

## Week Five - Keep Digging In

Hello everyone,

We have three regional weekends left. Thanks for your work and focus on our craft. Keep digging into all aspects of achievement as the competitive neighborhoods get tighter and the performances continually improve. Here are some reminders for week five.

**Completion of Skills** - The degree to which a skill or an event is achieved has always been part of our judging process. With the addition of “completion of skills” to the points of comparison, you are asked to recognize and consider the degree of completion of skills and its impact on the success of designed moments and effects. This applies to all classes and is a crucial aspect of determining which team achieved more overall, created more success and interpretation, and delivered more effect and engagement.

**Scoring Priorities and Full Range of Numbers** - As neighborhoods tighten, and teams appear together, our scoring priorities become ever more important. Your primary job is to rank within subcaptions and in your overall bottomline score. Spreads between teams come next, in subcaptions and total score. Profiling can be a key indicator for teams when combined with your subcaption rankings, which are the top priority. Finally the bottomline score relative to the criteria is less imperative given the meaning of your scores is most significant when comparing teams to one another. Using your full range of numbers along with subcaption ranking will help you manage your neighborhoods while reflecting the “show of the day” and the achievements of the teams.

**Achievement versus Improvement** - As you see teams again, it is easy to consider improvement and arbitrarily give more points. Please focus on achievement against the criteria and class standards in comparison to other teams. Contest dynamics can significantly affect scoring ranges. The scoring priorities will help you here.

**Invention and Imagination** - Look for, acknowledge, and encourage unique elements of invention and imagination. Determine how much value these elements add to the range, composition, and effectiveness. The top of the criteria in all classes is reserved for teams that fully reflect the class standards while fulfilling all of the points of comparison. Imagination and invention make teams memorable and constantly engaging.

**Further Exploration of Virtuosoic** - There can be a range of virtuosoic challenges along the criteria based upon the context and settings in which the performers achieve. Virtuosoic performers exhibit exceptional technical skill, artistry, and stage presence. They possess incredible control, speed, strength, flexibility, and musicality, often performing highly complex and physically demanding challenges with apparent ease. Subtlety and handling risk in many ways are virtuosoic.

Consider the possible range of virtuosoic challenges and achievements. Layering of technical, dynamic, emotional, environmental, and interdependent responsibilities may demonstrate a fuller range of what virtuosoic means. Which performers succeeded in more ways, more settings, more layers, and across more time? Which designed elements created more engagement, inventiveness, risk, and opportunity over more time? Which amazed you?

Process and synthesize ahead of your contests. Be focused, open, and present during your contests.

Please let us know anything you need.

Beverly & William