UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

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Concert Rating and Comment Sheet MS VARSITY BAND - 4/25/2023 Krimmel Intermediate Spring 3C Varsity 100-Concert Band

Director Stetson Begin Additional Directors Reuben Brown

61 Students Entry Number 190438

Composer/ArrangerTitle of selections and movementsUIL ID#Reed/Armenian Dances, Set I (567)100-5-15836Grainger/PattersonMock Morris (21585)100-4-34125Johannes Hanssen/Loras SchisselValdres

#### **CONCERT RATINGS:**

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	KIM COOLEY	1	1	JOE PRUITT	1	Final	1	
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# KIM COOLEY

**TONE:** Students perform with mature, characteristic sounds throughout the performance. Love the confidence the band plays with! Strong sections throughout the ensemble! Students play with great air support. Brass could play out a bit stronger when they have the melody. Pitches are centered and focused, with minor lapses. Balance the band to the line that has the melody, no matter the dynamic written for a more musical and transparent performance...at times it gets noisy. Wonderful soloists! AMAZING Woodwinds! Brass are having some endurance issues on the Reed.

**TECHNIQUE:** Watch your director for beginning entrances and entrances after rests so you are together for the downbeats. Remember to use great air when you are tonguing faster so all the notes will speak. Students demonstrate great dexterity on their instruments. Rhythmic approach is uniform throughout with only a few moments of uncertainty. Watch trumpets and horns!!! A few moments got a little uncomfortable due to not watching and confidence on your individual parts. A few wrong notes today, but you recovered quickly.

MUSICIANSHIP: It is obvious you enjoy playing your pieces! This band has so many great young musicians sitting on stage!

Students sometimes give up on the ends of long note and sustaining to the rest or passing the melody around. Continue to develop matching style from side to side and from section to section.

**GENERAL COMMENTS:** Congratulations directors and students on wonderful performance today! I am so honored to be able to listen to you play. Fantastic job directors and students for all your hard work. Congrats to the directors for working so hard to provide a love of music and finding appropriate music that the kids love and can perform at a high level.

Congratulations on your big year! The Creek Valley students still talk about the fun they had with you on the dinner cruise in Chicago.

Continue enjoying playing your instrument and being a part of something great!

## **PRISCILLA BELL**

**TONE:** Great ensemble sound, musicians and tone qualities. Work on the skill to play at piano dynamics - and balance, especially in the full tutti sections.

[Centered, focused tone quality +] [Balance within sections -] [Balance between sections -]

TECHNIQUE: Incredible job learning this challenging program. Some precision issues today.

[Note Accuracy +] [Manual dexterity and flexibility +] [Rhythmic Accuracy +] [Rhythmic Stability +] [Appropriate mastery of articulation +] [Observance of ties, slurs, articulation markings +/-]

MUSICIANSHIP: Fine fundamentals and evidence of good teaching going on. Keep working to have more polish to the finished product.

[Appropriateness of style +] [Sensitivity to phrasing +/-] [Observance of musical markings -] [Appropriateness of dynamic contrasts -] [Appropriate observance of tempo +] [Demonstrates musical understanding +]

GENERAL COMMENTS: Good evening, Krimmel Int. Great looking band on stage - very professional concert attire.

Valdres - meas. 15 match volume to what is going on before (and 125). Trio - start together.....keep the balance so trumpet soloist doesn't have to work so hard - make it sound easy. Upper WW notes are really tearing through ensemble texture. Stay still and focused - really work to 'float' those upper pitches. Places like 90 (effect measures) - maintain balance - very treble heavy.

Armenian Dances - 9 - a nice moment, 14 - gentle - no forcing. Wonderful oboes. 30 -love this section....work to play easier, softer with this big group. Balance. 95 - awesome flutes.....Yes alto 117!

186 - start together on entrance. 209 - release. Intonation issues in trumpets and upper voices. 224 - stabilize pulse. Some nice moments and wonderful section sounds.....so much music learned. Don't stop here - keep working to really show the group's ability to have a bigger dynamic range and balance to the most important line.

Mock Morris - softer beginner. Measures 21 - 25 clean up. 53 - more contrast in dynamics. Excellent technique and articulation. Keep working to capture the lightness and playfulness of the piece.

## JOE PRUITT

**TONE:** You guys play with very mature sounds. There are times when balance, blend, and pitch suffer. Be prepared for these moments and recover faster. You have wonderful soloist but sometimes the accompaniment covers those lovely sounds. Know your balance responsibilities.

[Centered, focused tone quality +] [Balance within sections +] [Intonation within sections +/-] [Dynamic contrasts without distortion +/-] [Balance between sections +/-] [Intonation between sections +/-]

**TECHNIQUE:** Your music has so many notes and rhythms. It is your job to make sure the right note makes in the right place, balanced, in tune, and with a beautiful sound. You are close on this difficult music. Rhythmic stability was a major issue today...enough to not have today's desire outcome, but you made up for it with other skills.

[Note Accuracy +] [Manual dexterity and flexibility +/-] [Rhythmic Accuracy +/-] [Rhythmic Stability +/-] [Appropriate mastery of articulation +] [Observance of ties, slurs, articulation markings -]

MUSICIANSHIP: You guys play on a higher level than most students your age. With that said, there are details left to address. Tempo/rhythmic stability is a major issue today. You sound great but continue to address the details of ALL this music. I hope to hear you again.

