

What Do They Really Mean? How Vocal Skills Affects Showmanship

- Energy
- Posture
- Synchronization
- Choreography
- Harmony Accuracy
- Physical Expression
- Poise and Command
- Confidence

Judge Parker

SHOWMANSHIP

Contestant's Name Chorus

Contestant # #7

Contest: Region # _____ Chorus Region # _____ Quartet

Date _____

Int'l Quartet Semifinals Int'l Chorus Semifinals Int'l Quartet Finals Int'l Chorus Finals Harmony Classic

JUDGING CRITERIA

PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)

COMMUNICATION OF THE VISUAL AND MUSICAL PRODUCT

Vocal Skills *In place but keep strengthening*
Energy *Not always in control*
Poise and Command *good with excellent timing of Entrance!*
Entrance/break/exit
Characterization
Physical Expression
Choreography *- You move well together.*
Unity
Audience Rapport
Pitch pipe technique
Posture *- Check posture on some.*

PREPARATION (0-30 points)

VISUAL PLAN - *Well thought out!*

Entrance/break/exit
Costume *Terrific color for the stage*
Makeup/Grooming *Some wrinkling through mid-riff area on top*
Choreography *high Creativity*
Creativity

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 How Many Hearts SONG #2 Where Lies My Heart

High energy at the start. Be careful of pushing that energy out of control. Tuning issues are occurring on this intro causing the connection with the audience to be slow. You recovered quickly though after intro and got over to tapping and the pure joy of singing came through. The choreography was well suited to the storyline. Strive for a better balance in the musicality to coincide with your well designed visual plan.

score song 1

B

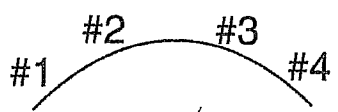
score song 2

B

BONUS POINTS

SCORING LEVELS (for one song)		
94 - 100	A+	
86 - 93	A	
80 - 85	A-	
74 - 79	B+	
66 - 73	B	
60 - 65	B-	
54 - 59	C+	
46 - 53	C	
40 - 45	C-	
34 - 39	D+	
26 - 33	D	
20 - 25	D-	
0 - 19	F	

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.



Director *Very vivacious personality. You brought pure magic to the performance.*

Judge _____

TOTAL SCORE

Judge Parker

SHOWMANSHIP

Contestant's Name _____

Contestant # #2

Contest: Region # 24 Chorus Region # _____ Quartet

Date _____

Int'l Quartet Semifinals Int'l Chorus Semifinals Int'l Quartet Finals Int'l Chorus Finals Harmony Classic

JUDGING CRITERIA

PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)
COMMUNICATION OF THE
VISUAL AND MUSICAL PRODUCT

Vocal Skills *Keep strengthening*
Energy - *put it out*
Poise and Command *Take more time at*
Entrance/break/exit *entrance for better*
Characterization *stage command.*
Physical Expression *Strive for more togetherness*
Choreography
Unity
Audience Rapport - *not always.*
Pitch pipe technique
Posture

PREPARATION (0-30 points)

VISUAL PLAN *Good design but needs more creativity in your*
Entrance/break/exit *delicately,*
Costume - *OK.*
Makeup/Grooming *Need a darker foundation*
Choreography *Some faces are too faded.*
Creativity *Facial animation needs to be more unified*

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 What Ever Happened To SONG #2 Old Songs & Old Friends
Old Songs.

Energetic entrance. Visual plan is appropriate but invest more energy & passion in all your choreo. moves. Don't lose your personality for the sake of an energetic choreography plan. The energy got away from you a bit. Close those gaps and you'll achieve that all-desired "transcending" performance. Song 2 build a stronger connection with your audience. Connect more fully to the lyrics & try a more vulnerable approach to the delivery of these touching words in the storyline. Your priority now is to build upon your vocal skills and add more conviction from each & every singer for a more solid presentation.

