

Grade VI- Masterwork Parameters

The following criteria shall be used to determine the if a work should be designated a Grade VI- Masterwork.

- It is of a length that may preclude the performance of a second concert selection.
- The piece meets all of the Grade 6 descriptors for rhythm, meter/tessitura, keys, melodic treatment, harmonic treatment and musical maturity.
- The piece may require expanded instrumentation and enhanced performance techniques.
- The piece requires significant mental and physical endurance.
- A piece that is widely recognized in professional literature as a “Masterwork” – music on the list is of the highest quality construction and craft, is considered a serious artistic endeavor, and has stood the test of time.

*If a band chooses to perform a Grade VI- Masterwork, the band must prepare a march of the director’s choice and the composition(s) as required from the Official North Carolina Bandmasters Association Masterworks List.

*The band may play another Grade VI work if time permits or play the Grade VI-MW as a stand alone work along with their march.

*Groups requiring more than the specified time for their group level (40 minutes for VI/ VI-MW) must apply in writing to the State Concert Band MPA Chairperson sixty (60) days prior to their respective festival requesting permission for an extended time.

*Revision History- Approved November, 5th 2016
Rodney K. Workman, Concert Band MPA Committee Chair
Sean Smith, Matt Edwards, Andrew Jameson, Robert Parker: Masterwork Subcommittee*