RISING STARS BRASS BAND

Each band will perform two pieces, the required test piece and a choice piece. Participants may find links to purchase repertoire from the website: www.samusiccentral.org/rising-stars.

Scores: All bands must provide two copies of the choice piece score, with all measures numbered and any cuts clearly marked.

Beginning band is an ensemble that has novice players or hasn't been in existence long. Level 1 AIES music would be a good indicator of this level. Bands in this category should first have the approval of the Divisional Music Director and not be looking to play a level 4 piece as their own choice.

Youth band is an ensemble that has been established for a while and has players who are more advanced. Level 2 music in AIES should be the lowest level that a junior band would play. They should be building on the skills learned as a beginning band member and be able to play in keys other than C and F, as well as navigate more complicated rhythmic and harmonic styles.

Instrumentation:
Eb Soprano Cornet, Bb Cornet, Bb Flugel Horn, Eb Alto (Tenor Horn), Bb Baritone, Bb Tenor Trombone, Eb Bass Trombone, Bb Euphonium, Eb Bass Tuba, Bb Bass Tuba, Snare and Bass Drums, Timpani, complete battery or percussion as required. Bands may perform with smaller ensembles, provided they use only the instruments listed above.

Ensemble Size: Bands need to have a minimum number of 5 members. This can include up to 2 helpers who can be over the age of 25, and a bandmaster.

Time Limits: All bands have a total of 10 minutes. This time slot should include performance of both pieces, set-up and transition times. Choice pieces may have a cut if it is notated in the provided score to the adjudicators.

Deadline for Territorial Round: All participants and information for the Territorial Round should be submitted via email to usc.thq.music@usc.salvationarmy.org by May 8, 2027.

LEVEL	REQUIRED PIECE	CHOICE PIECE
Beginner Band	Joyful, Joyful (arr. Larsson)	Any music from Salvation Army Sacred or Classical Literature.
Youth Band	All Creatures of Our God and King (arr. Bulla)	

RISING STARS 2027 BRASS BAND

Name: _____ Level: _____

Test Piece: _____ Choice Piece: _____

Evaluate according to the expectations of the participant's assigned level.

Criterion	Rating III Developing	Rating II Proficient	Rating I Excellent	TEST	CHOICE
ACCURACY/TECHNIQUE - 40 points per piece					
Notes	**1-6 points** Frequent note errors; flow is significantly disrupted.	**7-8 points** Inconsistent note accuracy; interrupted musical flow.	**9-10 points** Mostly accurate notes; natural, fluent flow.	____/10	____/10
Rhythm	**1-6 points** Frequent rhythm errors and/or very unsteady tempo.	**7-8 points** Inconsistent rhythm errors and/or tempo unsteadiness.	**9-10 points** Mostly accurate rhythms; generally steady tempo.	____/10	____/10
Articulation	**1-6 points** Articulations are inaccurate or mismatched across the ensemble.	**7-8 points** Some articulations are accurate and matched across the ensemble.	**9-10 points** Mostly accurate, matched, and stylistic articulations.	____/10	____/10
Unity	**1-6 points** Misalignment of entrances, releases, or parts.	**7-8 points** Inconsistent entrances, releases, or alignment affect unity.	**9-10 points** Mostly coordinated entrances, releases, alignment across parts.	____/10	____/10
TONE - 20 points per piece					
Tone Quality	**1-6 points** Tone is pinched, forced, or unsupported across ensemble.	**7-8 points** Inconsistent tone; slightly pinched, forced, or unsupported.	**9-10 points** Mostly full, clear, supported, and blended ensemble sound.	____/10	____/10
Intonation	**1-6 points** Substantial pitch issues across the ensemble.	**7-8 points** Some pitch issues occasionally affect ensemble tuning.	**9-10 points** Mostly accurate intonation across the ensemble.	____/10	____/10
Balance	**1-6 points** Important musical lines are obscured.	**7-8 points** Inconsistent balance sometimes obscures important musical lines.	**9-10 points** Mostly balanced with clear musical lines.	____/10	____/10
INTERPRETATION - 20 points per piece					
Dynamics	**1-6 points** Little or no dynamic contrast; markings not observed.	**7-8 points** Some dynamic contrast; markings inconsistently observed.	**9-10 points** Mostly accurate dynamics; effective, appropriate contrast.	____/10	____/10
Musicality/ Phrasing	**1-6 points** Little or no expressive shaping, phrasing, or sense of style.	**7-8 points** Some expression, phrasing, and style; inconsistently sustained.	**9-10 points** Mostly expressive, well-phrased, and stylistically appropriate.	____/10	____/10
PERFORMANCE - 10 points per piece					
Stage Presence**	**1-6 points** Presentation and/or posture need improvement.	**7-8 points** Somewhat appropriate presentation/posture.	**9-10 points** Generally appropriate presentation and good posture.	____/10	N/A
Selection**	**1-6 points** Challenge noticeably too low or too high.	**7-8 points** Challenge slightly low or high.	**9-10 points** Appropriate challenge; showcases abilities.	N/A	____/10
			TOTAL:	____/100	____/100

**Stage Presence is evaluated across the full performance and recorded with the test piece. Selection applies only to the choice piece, and the scoring should reflect the appropriateness of the selection for the participant's level and playing ability.

COMMENTS

Adjudicator Signature: _____ Date: _____