

# Superior Musical Performance Checklist

- ✓ Perform Correct **Notes**
- ✓ Perform Correct **Rhythms**
- ✓ Perform all phrase marks or find **phrases**
- ✓ Perform all given breath marks or insert **breath marks**
  - \*Don't breath after long notes
  - \*Don't breath every 2 bars
  - Don't breath in the middle of a crescendo
  - Don't "chop" off notes when you breath
- ✓ Play in **time** – accurate with a metronome
- ✓ Play in **tune** – with self or with others
- ✓ Play in **tone** – have best tone possible, match tone of others, use vibrato if needed
- ✓ Perform all **tempo changes**
  - Gradual
  - Sudden
- ✓ Perform all **dynamics** – over exaggerate
  - Gradual
  - Sudden
- ✓ Perform all **articulations**
  - Tongued
  - Slurred
  - Accent (all kinds)
  - Staccato
  - Tenuto
- ✓ Perform clear, precise, confident **attacks**
- ✓ Perform clear, precise, confident **releases**
- ✓ Perform using correct **style**
  - Classical
  - Jazz
  - March
- ✓ Perform with good balance among your accompaniment or other ensemble members: melody if the most important aspect!

**HINT: The markings already on your music are  
NOT suggestions – they are instructions!**

\*most of the time