#1 #2 #3 #4

Director *Take more time to show off your chorus at the entrance. You have a terrific smile!*

SCORING LEVELS (for one song)
94 - 100 A+
88 - 93 A
80 - 85 A-
74 - 79 B+
66 - 73 B
60 - 65 B-
54 - 59 C+
46 - 53 C
40 - 45 C-
34 - 39 D+
26 - 33 D
20 - 25 D-
0 - 19 F

score song 1 C+
score song 2 C+
BONUS POINTS
Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

TOTAL SCORE

Judge Parker

SHOWMANSHIP

Contestant's Name _____

Contestant # #3

Contest: Region # 1 Chorus / Region # _____ Quartet

Date _____

Int'l Quartet Semifinals Int'l Chorus Semifinals Int'l Quartet Finals Int'l Chorus Finals Harmony Classic

JUDGING CRITERIA

PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)
COMMUNICATION OF THE
VISUAL AND MUSICAL PRODUCT

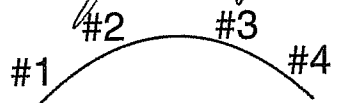
Vocal Skills - *Well in place good for you!*
Energy - *Keep it coming*
Poise and Command *Very strong*
Entrance/break/exit
Characterization
Physical Expression
Choreography
Unity - *Some unity needed @ break*
Audience Rapport
Pitch pipe technique
Posture *confident posture.*

PREPARATION (0-30 points)

VISUAL PLAN - *You know the plan, and it's a good one!*
Entrance/break/exit
Costume *Lime green w/ purple gloves, very striking!*
Makeup/Grooming
Choreography
Creativity *High Creativity*

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 How Many Hearts SONG #2 Once Upon A Time
Strong start to this uptune. The sensual choreography made a very strong statement. The visual planning was superb and you move well together. Strive for everyone to get set together at the break. (Some confusion there.)
Song 2, lots of emotion & drama coming across the footlights. All singers appear to be totally involved. Facially & body language was also very apparent. The energy began to wane toward end & halted causing some timing issues to disrupt that wonderful spell you had so firmly established. Waa!



Director *You look marvelous!*
Wow, you own the stage and complement the Chorus with expertise.

Judge _____

SCORING LEVELS (for one song)

94 - 100	A+
86 - 93	A
80 - 85	A-
74 - 79	B+
66 - 73	B
60 - 65	B-
54 - 59	C+
46 - 53	C
40 - 45	C-
34 - 39	D+
26 - 33	D
20 - 25	D-
0 - 19	F

score song 1 B+

score song 2 B+

BONUS POINTS

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

TOTAL SCORE

WHAT DO THEY REALLY MEAN? - SHOWMANSHIP

30% PORTION OF SHOWMANSHIP CATEGORY

THE MOST COMMON QUESTIONS ASKED

- COSTUMING:** DESIGN
THE FIT
MIDRIFF AREA
UNDERGARMENTS
SUITABILITY TO THE PERFORMER
COLOR
- MAKEUP:** NO RULES TO WHAT KIND OF MAKEUP USED
FULL COVERAGE
NATURAL LOOK IS DEFINITELY NOT APPROPRIATE
LIPSTICK COLOR
EYE SHADOWS
FALSE EYELASHES
BLUSH – BLEND, BLEND, BLEND
FINGER NAIL POLISH
- GROOMING:** WRINKLES
BE RELENTLESS
UNITY ACROSS THE CHORUS BOTH MAKEUP & GROOMING
HAIRSTYLES

An excellent way to prepare for performing on stage, under bright stage lights are, invest in a strip of stage lights (if possible). Have each singer get a “pass” just as we do in our music. Stand in front of those lights and make sure all bases are covered. Allow time for each singer to be checked before performing on the contest stage.

Our Showmanship Judges are paying attention to this side of the category. Don't give away those points.

Just remember that you are the seed to your chorus's energy. If you have confidence in them, they will in turn give it back to you. If each and every singer looks professional and confident, they will sing better and the overall results will pay great dividends.

MUSIC CATEGORY

- I. Difference between strong song/arrangement and suitability to performer
 1. Music choice on the 30% section greatly affects the 70% section
 2. A song can be strong yet not suitable to the performer because it is too difficult.

