

## Literature Study and Preparation

The study of Music Literature, History, and Theory can greatly enhance the performance of each and every piece we play. Use the following sheet as a guide to help you better prepare the music you are performing in lessons and on recitals.

### **Checklist:**

- Read a brief biography of the composer
- Research the specific piece in as much detail as you can
- Study the style period that best matches the piece for additional clues to interpretation
- If the piece is a transcription, obtain the original part
- Look up all terms
- Find and mark interesting musical events (melodic, harmonic, rhythmic, textural, etc.)
- Listen to at least 2 different recordings if possible; for transcriptions, listen to recordings of the work in its original format as well

**Composer/dates:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Relevant composer information:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Title/date composed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Information about the piece:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Relevant style period information:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Recording #1:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Recording #2:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Recording #3:** \_\_\_\_\_