## **Intonation Worksheet**

The worksheet is organized in the following way:

- By saxophone pitch (left hand side), not concert pitch.
- By register: separated by bold lines according 1st octave (fundamentals), 2nd octave (with octave key), palm keys, and altissimo.
- By pitch order: randomly selected pitches (1st column), scale ascending and descending (2nd column).
- By cents: the center line of each column represents "in tune" while the plus and minus signs followed by a number (at the top of each column) represent sharp and flat by cents.

## Follow these steps:

- 1. Tune the instrument
  - a. Check the mouthpiece pitch (soprano=C, alto=A, tenor=F#, baritone=D)
  - b. Tune instrument to the saxophone's F#, top line for soprano, alto and tenor, bottom space for baritone; double-check the soprano's 2nd space A (the F# is sometimes flat).
  - c. Have the student re-establish the mouthpiece pitch between each adjustment of the mouthpiece placement (farther on the cork to raise the pitch, farther off the cork to lower the pitch)
- 2. Use an electronic tuner to give you precise readings in cents
- 3. Start with random notes played separately. Place a mark on the chart (1st column) logging the student's intonation tendency as shown by the electronic tuner (row for pitch, column for intonation).
- 4. Have the student play a chromatic scale slowly, ascending. Mark the second column with an "A" (for ascending) according to the indications as observed from the tuner in the same manner as above.
- 5. Have the student do the same with a descending chromatic scale and follow the same procedure marking the chart with a "D" (for descending).
- 6. Ignore the altissimo part of the worksheet if the student is not able to play in that range.
- 7. Compare the three categories: random, ascending scale, descending scale. The commonalities between the categories will tell the student their intonation tendencies.

RANDOM SCALE A=440 A=440

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