

Borealis Bardic Judges Rubric



Impression: This covers how the entry is presented to the Judge.

Points	Performance
13-14	Excellent
	Totally Engaging. The performance draws the audience into the piece through the performance. i.e. Excellent use of acting to portray the subject matter of the performance. Multiple people may be used to accompany the piece in such a way that the overall whole adds great understanding to the entry. Period costumes may be involved.
10-12	Good
	Performed with a good artistic flair. i.e. They portray some of the emotions in the piece through body and facial movements or they have multiple people accompany their piece without overshadowing the main entry. Period costumes may be involved.
7-9	Average
	Performed with some attempt at artistic flare. i.e. They smile through the performance, use their body to emphasize main points or they are accompanied through the piece.
4-6	Simple
	Performed with a minimal amount of expression. i.e. Some facial expression but may appear shy, movement kept to a minimal or a basic accompaniment is used to keep time.
1-3	Basic
	Performed without artistic content. i.e. No facial expressions, movement or outside support.

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Documentation: This covers the research done and submitted for the entry.

Points	Performance
5	Excellent
	As below but either access to several primary sources for examination, or an interview with an expert in the related field.
4	Good
	As below but there may be multiple common sources, several rare sources or access to a single primary source for reference purposes.
3	Average
	The documentation includes all 5 Ws. 2 or more common sources may be cited or 1 rare source.
2	Simple
	The documentation covers 3 or 4 of the 5 Ws. 1 or two common sources may be cited.
1	Basic
	The documentation covers one or two of the 5 Ws. No external sources are cited.

Common Source: This is a source that is commonly found or used in the field for the area of study.

Rare Source: These books are used by those who do a great deal of research in the field, but these books are hard to come by. They may be out of print, or they may require special orders from a library.

Primary Source: This is when the original medieval source can be examined by the entrant. This may be through a copy of medieval texts on the subject or by examinations of the instruments used in period.

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Technical Ability: This covers how difficult the project was to manufacture/complete, and how much skill the entry reveals.

Points	Performance
13-14	Excellent
	Breathtaking. The quality of the performer's ability is amazing, and it draws the audience to a strong emotional reaction. Professional quality.
10-12	Good
	The performer's delivery was strong. It may not be perfect, but the overall strength of the performance carries the audience through. No reference notes were needed.
7-9	Average
	It was adequately performed. Nothing was missing or off-key. Used reference notes.
4-6	Simple
	A few forgotten pieces or one or two notes off key. It needed more practice. Mostly read from reference papers.
1-3	Basic
	Many forgotten sections or totally off key. It needed much more practice. Read from reference papers.

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Authentic Style: This covers how medieval or historically accurate the piece is.

Points	Performance
9-10	Excellent
	It is living history. All the aspects of the composition involved were in period including using medieval arrangements, themes, and being sung in the original language or utilizing all period instruments/props.
7-8	Good
	Almost perfect with one or two exceptions which may not be noticeable by the lay person. i.e. The styles and themes may have been perfect, but it was sung in the wrong language for that style, or a period song that deals with medieval arrangements and themes but uses modern instruments.
5-6	Average
	Almost all the composition is in period but the method of performance uses some modern elements which may be noticeable by the lay person. i.e. A piece of music that has a period arrangement and themes, but modern lyrics and instruments, or a medieval puppet show that uses modern painted set pieces and modern construction puppets.
3-4	Simple
	The composition is not period or the methods of performance are modern, but the style of presentation is definitely an in period medieval technique. i.e. A piece of music that has a period arrangement, but modern instruments, lyrics and themes.
1-2	Basic
	There is very little attempt at an authentic presentation. It could be a modern piece changed to suit the SCA, or a composition that sounds medievalish but it lacks any of the defining qualities of the medieval pieces that inspired it.