

## **Lesson Preparation Checklist**

**Date of Next Lesson** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### **Listening and Research Preparation**

- ☐ Check out recordings and score of repertoire being studied.
- ☐ Listen to the selected recordings without music.
- ☐ Note initial impressions of the work.
- ☐ Listen to the selected recording again following the score.
- ☐ Listen to the selected recording again, marking suggestions for breathing and interpretation, including tempos, as appropriate. (See Music Marking Legend.)
- ☐ Research the historical background of the composer(s) of the repertoire you are studying.
- ☐ Check availability of journal articles or books which may provide a musical analysis or performance guide to the repertoire you are studying.

### **Part Preparation**

- ☐ Translate all foreign terms.
- ☐ Consider form and phrase structure and mark all breaths accordingly.
- ☐ Indicate all tempos with a metronome marking.
- ☐ Divide long flourishes into logical subunits. (A group of 7 could be divided into 3 + 4.)
- ☐ Mark possible note groupings where appropriate.
- ☐ Mark scale patterns as necessary.
- ☐ Mark breaks in typical scale patterns as necessary.
- ☐ Clarify ornamentation for Baroque and Classical Repertoire.

### **Technical Preparation**

- ☐ Learn notes, rhythms, and articulations slowly and carefully, catching all accidentals.
- ☐ Bracket measures which may present greater technical challenges.
- ☐ Discover and mark “foundation” tempos for technical passages.
- ☐ Apply practice rhythms where appropriate.
- ☐ Strive for rhythmic precision with variations in tempo occurring only in conjunction with convincing musical ideas.
- ☐ Match articulation and vibrato to the style and character of each piece or passage.
- ☐ Implement the general rule regarding the use of the thumb b-flat and lever keys.
- ☐ Bring out all dynamic markings while taking care to consider pitch.
- ☐ Use standard alternate fingerings to aid in keeping pitch down in 3rd octave and on middle register d-flat.
- ☐ Experiment with your own musical ideas.

### **Non-musical Preparation**

- ☐ Order and/or purchase all music to be studied for the semester.
- ☐ Make necessary copies to facilitate page turns.
- ☐ Obtain and return recital request forms for Thursday recitals.
- ☐ Secure accompanist for rehearsals and performances.
- ☐ Reserve recital hall or classrooms as necessary.
- ☐ Write down any suitable questions to ask your teacher during your lesson.
- ☐ Return items checked out. (Recordings, scores, books, etc.)