Concert Attendance Requirement for music majors

Beginning with the Spring 2015 semester, all music majors enrolled in MU 134 or MU 234 will be required to attend five departmental events per semester (concerts, recitals, Student Performance Recitals, Senior Recitals, and dance performances).

How will I show that I have attended an event?
Faculty members at each event will sign a student's program after the event. The student will put their name on the program and then give the signed program to an usher, who will turn it in to the department office (faculty will identify themselves to the ushers before the concert as being available to sign programs afterwards; if the office is closed after the event, ushers will slide the programs under the office door).

Do I have to stay for the entire event?
Yes! Being respectful to performers means that you arrive before the event begins and stay until the end. Faculty will only sign programs after the event.

Can I count an off-campus event? How about an event on-campus that is not sponsored by the department?
No, not usually. There are a few occasions each year when a department ensemble performs off-campus (Jazz Ensemble at the Flynn, Catamount Singers at St. Paul's Church, etc.). In those cases, you will have to deliver the signed program to the office yourself. Part of the benefit of this initiative is to develop the audience at departmental concerts. There are, of course, many wonderful concerts off-campus and non-departmental concerts on-campus, and this policy is not meant to discourage you from attending those events.

I've been ushering at concerts – can I count those?
Yes, if you are a Music Education student who is ushering at a concert, you may count this toward your requirement as long as you have a faculty member sign your program and include it in with the programs you return to the office.

What if I'm only performing on a piece or two from a concert – can I count that?
No, if you are performing on a concert you cannot count that toward this requirement, unless you are performing as an accompanist on a Student Performance Recital (accompanists are expected to remain in the audience when not performing).

Why are we being required to do this?
The department faculty have been discussing it for some time, as it is standard practice at many of the schools we attended. One of the main reasons we have initiated this policy is to build community and support one another. These experiences also help broaden and enrich a student's education.

What if I don't do it – will anything happen?
Beginning in Fall 2015, each student performing a Level III or Level IV Jury will be required to have attended five concerts in each semester that they have been a music major. The office staff will keep track of this, just as they do for the Student Performance Recital requirement.

But what if I became a music major after I started at UVM or transferred from another College or University?
The requirement will be pro-rated to the number of semesters you have been a music major, so you will not be penalized for being a transfer student or starting the major later than other students.