



Musical Expectations & Sound Concept Priorities

In addition to rehearsal expectations, we also have musical expectations that students should strive to master every day. While etiquette in the rehearsal refers to more of a behavioral context, musical expectations are demonstrated and improved on one's own instrument:

1. Play with the correct balanced posture appropriate for your instrument.
2. Play with a relaxed & polished hand position.
3. Play with a beautiful tone - ALWAYS.
4. Play with clear, ringing intonation.
5. Play with steady pulse & precise rhythms
6. Listen to others while you play, and balance your part with them.
7. Play with the correct articulation & style.
8. Always play musically & expressively!

Sound Concept Priorities

Additionally, students should keep certain concepts in mind when playing their instrument, whether it be in rehearsing, performing, or practicing individually. These concepts are ranked in priority order:

1. **Tone** - Always play with the best characteristic sound for your instrument.
2. **Rhythm & Pulse** - Must be consistently accurate & always in tempo.
3. **Pitch** - No wrong notes; the right notes played at the wrong time is still a wrong note.
4. **Articulation & Style** - Always know what style you are playing & make it consistent.
5. **Intonation** - Your best effort should always be made in making every note in tune every time.
6. **Phrasing** - The line should always be shaped to make it musical.
7. **Dynamics** - Make a difference with your volume so that contrast is evident.