[Appropriateness of style +] [Sensitivity to phrasing +/-] [Observance of musical markings +/-] [Appropriateness of dynamic contrasts +/-] [Appropriate observance of tempo +/-] [Demonstrates musical understanding +]

#### GENERAL COMMENTS: Hanssen:

More clarity in the trumpet articulation. Keep the tempo moving. It's sometimes challenging to hear all parts in the tutti band sections. The motor part needs to agree on note lengths. bigger 16th note pickups m. 145, etc. M152 and like places, allow the downbeat to be .5% longer for more body of sound and it will sound even more controlled. Some details still to address but good job!

## Reed:

I love this opening! Easy does it bass trombone. Fit in the tuba sound. Low reeds fit into the tuba sound. Great job attending to the rhythms. 19.-trumpets don't blow your lips apart and go flat. Some alignment issues but you recover quickly. 65-horn think "ee" in your mouth and get the air down the tongue center faster. Lovely double reeds. Isolated 8th notes followed by 8th notes need .5% more body of sound. Trombone's 6th harmonies are quite sharp. Too many clipped 8th notes. Look up, you are too good a band to have a tear like that...wherever that was. Lots of individuals sticking out in this section. Don't let the wheels come off in 224. WW's don't compress the 16ths. I suggest doing a lot of counting in rehearsal to glue all of this together, especially in the slow sections and upbeat sections. The bass drum is 30% too much at times. There were some major struggles with this piece today. This is flat-out hard for a middle school band to play. Keep mental focus and continue to build endurance.

#### Grainger:

I love the clarinet choir. Again, alignment is a major issue today. You are pushing the tempo in sections. Hear the soloists. Know your balance responsibilities. Some flute/upper ww pitch. I appreciate the various colors throughout the band.

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Sight-reading Rating and Comment Sheet MS VARSITY BAND - 4/25/2023 Krimmel Intermediate Spring 3C Varsity 100-Concert Band **Director** Stetson Begin **Additional Directors** Reuben Brown 61 Students Entry Number 190438

SIGHT-READING RATINGS:

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## **JASON FINNELS**

**TONE:** Fantastic ensemble sound and some really beautiful individual sounds as well. Thank you for your attention your instrument-specific fundamentals as well as your attention to detail. There were many wonderful, musical moments in today's performance. Balance was generally very stable throughout the performance and I could hear all the parts easily.

[Centered, focused tone quality +] [Balance within sections +] [Intonation within sections +] [Dynamic contrasts without distortion +] [Balance between sections +] [Intonation between sections +]

**TECHNIQUE:** Great work with the notes and rhythms of this piece today. We had a little bit of an early entrance, but you all recovered quickly. Just be sure to watch, breathe and start together. Nicely done today!

[Note Accuracy +] [Manual dexterity and flexibility +] [Rhythmic Accuracy +] [Rhythmic Stability +] [Appropriate mastery of articulation +] [Observance of ties, slurs, articulation markings +]

MUSICIANSHIP: Beautiful phrasing and very colorful. Bravo, everyone! Congratulations!

[Appropriateness of style +] [Sensitivity to phrasing +] [Observance of musical markings +] [Appropriateness of dynamic contrasts +] [Appropriate observance of tempo +] [Demonstrates musical understanding +]

## **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

#### **TIFFANY LISKO**

**TONE:** Wow! Beautiful, centered and resonant sounds in this ensemble. Wonderful job balancing within and between sections. I love how well the woodwinds sounds are coloring and fitting into the brass. Very full and clear brass ensemble sounds!!! Great intonation throughout all of the band! You are all playing at levels wayyyy beyond middle school. Very mature sounds!

**TECHNIQUE:** Great note rhythm reading from this group. A few moments when the key signature didn't lock in, but it was minor. There was some tentativeness from the horn/sax in the middle section at 19, just remember to play with confidence even when the music feels exposed and match firmness of articulation. Good manual dexterity - this music sounded easy for you. Very nice firmness of articulation throughout all of the winds. Great percussion reading - thank you for not overbalancing the band!

MUSICIANSHIP: Good firm style throughout- nice lifted quarter notes throughout. Thank you for performing a bright and crisp tempo. Nice long phrasing throughout. Great moments of dynamic contrast, this makes the performance much more intriguing to listen to. Very musical reading today! This ensemble has been trained very well in fundamentals. Thank you for making beautiful tone qualities your number one priority! Congratulations on your performance today! BRAVO!

**GENERAL COMMENTS:** Great postures and hand positions and postures in this group! You all look very sharp and professional - great positive impression. I love how mindful you are of all of the small details - this attention to detail will transfer into all of your performances! I really enjoyed listening to such a musical performance today. Enjoy making music with your friends! Band keeps getting better and better the older you get!

## **BRITNI DUNN HUMMEL**

**TONE:** Some really beautiful sounds throughout the ensemble! Make sure to thank your directors for working so hard on your fundamentals! Just a few spots where the intonation between the low voices were not totally locked in but you fixed it very quickly! Great job of bringing out the melodic line at Ms. 11 low voices (yay!) Just be careful that the low reeds are not overpowering the low brass by fitting into your "color groups."

**TECHNIQUE:** Your reading skills are so good! Just few little accidents in the rests towards the very end as the pattern changes so be careful to count those super carefully. Really nice articulation throughout and you could maybe just tongue the repeated notes a little firmer to give the rhythms as little more definition.

MUSICIANSHIP: Lovely job reading below the notes and making all of those dynamics happen! The phrasing started beautifully and just make sure that you keep pushing through those long notes as the piece goes on giving it the same attention towards the end. Bravo all around on really great musicianship!

**GENERAL COMMENTS:** Congratulations and what a pleasure to get to hear yall today! Such a fabulous group:) Make sure you ALL stay in band!!