



Young Composer Festival 2026

Student Entry Number:

Song Title:

Rubric

	1	2	3	4	5
Creativity <i>(Consider: imagination, new ideas)</i>	Composition lacks originality, sounds cliched, or copied from another work.	Composition has a little originality, but mainly contains cliched elements.	Composition has some originality. Some elements may be a bit cliched.	Composition contains all original ideas.	Composition includes very creative, unique, and/or imaginative musical ideas.
Use of Musical Elements <i>(Consider: dynamics, texture, melody, rhythm, articulation)</i>	Composition does not contain any variation in musical elements.	Composition has one musical element developed.	Composition has two musical elements developed.	Composition has three musical elements developed.	Composition has four or more musical elements developed.
Organization <i>Consider: variety of phrasing, beginning, middle, end)</i>	Composition does not have a clear structure and appears random rather than organized.	Composition may have an organized beginning and/or end, but piece lacks cohesion overall.	Composition has a clear beginning and/or ending but piece overall is a bit disorganized.	Composition has a defined beginning and end. Piece is organized.	Composition is very well organized with a clear beginning, middle, and end.
Overall Impression	Composition lacks an effective impression. Does not hold the listener's interest.	Composition contains a few interesting ideas, but the overall impression is still not effective.	Composition contains some interesting elements. Piece is somewhat effective.	Composition contains many interesting ideas. Overall the piece is effective.	Composition contains several unique ideas and keeps the listener engaged throughout.

Total Points: _____

Judge Comments

Creativity:

Form/Structure:

Melody/Harmony:

Organization:

Rhythm:

Use of Musical Elements:

Additional comments: