

Concert Reports for High School Strings Courses

- Concert attendance and the subsequent report will count for **3 homework grades** (10% of overall grade).
- Students must attend 1 concert each nine weeks and complete a written report for each.
- Concert programs must be returned with the report for full credit.
- Reports must include the following:
 - Name of group/persons performing
 - Names of all pieces performed
 - Description of concert performance written in paragraph/essay form. Length is not as important as content. Musical terms, personal opinions of pieces with supporting evidence, specific aspects of pieces, and narratives of how the music tells a story are all excellent features of a good report. Blanket statements such as "I liked this piece" without supporting evidence are not effective and are not appropriate in this format.
 - Correct spelling and grammar (if in doubt, use Spell-check).
- **Due Date for 2nd nine weeks: December 15th**
- Speak with Mr. Wilson about possible volunteer opportunities to offset the cost of tickets at Ford Center events
- **Do not look up information about the pieces to put into the report.** I want **your** reactions, **your** ideas, and **your** writing. See rubric.
- **The attached rubric will be used to grade your report.**

Approved Concert List for 2nd Nine weeks 2011

- November 6: **Oxford Civic Chorus**, North Oxford Baptist Church, 3:00 PM
- November 7: **Large Chamber Recital** (Faculty Recital Series), Nutt Auditorium, 8:00 PM
- November 11: **Parthenia Consort of Viols, with Laurence Albert**, Paris-Yates Chapel, 7:00 PM
- December 2: **Handel's Messiah** (Combined Choirs, Soloists and Orchestra), Ford PAC, 7:00 PM
- December 11th: **Sounds of the Season**, Ford Center, 3:00pm - \$\$ - talk to Mr. Wilson
- **Tupelo Symphony** dates: Oct. 22nd, Dec. 10th – talk to Mr. Wilson

Memphis concerts:

Various Dates: Memphis Symphony Orchestra, Cannon Center - Ten minutes before concert time, student tickets are available for five dollars; approve with Mr. Wilson before attending.

***Recital concerts from local string teachers may also be used. These will be announced in class. All concerts must be approved by Mr. Wilson.**

Excerpt from an 'A' report: ☺

The first piece was called *Introduction and Tarantella, Op. 43* by Pablo de Sarasate. The music sounded romantic in style because the rhythm was slow. There was lots of shifting between first and third positions. The violinist also added lots of vibrato to make the music sound more interesting.

I liked the piece because there was a long pizzicato section where it was hard to see the violinist's fingers because they were moving so fast. There were also harmonic notes with lots of tremolos.....

Excerpt from an 'F' report: ☹

I liked the piece of music. It was fast and sometimes slow. The next song was really weird and had odd sounds. It didn't make any sense to me. I wonder why people even like this music that sounds so weird..... etc., etc., bad writing, etc. etc. , *****

*****The review does not have to be a favorable review. If the concert was not good, say so. And then explain why the concert was bad by providing lots of evidence.*

Rubric for Oxford High School Orchestra Concert Reports

Name _____ Total Points _____/50

Adapted from *Destinations* by Joseph Alsobrook

SA – Strongly Agree; A – Agree; PA – Partially Agree; D – Disagree; SD – Strongly Disagree

Descriptor	SA – 5	A – 4	PA – 3	D – 2	SD - 1
Clearly completes the assignment and staples rubric with report					
Conveys information clearly; reader can easily grasp the writer's message					
Conveys information that is accurate, and one's own opinions and thoughts					
Is presented in an orderly fashion					
Submits concert program with report					
Is free of misspelled words					
Uses musical terms accurately to describe the concert					
Is free of grammatical errors					
Is neat in appearance					
Contains performer information and name/title of works performed					
Total points					