- II. 70% PERFORMANCE - Subheadings self-explanatory
 - A. Vocal Skills
 - B. Harmony Accuracy
 - C. Barbershop Style (Tempo, Rhythm, Musical Unity, Phrasing, Dynamics, Musical Energy)
 - D. Musical Artistry

- III. 30% SONG & ARRANGEMENT-most confusion lies in this area
 - A. Song
 1. Based on Circle of Fifths
 2. Major Mode
 - Strong chords: Major Triad; Barbershop 7th; Barbershop 9th
 - Secondary chords: Major 6th; Major 7th; Major 9th; Minor Triad; Minor 6th; Minor 7th; Diminished; Augmented
 3. Should not have very wide or awkward intervals in melody
 4. YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE -weak because it is stanzaic in form-masterful arrangement: Exhibit #1
 5. Song requiring many secondary chords: Exhibit #2
 - How a weak song may score in A- range
 - Weak secondary chord should not fall on important part of song
 - B. Form
 1. Intro: should be 4 or 8 measures (if there is one)
 2. Verse: 8 or 16 measures (if there is one)
 3. Chorus: MUST have 8 measure increments for full 32 measures. It may have last 8 or 16 measures repeated.
 4. Tag: in increments of 4 measures
 5. Ballad has implied meter
 6. 4-bar increments-cannot add beats: Exhibit #3
 7. Medleys have same rules as single song
 - C. Voicing
 1. Can be too high, too low or too spread - know capability of chorus members
 2. Arrangements for Male Voices vs. Female Voices
 - Usually music for females is voiced a fourth lower when transposing from music for male voices but may be too spread
 - Often can be adapted by switching tenor and baritone in places
 - Music for male voices: baritone mostly above lead
 - Music for female voices: baritone mostly below lead
 - D. Harmonization
 1. Must follow implied harmony of melody
 2. Cannot substitute strong chords for weak chords

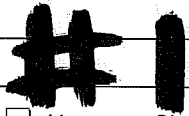
Judge _____

Contestant's Name _____ Contestant # _____

Contest: Region # _____ Chorus Region # _____ Quartet

Date _____

Int'l Quartet Semifinals Int'l Chorus Semifinals Int'l Quartet Finals Int'l Chorus Finals Harmony Classic



JUDGING CRITERIA

SONG & ARRANGEMENT (0-30 points)

Merit as Barbershop Material

Form/Melody/Lyrics #1

Arrangement *masterful arrangement of Song #1 however*

Harmonization

Voicing

Song #2 - strong

PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)

Vocal Skills *very good*

Harmony Accuracy *mostly fine*

Barbershop Style

Tempo *#2 a tad fast*

Rhythm

Musical Unity

Phrasing

Dynamics

Musical Energy

Musical Artistry *yes!!*

good work here

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 *You are My Sunshine*

SONG #2 *I Never Knew*

#1 This simple folk song is rather weak because it is stanzaic in form - phrase plan is well-executed by all voices - lots of artistry evident with flowing phrases and wide dynamic contrasts - your dynamic plan effectively complements the melody and lyrics - very exciting build to the climax - harmony accuracy is not a problem for you with only a few small bobbles - Wonderful tag and well done by all - So exciting!

#2 This is a strong uptune but not easy to sing smoothly - big swipe at end of verse handled very well - Tempo is a bit ambitious and not all singers are able to keep up which results in loss of chord clarity - some ends of phrases are cut off too soon for breaths - stamina wanes and pitch dropped a bit near end - Exciting tag!

SUITABILITY TO PERFORMER

Song 1 *yes*

Song 2 *yes, but maybe a bit slower would be better*

Judge *Carolyn Hedley*

SCORING LEVELS	
(for one song)	
94 - 100	A+
86 - 93	A
80 - 85	A-
74 - 79	B+
66 - 73	B
60 - 65	B-
54 - 59	C+
46 - 53	C
40 - 45	C-
34 - 39	D+
26 - 33	D
20 - 25	D-
0 - 19	F

score song 1

79

score song 2

75

BONUS POINTS

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

TOTAL SCORE

154

Judge _____

Contestant's Name _____ Contestant # _____

Contest: Region # _____ Chorus Region # _____ Quartet Date _____

Int'l Quartet Semifinals Int'l Chorus Semifinals Int'l Quartet Finals Int'l Chorus Finals Harmony Class

#2

JUDGING CRITERIA

SONG & ARRANGEMENT (0-30 points)

- Merit as Barbershop Material
- Form/Melody/Lyrics
- Arrangement
- Harmonization
- Voicing

Song #2 stronger than Song #1

PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)

