

# Large Group Performance Evaluation Preparation



***Banddaddy***

*MENTORING BAND DIRECTORS OF ALL AGES*

Guidelines for Making a Superior  
Performance

Presented by [Banddaddy.com](http://Banddaddy.com)

# What To Do Step 1

- 1. Notes, Rhythms & Articulation Patterns
  - Every student must practice and learn all notes, rhythms and articulation patterns
  - Individual responsibility is imperative
  - As this is done, style and dynamics will become a part of the learning process as well.

# What To Do Step 2

- 2. Style, Dynamics & Phrasing
  - Marcato, staccato, legato, accents and any other marking must not only be learned but unified throughout the band.
  - It is one of the most obvious aspects of performance, so dynamics (softs and louds) must be evident.
  - Every phrase must have shape (most of the time some sort of arch phrase). Every student must know when to crescendo or decrescendo and where the climactic spots are and where the phrases end.

# What To Do Step 3

- Tone and Intonation
  - Tone and intonation go hand-in-hand. In-tone will almost always be in-tune.
  - Work on long tones, lip slurs and chorales to develop great tone. Then carry that over to the music.
  - Students must know the “tendency” notes on their instrument and learn how to adjust them with their embouchure to match pitch.
  - It must become the responsibility of each student to listen and adjust.

# What To Do Step 4

- Balance & Blend
  - The “Pyramid of Sound” as taught by Francis McBeth must be understood and performed by the students.
  - Ensemble blend must be discussed, practiced and insisted upon.
  - Melodic line balance predominance with background instruments must be worked out.
  - Students must understand the “white note-black note” concept.

# What To Do Step 5

- Overall Musicality & Interpretation
  - Where are the high points, the low points.
  - What is the music trying to express.
  - What is the style or era of the music and how does that impact the interpretation?
  - Building tension and releasing tension to add to the musicality.

# What Should You Expect?

- If you complete each of the Steps as Outlined, what should you expect to receive at LGPE (Festival)?



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# What To Expect If You Accomplish Each Step

- 1. Notes, Rhythms & Articulations = V *If you complete Step 1*
- 2. Style, Dynamics & Phrasing = IV *If you complete Step 2*
- 3. Tone & Intonation = III *If you complete Step 3*
- 4. Balance & Blend = II *If you complete Step 4*
- 5. Overall Musicality & Interpretation = I *If you complete Step 5*



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- Preparing for LGPE is not as objective as this, but adhering to these guidelines will improve your band.
- Every Adjudicator has different opinions (music is subjective) so there is never any guarantee.



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