



NEW JERSEY ALL-STATE CHORUS

Solo Adjudication Rubric “Deep River”

PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

Category	1–2 <i>Highly Superior</i>	3–4 <i>Excellent</i>	5–6 <i>Good</i>	7–8 <i>Fair</i>	9 <i>Poor</i>
Tone Quality	Exceptional, vibrant, resonant, and well-supported tone; highly professional sound appropriate to a spiritual.	Well-supported, resonant, and stylistically appropriate tone quality.	Above-average tone quality with some inconsistency.	Below-average tone quality or inconsistent support.	Poor tone quality with little or no support or stylistic awareness.
Intonation	All pitches are impeccably in tune in relation to the starting pitch.	Almost all pitches in tune with minor discrepancies.	Some pitch inconsistencies, but the melodic shape and key are intact.	Less than half the pitches are in tune, or frequent pitch issues occur.	Majority of pitches are out of tune or key integrity is not maintained.
Musicianship	Highly expressive performance demonstrating superior diction, phrasing, dynamics, rhythmic accuracy, and clear artistry of a spiritual.	Expressive performance with excellent diction, phrasing, dynamics, rhythmic accuracy, and stylistic understanding.	Above-average musicianship with generally effective diction, phrasing, dynamics, rhythm, and style.	Some expressive intent, but below-average diction, phrasing, dynamics, rhythm, or stylistic clarity.	Poor musicianship with ineffective diction, phrasing, dynamics, rhythm, and no evidence of spiritual style.

SCORING GUIDELINES

Situation	Scoring Outcome
A student sings the solo with a few changes in the pitch...	<p>Quality: Judge as heard; Changes and altered pitches are allowed - judges must use careful and reasonable discretion to determine if a change in pitch is done tastefully and expressively; tone quality should reflect the style of a spiritual; done purposefully; and done with good musicianship (does not alter the key or the integrity of the written melody).</p> <p>Intonation: Improvisation & pitch bending are permitted as long as it’s purpose-driven & appropriate to the style of the piece; original key must be observed at all times.</p> <p>Musicianship: Dynamics, articulation, & diction are performed in the style of a spiritual.</p>
A student sings the correct melody, but with discrepancies in rhythm...	<p>Quality: Judge as heard; changes to the tempo and rhythm are allowed - judges must use careful and reasonable discretion to determine if a change in rhythm is done tastefully and expressively; tone quality should reflect the style of a spiritual; done purposefully; and done with good musicianship (does not alter the integrity of the piece).</p> <p>Intonation: Improvisation and pitch bending are permitted as long as it is purpose-driven and appropriate to the style of a spiritual; original key must be observed at all times.</p> <p>Musicianship: changes in rhythm & tempo are permitted as long as it’s purpose-driven & appropriate to the style of a spiritual; alterations to the tempo & rhythm should not severely alter the integrity of the piece. Dynamics, articulation, & diction are performed in the style of a spiritual.</p>