- Vocal Skills *keep working*
- Harmony Accuracy *- problems*
- Barbershop Style
- Tempo *- okay in #2*
- Rhythm
- Musical Unity
- Phrasing
- Dynamics
- Musical Energy
- Musical Artistry *not yet*

} need work here

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 How Deep is the Ocean SONG #2 Strike Up the Band

#1 Although this is a beautiful ballad, it is in the minor mode and many secondary chords are required by the melody line - Many phrases are not completely synchronized and/or are not accurately tuned which result in a lack of chord clarity - You have a fine phrase plan but not all singers are in agreement - a voice is penetrating the musical veil because of unlike vocal production - Quality suffers when pushing for loud volume required at tag.

#2 This is an okay song, but marches are difficult to execute smoothly - there is a stress on the downbeat which contributes to a choppy lyric delivery - again, there are many untuned and unsynchronized phrases resulting in indistinct chords - inaccurately sung intervals contribute to the tuning problems!

score song 1

46

score song 2

48

BONUS POINTS

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

SCORING LEVELS (for one song)		
94 - 100	A+	
86 - 93	A	
80 - 85	A-	
74 - 79	B+	
66 - 73	B	
60 - 65	B-	
54 - 59	C+	
46 - 53	C	
40 - 45	C-	
34 - 39	D+	
26 - 33	D	
20 - 25	D-	
0 - 19	F	

SUITABILITY TO PERFORMER

Song 1 } *too difficult for you at this time*
Song 2 }

Judge Carolyn Healey

TOTAL SCORE

94

Judge _____

Contestant's Name _____

Contestant # **#3**

Contest: Region # _____ Chorus Region # _____ Quartet

Date _____

Int'l Quartet Semifinals Int'l Chorus Semifinals Int'l Quartet Finals Int'l Chorus Finals Harmony Classic

JUDGING CRITERIA

SONG & ARRANGEMENT (0-30 points)

Merit as Barbershop Material

Form/Melody/Lyrics **#2**

Arrangement

Harmonization

Voicing

Both songs fine - #1 is stronger

PERFORMANCE (0-70 points)

Vocal Skills *work shows*

Harmony Accuracy *some problems*

Barbershop Style

Tempo

Rhythm

Musical Unity ✓

Phrasing ✓

Dynamics ✓

Musical Energy *need more*

Musical Artistry *glimpses*

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 *When I Leave the World Behind*

SONG #2 *Love Eyes Medley*

#1 This old ballad is a fine choice - it has meaningful lyrics as well as strong chords and progressions - Forward motion was missing at times - each phrase must be energized and flow into the next phrase - expansion of dynamics at both extremes will help to add the artistry that was not always evident - there is a lack of unity when all singers are not in agreement with the plan - You had some fine moments but they were not consistent.

#2 The melody of song #1 has very little melodic and harmonic variety - both songs work well together to form one song - Oops! segue back to song #1 disturbed form when beats were added - tempo was just right - 3rd of chord occasionally underpitch in places - Tag, well done

score song 1

63

score song 2

64

BONUS POINTS

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

SUITABILITY TO PERFORMER

Song 1

Song 2

both songs suit your abilities

Judge

Carolyn Healey

SCORING LEVELS	
(for one song)	
94 - 100	A+
86 - 93	A
80 - 85	A-
74 - 79	B+
66 - 73	B
60 - 65	B-
54 - 59	C+
46 - 53	C
40 - 45	C-
34 - 39	D+
26 - 33	D
20 - 25	D-
0 - 19	F

TOTAL SCORE

127

What Do They Mean...? *Expression*

1. Musicality – “a sensitivity to, knowledge of, or talent for music”
“the quality or state of being musical”

**The presence of musicality in the performance indicates not only a technically excellent performance, but also reveals the performer's sincere relationship with the lyrical and musical message and the courage to be vulnerable with the audience in delivering it.

Creating and Producing Musicality

(not an exhaustive list!)

1. Legato, vowel to vowel singing
2. Synchronization clarity
3. In-Tune Singing
4. Effective breath management and forward motion
5. Unity and Sincerity in the plan delivery
6. Energy

Distractions from Musicality

(not an exhaustive list either...)

1. Choppiness
2. Frequent Synchronization Errors
3. Out of Tune Singing
4. Lack of Effective Dynamic Delivery (or other artistic elements)
5. Inadequate vocal skills for the creative plan
6. Lack of unified energy

2. Forward Motion – “to help onward, promote, send forward”

****When forward motion is present, lyrical messages are propelled with energy and intent providing a dramatic and exciting experience for the listener. If forward motion is not present, attention is drawn to the things present in the delivery other than the overall story. Even if the technique is good, the objective is to tell a story.**

Employing Forward Motion

1. Energy!
2. Consistent air flow and breath management and breathing techniques
3. Legato, vowel to vowel delivery
4. Lifted phrase endings
5. Meaningful, creative lyrical plans developed from the lyrical intent (not just to show off the technical abilities)

Obstacles to Forward Motion

1. Loss of effective breath support or breath management
2. Inadequate vocal skills for the lyrical demands
3. Lack of energy
4. Over enunciation
5. Unclear understanding the dramatic intent of the lyrical message

3. Emotional Communication – “projecting a sentiment appropriate to the message and producing an emotional response within the listener”

****Emotional communication occurs only when the performer demonstrates skill in the “basic requirements” and performs with freedom, passion**

and a complete commitment to the lyrical and musical message.

Emotional Communication Exhibits:

1. A sincere, intense emotion projected to the audience through an artistic, lyrical interpretation producing a response in the listener
2. Emotion and delivery appropriate to the song and the barbershop style
3. Mastery of the basic requirements of the expression category
4. Mastery of the artistic elements of the category – word delivery, inflection, finesse, phrasing, dynamics, tempo/rhythm

Inhibitors to Emotional Communication

1. Emotional message unclear and/or not unified
2. Lack of intensity and energy to send the emotion to the audience
3. Unexplored or under-developed use of artistic elements
4. Insufficient vocal skills to deliver the creative plan effectively
5. Focusing on anything other than reaching the audience with the lyrical and musical message

When a performance has complete command of all the technical elements of singing and then adds true emotional communication, making the audience unaware it is hearing anything other than a beautiful song, straight from the heart, the performers have achieved the ultimate in this category – true musical *expression*.

Excerpts from the Judging Category Description Book, available to every Sweet Adeline performer

Judge _____

Contestant's Name _____

Contestant # **# 7**

Contest: Region # _____ Chorus Region # _____ Quartet

Date _____

Int'l Quartet Semifinals Int'l Chorus Semifinals Int'l Quartet Finals Int'l Chorus Finals Harmony Class

EXPRESSIO

JUDGING CRITERIA

BASIC REQUIREMENTS (0-40 points)

- Vocal Skills
- Synchronization
- Vowels
- Diphthongs
- Consonants
- Enunciation

ARTISTIC LYRICAL INTERPRETATION (0-60 points)

- Lyric Flow
- Phrasing
- Forward Motion
- Embellishments
- Dynamics
- Tempo/Rhythm
- Inflection
- Energy
- Finesse
- Emotional Communication

Song #1

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 Will It Be Me SONG #2 _____

Musicality-

Musicality lost at key change and tag as unity crumbles a bit in loud volumes

Forward Motion-

- More forward motion needed to bring your lyrical plan to life more effectively
- Phrase to phrase delivery inhibits effective delivery of the urgency and pathos of this lyrical message-

Emotional Communication-

Your heart must be connected to the longing and passion of this lyric line, not only the technical aspects which you handle admirably.

score song 1

score song 2

BONUS POINTS

SCORING LEVELS (for one song)	
94 - 100	A+
86 - 93	A
80 - 85	A-
74 - 79	B+
66 - 73	B
60 - 65	B-
54 - 59	C+
46 - 53	C
40 - 45	C-
34 - 39	D+
26 - 33	D
20 - 25	D-
0 - 19	F

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

TOTAL SCORE

Judge Paula Davis

Judge _____

Contestant's Name _____

Contestant # **# 2**

Contest: Region # _____ Chorus Region # _____ Quartet

Date _____

Int'l Quartet Semifinals Int'l Chorus Semifinals Int'l Quartet Finals Int'l Chorus Finals Harmony Classic

JUDGING CRITERIA

BASIC REQUIREMENTS (0-40 points)

- Vocal Skills
- Synchronization
- Vowels
- Diphthongs
- Consonants
- Enunciation

ARTISTIC LYRICAL INTERPRETATION (0-60 points)

- Lyric Flow
- Phrasing
- Forward Motion
- Embellishments
- Dynamics
- Tempo/Rhythm
- Inflection
- Energy
- Finesse
- Emotional Communication

Song # 2

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 If You Love Me, Really Love SONG #2 _____

Musicality -

Messy phrase ends and synch issues detract from the musicality of this performance.

