

Musical Artistry

Fundamentals

- Command of rhythm, pulse, ability to subdivide
- Technical accuracy
- Pattern recognition in reading music (scales, arpeggios, etc.)
- Beauty of tone
- Accurate intonation
- Control of dynamics, large dynamic range
- Control and variety of articulations

Finesse

- Variety of tone color
- Seamless legato
- Even passage work
- Appropriate vibrato

Interpretation

- Playing exactly what's on the page first
- Clarity of the aural concept (what does the inner ear hear?)
- Sense of style
- Points of tension and release in the musical line
- Control of line, phrasing
- Use of rubato, if appropriate
- Knowing context of specific piece
- Performance practice

Physical and Mental

- Mastery of the "Inner Game"
- Body awareness and use
- Stage presence, presentation
- "X" Factor