2	Gb2, E2, B2 eb2, c#2, g#2, Bb chr. 3
Saxophone (Sop, Alto, Tenor, Bari)	G1, C2, F2, e2, a1, d2, C chr. 2	Bb2, D2, A1, g1, b2, f#1, Bb chr. 2	Eb2, Ab1, E2, c2, f2, c#2, D chr. 2	B2, Db2, F#2 g#1, bb2, d#2, F chr. 2
Cornet/ Trumpet	C1, F1, Bb2, G2 a2, d1, g2 G chr. 2	Eb1, Ab2, e1, c2, f1, A chr. 2	D1, A2, E1, b2, f#2, c#1, Bb chr.2	B2 , Gb2, Db1 g#2, eb1, bb2, C chr.2
French Horn	F2, Bb1, Eb1, d1, g2, c1, F chr. 2	C1, Ab2, Db1, a1, f2, bb1, G chr. 2	G2, D1, A2, e2, b1, f#2, A chr. 2	E2, B2, Gb2, c#1, g#2, eb2, C chr. 3
Trombone	Bb1, Eb1, Ab2, g2, c1, f2, F chr. 2	F2, Db1, Gb2, d1, bb2, eb1, Ab chr.2	C1, G2, D1, e2, a2, b2, A chr. 2	A2, E2, B2 f#2, c#1, g#2, Bb chr. 2
Baritone Bass Clef	Bb1, Eb1, Ab2, g2, c1, f2 F chr. 2	F2, Db1, Gb2, d1, bb2, eb1, , Ab chr.2	C1, G2, D1, a2, e2, b2, A chr. 2	A2, E2, B2 f#2, c#1, g#2 Bb chr. 2
Baritone Treble Clef	C1, F1, Bb2, a2, d1, g2, G chr. 2	G2, Eb1, Ab2, e1, c2, f1, A chr. 2	D1, A2, E1, b2, f#2, c#2, Bb chr. 2	B2, Gb2, Db2, g#2, eb1, bb2, C chr. 2
Tuba	Bb1, Eb1, Ab2, g2, c1, f2, F chr. 2	F2, Db1, Gb2, d1, bb2, eb1, G chr.2	C1, G2, D1, a2, e2, b2, Ab chr. 2	A2, E2, B2 f#2, c#1, g#2 Bb chr. 2

West Michigan Homeschool Fine Arts Solo and Ensemble Festival

WIND INSTRUMENT SIGHT-READING

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

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

**West Michigan Homeschool Fine Arts
Solo and Ensemble Festival
STRING INSTRUMENT PROFICIENCY SCALES**

Bowings: Adjudicator's Choice - A or B

A – Slurred:



B – Separate:



Minimum Tempo: Proficiency I- quarter note = 80;
Proficiency II- quarter note = 100;
Proficiency III & IV- quarter note = 120

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 ALL Proficiencies are melodic minor only

Instrument	Proficiency I	Proficiency II	Proficiency III	Proficiency IV
Violin	G2, Ab2, A2, Bb2, B2, C2, g2, ab2, a2, bb2, b2, c2 D Chr. 1	Db2, D2, Eb2, E2, F2, F#2, db2, d2, eb2, e2, f2, f#2 G Chr. 2	G3, Ab3, A3, Bb3, B3, C3, g3, ab3, a3, bb3, b3, c3 D Chr. 2	Db3, D3, Eb3, E3, F3, F#3, db3, d3, eb3, e3, f3, f#3 G Chr.3
Viola	C2, Db2, D2, Eb2, E2, F2 c2, db2, d2, eb2, e2, f2 G Chr.1	F#2, G2, Ab2, A2, Bb2, B2 f#2, g2, ab2, a2. bb2. b2 C Chr. 2	C3, Db3, D3, Eb3, E3, F3 c3, db3, d3, eb3, e3, f3 G Chr. 2	F#3, G3, Ab3, A3, Bb3, B3 f#3, g3, ab3, a3. Bb3. B3 C Chr. 3
Cello	C2, Db2, D2, Eb2, E2, F2 c2, db2, d2, eb2, e2, f2 G Chr.1	F#2, G2, Ab2, A2, Bb2, B2 F#2, g2, ab2, a2. bb2. b2 C Chr. 2	C3, Db3, D3, Eb3, E3, F3 c3, db3, d3, eb3, e3, f3 G Chr. 2	F#3, G3, Ab3, A3, Bb3, B3 f#3, g3, ab3, a3, bb3, b3 C Chr. 3
String Bass	A1, Bb1, B1, C1, Db1, D1 a1, bb1, b1, c1, c#1, d1 A Chr. 1	E1, F1, F#1, G1, Ab1, Eb1 e1, f1, f#1, g1, ab1, eb1 E Chr. 1	E2, F2, F#2, G2 e2, f2, f#2, g2, E Chr. 2	A2, Bb2, B2, C2 a2, bb2, b2, c2 A Chr. 2

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.

**West Michigan Homeschool Fine Arts
Solo and Ensemble Festival
STRING INSTRUMENT SIGHT-READING**

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.

Sight-Reading Proficiency Levels – All levels are cumulative

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

**West Michigan Homeschool Fine Arts
Solo and Ensemble Festival
PIANO PROFICIENCY**

Piano Proficiencies will include

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| 1) Prepared Solo | 50 points |
| 2) Sight-Reading | 20 points |
| 3) Bach Invention/Fugue | 15 points |
| 4) Scales | 15 points |

Proficiency I Requirements

Invention/Fugue Requirement: any J. S. Bach 2-Part Invention

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 $\text{e}=80$.

Proficiency II Requirements

Invention/Fugue Requirement: any J. S. Bach 3-Part Invention

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 $\text{e}=100$

Proficiency III Requirements

Invention/Fugue Requirement: any fugue from The Well-Tempered Clavichord by J. S. Bach

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 $\text{e}=120$

Proficiency IV Requirements

Invention/Fugue Requirement: any fugue from The Art of Fugue by J. S. Bach

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 $\text{e}=126$

**West Michigan Homeschool Fine Arts
Solo and Ensemble Festival
PIANO SIGHT-READING**

Sight-Reading Proficiency Levels – All levels are cumulative

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

West Michigan Homeschool Fine Arts
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 $e=80$.

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 $e=100$.

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 $e=120$.

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 $e=126$.

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.

**West Michigan Homeschool Fine Arts
Solo and Ensemble Festival
HARP SIGHT-READING**

Sight-Reading Proficiency Levels – All levels are cumulative

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

West Michigan Homeschool Fine Arts 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 (melodic 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 (see example for winds)
 - Proficiency II and III Chords require this specific rolled four-mallet chord progressions after the scales and arpeggios: I-IV-V-I
 - Scales, arpeggios and chords are cumulative throughout all four levels of proficiencies.

Proficiency I	Proficiency II	Proficiency III	Proficiency IV
Minor Scales – Melodic	Minor Scales – Melodic	Minor Scales – Melodic	Minor Scales – Melodic
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#, ab, eb	Lydian Starting on G
Chromatic Scale: Bb	Chord Progression: C, F	Chord Progression: G, Bb	Mixolydian starting on F

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-style solo with closed rolls)

Concert solo: 

Rudimental solo: 

R R R L R R L L R

2. Sight-reading aligned with type of solo 50 points

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