Forward Motion -

More forward motion is needed - propelled by the emotional intent and heartfelt connection to the lyrics. Just saying the words faster is leading to synch and unity issues.

Emotional Communication -

Allow your heart to lead the way for a more authentic, sincere approach and delivery. "Get it happen"!

score song 1

score song 2

BONUS POINTS

SCORING LEVELS		
(for one song)		
94 - 100	A+	
86 - 93	A	
80 - 85	A-	
74 - 79	B+	
66 - 73	B	
60 - 65	B-	
54 - 59	C+	
46 - 53	C	
40 - 45	C-	
34 - 39	D+	
26 - 33	D	
20 - 25	D-	
0 - 19	F	

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

Judge Gaule Davis

TOTAL

Judge _____

Contestant's Name _____

Contestant # **#3**

Contest: Region # _____ Chorus Region # _____ Quartet

Date _____

Int'l Quartet Semifinals Int'l Chorus Semifinals Int'l Quartet Finals Int'l Chorus Finals Harmony Class

JUDGING CRITERIA

BASIC REQUIREMENTS (0-40 points)

- Vocal Skills
- Synchronization
- Vowels
- Diphthongs
- Consonants
- Enunciation

ARTISTIC LYRICAL INTERPRETATION (0-60 points)

- Lyric Flow
- Phrasing
- Forward Motion
- Embellishments
- Dynamics
- Tempo/Rhythm
- Inflection
- Energy
- Finesse
- Emotional Communication

Song #3

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

SONG #1 What'll I Do SONG #2 _____

Emotional Communication -

- A beautiful, adept handling of all dynamic levels as you begin this nostalgic journey. Sometimes word delivery seems a bit deliberate or manufactured allowing momentary disconnect from the emotional, heart-felt delivery.

- Your softs reveal tenderness and heartfelt connection to the lyrical intent. Make sure loud volumes maintain the vocal energy and freedom needed to give them the passion and emotion intended instead of merely power.

- Every moment must be sincere from every singer in order to transcend into the magical experience you are capable of.

score song 1

score song 2

BONUS POINTS

SCORING LEVELS (for one song)		
94 - 100	A+	
86 - 93	A	
80 - 85	A-	
74 - 79	B+	
66 - 73	B	
60 - 65	B-	
54 - 59	C+	
46 - 53	C	
40 - 45	C-	
34 - 39	D+	
26 - 33	D	
20 - 25	D-	
0 - 19	F	

Bonus Points awarded for performance package. International Finals and Harmony Classic only.

Judge Paula Davis

TOTAL SCORE

WHAT DO THEY REALLY MEAN? Sound Category

The focus of the sound category is the evaluation of UNIT SOUND in the BARBERSHOP STYLE. Unit sound occurs when tones are properly produced, accurately tuned, blended, and balanced. In barbershop terminology, this is referred to as "LOCK AND RING." Although the sound judge does not evaluate vocal technique in and of itself, the sound category does include evaluation of the basics of CORRECT SINGING. Reasonable proficiency in the basics of correct singing must be achieved before the performer's efforts in any of the four categories will be totally successful.

The judge rewards a performance wherein:

All singers consistently apply techniques of good vocal production.

Total accuracy exists both horizontally within individual part lines and vertically within individual chords.

Vocal qualities are blended both within chorus sections and within the overall quartet or chorus unit, culminating in a composite, well-produced musical sound.

Cone-shaped balance of voices or sections is maintained.

Overall application of vocal and stylistic technique enhances the identifiable characteristics of the barbershop style, resulting in a musical performance in the sound category.

Finally, the sound judge seeks a musical sound that draws the audience out of their daily experiences into a world of joy and exhilaration. Beautiful sounds, correctly produced and expressed from the heart, create an enduring musical experience and surely prove the greatest showcase for the barbershop style of music.