

# **Tuning and Toning---Opening Pandora's Box...**

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Pandora's Box issues:

- 1) Proper equipment
- 2) Proper warm-up
- 3) Proper set-up (mouthpiece, reed, ligature, etc.)
- 4) Characteristic tone
- 5) Understanding of the pitch tendencies for each instrument
- 6) Tessitura
- 7) Dynamics (Dynamics relationship with other instruments)
- 8) Refined listening skills
- 9) Proper sticks, mallets, and other percussion equipment

*Band tone and intonation is the result of an on-going effort to control the variables listed above.*

Additional Considerations:

- 1) Condition of the instrument
  - a) Woodwinds
    - pad/cork condition
    - mouthpiece
    - head joint
    - ligature
    - reeds
  - b) Brass
    - mouthpiece
    - dents/obstructions
    - mutes
  - c) Percussion
    - quality of drum heads and mallet instrument bars
    - accurate tuning of batter instrument heads
    - appropriate sticks and mallets
- 2) Uniform understanding of Breath Support
  - a) Demonstrate breath support seated/bent, seated, standing
- 3) Posture
- 4) Embouchure
- 5) Individual and ensemble understanding of controlled dynamic range

