Ranking - IHSMA Classification			
5- superior, 4 -excellent, 3- good, 2- fair,1 - Poor performance			
Scoring	Division Rating		
45-41	1		
40-32	2		
31-23	3		
22-14	4		
13-0	5		
CATEGORY	OLD DESCRIPTION	SUGGESTED LANGUAGE CATEGORY	SUGGESTED LANGUAGE DESCRIPTION
Vocal Production	Tone Quality, Technique	Tone Quality and Vocal Technique	Tone production is delivered without tension and connected to the breath. Vibrato is used appropriately and does not detract from the style and appropriate color for the song. Different and appropriate tone colors are used depending on the style and genre.
Intonation	(IHSMA CURRENTLY HAS NO DESCRIPTORS IN THIS CATEGORY)	Intonation	Intonation is in the center of the pitch, bending of pitch or vibrato are used with control and in a manner appropriate to the style of the piece.
Articulation	Vowels and consonants are appropriate to style	Articulation	Vowel and consonant matching are appropriate to style, speech like delivery, with attention to timing of attacks and releases.
Ensemble Singing	Blend, balance, attacks, releases	Ensemble Performance	Balance and blend, accuracy of balance, timekeeping/groove, communication with soloists and between instrumentalists or combo when applicable.
Time	Accuracy of note and rest values, Steadiness of beat, drive	Rhythm	Appropriate time feel, proper interpretation of the triplet within swung eighth notes, smooth meter changes, maintaining the groove in all styles.
Jazz Interpretation	Phrasing, Rhythmic Feel, Appropriate Stylization, Use of texture and color	Jazz Interpretation	Expression, appropriate stylistic choices, maintaining integrity of the original piece
Jazz Related Concepts	Solos, Improvisation, Vocal Percussion, Microphone Technique	Improvisation/Solos	Solos and improvisation reflect an understanding of melodic and harmonic structures, with clear communication between the soloist and ensemble and/or rhythm section, inventing and stylizing unique material that enhances the performance.
Programming	Quality of literature, Variety, Suitable for Groups	Programming	Programming is balanced, providing varied genres and styles, including at least one swing-feel selection with arrangements that are consistent to original works when applicable.
Presentation	Appeal, excitement, Communication	Visual Presentation and Technique	The ensemble uses appropriate microphone technique, movement is not distracting, communication of the affect of the song is evident to the audience.