Vocal Arts Area Sophomore Barrier Assessment Rubric:

Students must pass the Musical Skills portion with a P and must no more than 2 ratings of B (or below) on Performance Skills.

**General Musicianship Skills**

Demonstrates skills in the following areas:
1. Rhythmic accuracy with a strong sense of inner pulse through rhythmic sight-reading.
2. Individual intonation though scales and intervals to display vocal accuracy.
3. Vertical intonation through melodic sight-reading with another part.
4. Listening through error detection.
5. Awareness of other musical parts through a play and sing exercise (i.e. a simple four-part hymn). The student shall be able to sing one “part,” while playing another part. Students should be prepared to be play and sing “all” parts.
6. Inner ear through learning and performing a short melody. Students shall have two minutes to memorize a short melody *with text*, and sing it back in a confident manner.

**Overall Rating:**
- **E Excellent:** Student consistently and successfully blends all of the above skills for distinguished musicianship.
- **P Proficient:** Student consistently and successfully demonstrates at least five of the above skills consistently.
- **B Basic:** Student successfully demonstrates only four of the above skills in a consistent manner.
- **U Unsatisfactory:** Student successfully demonstrates three or fewer of the above skills in a consistent manner.

**Skill Elements:** Satisfactory (1-2 mistakes per exercise) or Unsatisfactory (3 or more mistakes per exercise).

1. Scales (Major, natural minor, chromatic, whole tone)  
   - Major: __________  
   - Minor: __________  
   - Chromatic __________  
   - Whole Tone: __________  
   - TOTAL __________
   - **S** Satisfactory **U** Unsatisfactory

2. Melodic Sight reading  
   - 1. __________
   - 1. __________
   - **S** Satisfactory **U** Unsatisfactory

3. Rhythmic Sight reading  
   - 1. __________
   - 2. __________

   4. Error Detection  
   - 1. __________
   - 2. __________
   - **S** Satisfactory **U** Unsatisfactory

5. Play and Sing  
   - **S** Satisfactory **U** Unsatisfactory

6. Learn/Perform Melody  
   - **S** Satisfactory **U** Unsatisfactory
Overall Rating: _____E _____P _____B _____U

RESULT: __________

______
S   U

**PERFORMANCE SKILLS**

1. **MUSICAL EXECUTION/ACCURACY**
   Demonstrates skills in the three following areas:
   1. Accurate representation of score, including dynamics, phrasing, tempi, articulations
   2. Incorporation of basic musical skills into cohesive musical performance
   3. Sense of appropriate stylistic consideration and awareness of distinction of styles

   **E Excellent:** Student consistently and successfully blends all of the above skills for a high-level, artistic performance.
   **P Proficient:** Student consistently and successfully uses at least two of the above qualities for a good performance.
   **B Basic:** Student uses only one of the above characteristics in a consistent manner.
   **U Unsatisfactory:** Student does not demonstrate any of the above skills during the performance.

2. **VOCAL CHARACTERISTICS**
   Demonstrates skills in the following areas:
   1. Vocal Characteristics: Clarity of tone, flexibility, legato, sostenuto, balanced vibrato, dynamic range, accurate intonation
   2. Technical Ability: overall healthy production, consistent breath management, appropriate range for voice type

   **E Excellent:** Student demonstrates sophisticated understanding of the aforementioned skills and applies them appropriately and consistently throughout their jury literature.
   **P Proficient:** Student demonstrates the majority of skills, but there is evidence that the student is challenged in portions of the literature.
   **B Basic:** Student presents some of these skills, but they are not consistent throughout the literature.
   **U Unsatisfactory:** Student presents few of these skills and they are not consistent.

3. **BODY COORDINATION AND BALANCE**
   Demonstrates skills in the following areas:
   1. Breathing: Student demonstrates an even and integrated use of the structures and movement of breathing
   2. Student demonstrates a discernable awareness of body balance/alignment without undue tension

   **E Excellent:** Student demonstrates an integrated and sophisticated understanding of the structures and movement of breathing, and consistently demonstrates a body balance and awareness that is assimilated into the art of singing.
P  **Proficient:** Student demonstrates a good understanding of the structures and movement of breathing, and demonstrates a body balance that is free of undue tension.

B  **Basic:** Student has a basic understanding of the breathing mechanism and demonstrates a body balance and awareness at an adequate level.

U  **Unsatisfactory:** Student demonstrates a poor level of coordination of the breathing mechanism, and has consistent and habitual body tension.

4. **ARTISTIC / INTERPRETIVE SKILLS**
   Demonstrates skills in the following areas:
   1. Focus of eyes, which reveal a sense of “where the action is taking place.”
   2. Facial expressions that appropriately illustrate the character’s intent and/or the content of the text.
   3. Relevant gestures that further clarify the purpose of the character or text (if appropriate).
   4. Simple and apposite physical movement to supplement the overall objective of the character or text (if appropriate).

E  **Excellent:** Student consistently and successfully blends all of the above skills for a high-level, artistic performance.

P  **Proficient:** Student consistently and successfully uses at least two of the above qualities for a good performance.

B  **Basic:** Student uses only one of the above characteristics in a consistent manner.

U  **Unsatisfactory:** Student does not demonstrate any of the above skills during the performance.

5. **SUPPLEMENTAL / COMPLEMENTARY SKILLS**
   Demonstrates skills in the following areas:
   1. Ability to work independently and within an ensemble.
   2. Has adopted good practice habits.
   3. Consistent quest toward vocal progress.
   4. Inherent sense of curiosity about poet, composer, style, performance practice, etc.
   5. Ability to synthesize information and experience.

E  **Excellent:** Student consistently and successfully demonstrates the above skills resulting in high-level performances.

P  **Proficient:** Student continues to strive toward consistent adoption and demonstration of the above skills.

B  **Basic:** Student shows interest in improvement of above skills, but demonstration is inconsistent.

U  **Unsatisfactory:** Student lacks both external and internal motivation to demonstrate the above skills.

6. **LYRIC DICTION CONCEPTS**
   Demonstrates average skills in the following areas:
   1. Language pronunciations are distinct from each other
   2. Word stress and syllabification concepts are easily and consistently communicated
   3. Proper sequencing between words is evident
   4. Communication of text

E  **Excellent:** Student consistently and successfully demonstrates the above skills resulting in high-level artistic performance and expression of text.

P  **Proficient:** Student demonstrates consistent competency of the above skills.
Basic: Student shows interest in improvement of above skills, but demonstration is inconsistent, and deficiency of skill.

Unsatisfactory: Student lacks both external and internal motivation to demonstrate the above skills.

7. PROFESSIONAL DEMEANOR
Demonstrates skills/actions in the following areas
1. Punctuality
2. Preparedness for lessons and rehearsals
3. Wears attire appropriate for classes, lessons, and performances
4. Collegiality through regular attendance of concerts and recitals
5. Constructive and thoughtful approach to critique
6. Thoughtful self-reflection and corrective actions showing mature response to critique
7. Good time management skills

Excellent: Student is consistent in the above traits and understands their importance.
Proficient: Student demonstrates these traits but needs occasional reminders.
Basic: Student has difficulty with several of the above areas and needs reminders.
Unsatisfactory: Student shows little regard for the above traits and does not respond to reminders.

Vocal Arts Area Sophomore Barrier Interview Rating Sheet
Students will verbally relate their research findings regarding all aspects of their jury literature.
Synthesis of disciplines is expected between complementary studies in theory and history.
Students should demonstrate a mature transition between receiver of knowledge and disseminator of research findings toward the purpose of informing and enhancing presentation of jury literature. In order to pass the Interview portion of the barrier, a student must receive a minimum of three “Proficient” ratings out of the five skill areas.

Excellent
Proficient
Basic
Unsatisfactory

Demonstrates skills in the following areas:

1. Ability to succinctly and thoughtfully answer each question posed to them
   E  P  B  U

2. Ability to forge and communicate connections and points of intrigue
   E  P  B  U

3. Thorough knowledge of composers /arrangers.
   E  P  B  U

4. Complete understanding of texts/translations
   E  P  B  U

5. Knowledge of poets, text sources, characters
   E  P  B  U