HELPING MUSIC EDUCATORS & MUSICIANS SHINE SINCE 1872



2020 Music for String Orchestra

Grade - ½

Zenith
Kathryn Griesinger

First-year players can "reach for the stars" with this easy concert piece. An ethereal theme with simple rhythms in first position calls to mind mysterious celestial spheres.
BAS82

Grade - 1-1½

Winter Lights
Seth Bedford

Winter Lights is inspired by music of the Italian Baroque period. The colorful and reflective piece merges traditional harmonies with contemporary major seventh chords to create a whimsical and wistful mood. Written for players in first position, this is a charming addition to any winter concert program.
FAS116

Mill Creek Stomp
Nick Repetto

Mill Creek Stomp depicts a joyous, folksy dance with everyone having a great time! Set in cut-time, the piece showcases staccato, legato, and pizzicato sections, stomping, and an optional tambourine part to energize the dance even more. Developing string students will enjoy performing this any time of year, from a fall harvest-themed concert to a spring finale.
FAS117

Horizon West
Christopher David Thomas

Written in the style of an old, western waltz, it is a flowing, cinematic work celebrating the Americana sound. It features an optional violin solo, simple fingerings, and melody in all sections. The optional guitar part will help enhance the western mood.
FAS118

Grade - 2-2½

Boundless
Doug Spata

Boundless features a soaring theme, uplifting harmonies, and simple rhythms. Limited part independence will help developing students gain confidence playing in 3/4 time. Celebrate the boundless potential of each young musician with this dramatic piece.
YAS199

A Medieval French Carol
Ian David Coleman

This ancient melody has an intrinsic beauty in both its shape and harmonic support. Reflecting those elements. In this arrangement you will find a sense of wonder and awe as the melody weaves its way between consonance and dissonance, and that the reimagining of an ancient melody in a new setting, also reflects the timeless nature that points of celebration, such as in the Christmas season.
YAS201

Snowfall at Dusk
Aaron Fryklund

This elegant and nostalgic piece depicts gentle snow falling as twilight fades on a winter's eve. The legato theme is heard in several sections, featuring a flowing accompaniment. with contrasting staccato section sparkles like snowflakes in the golden sun. Easy meter changes and a playful syncopated feel with a quiet finale, ends the piece reflecting the last rays of sunlight, vanishing over the darkening horizon.
YAS200

Under a Winter Sky
Yukiko Nishimura

This extraordinarily beautiful work captures the awesome wonder of a winter night. Using the contrast of simple rhythms and lush harmony to syncopation and a faster tempo, students will quickly grasp the mood and legato style required to portray this scene. With only a few accidentals it works well with developing groups, while giving them a mature sound.
YAS202

German Dance No. 12
Ludwig van Beethoven

arr. Deborah Baker Monday

The *German Dance No. 12* is the final work in a series Beethoven wrote in 1795 showing a young Beethoven writing in his earlier Classical style. This arrangement, in the original C Major, includes material from his extended coda section and is a very approachable selection without too much technical difficulty. Optional 8va notes are given for advancing players.
YAS203

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New Music for String Orchestra 2019

Grade - 3-3½

Ancient Wonders Suite
Todd Parrish

Ancient Wonders Suite is a musical description of four of the wonders from the ancient world: the Temple of Artemis, the Great Lighthouse at Alexandria, the Great Pyramid at Giza and the Statue of Zeus at Olympia. The four movements may be played in any order or as stand-alone works.

CAS126

A Ballad of Inis Mór
Doug Spata

The yearning, Irish-inspired melodies in *A Ballad of Inis Mór* evoke a sense of quiet reflection. Students will encounter opportunities to play in upper positions, using a warm vibrato and refining bow distribution skills. Graceful embellishments, part independence, and a variety of rhythms will encourage listening across the ensemble to create an elegant, unified sound.

CAS131

Chicharra
Nick Repetto

Chicharra was born out of a love for syncopated music that makes one move and dance. The syncopated, driving rhythms initiated by the low strings are contrasted by lyrical lines played in the violin and viola sections. It features a contrasting lyrical, almost waltz-like section in 6/8. Various tango elements are also found in this piece such as special effects like the glissandi in the cello section, and the chicharra played by the violins imitating the chicharra or cricket!

CAS132

Falling Water
Yukiko Nishimura

Describing the playful cascading of a waterfall, this light-hearted work gives students multiple opportunities to work on both style and technique. Students will work on creating different moods through dynamics and bow technique. Written in string-friendly D Major, the music does require high third fingers and extensions, along with a few accidentals. Reinforcing compound meter and articulation, it is extremely fun to play and hear.

CAS128

Frost on the Plow
Sam Gelfer

Frost on the Plow is an energetic composition perfect for introducing some fiddlin' fun to your classroom.Written in the style of traditional fiddle-tunes, players will encounter authentic fiddle techniques such as shuffle-bowing, chops, and double-stops at a brisk tempo.

CAS130

Maelstrom
Kathleen O'Hara LaBrie

This exciting piece starts with a treacherous storm motif that acts as the undercurrent to a musical storm containing quotes from Smetana's "Die Moldau," Saint-Saëns's "Carnival of the Animals," and a traditional Irish Sea Chanty. Some shifting is required in first violin, cello, and bass and all parts include accidentals and dramatic dynamic changes. Developing players will refine articulation skills, explore a variety of rhythms in 6/8, and expand their chromatic and dynamic horizons in the familiar key of E minor.

CAS129

A Streak of Light
Kathryn Griesinger

A relentless 6/8 accompaniment drives this piece forward with exciting momentum. Intensity builds like the first piercing light on the morning horizon, flourishing toward a stately middle section that reflects the grandeur of glorious colors and spacious skies. Players with the melody should take care to sustain with a warm, ringing tone. The pizzicato accompaniment should also stay unrushed and steady. The following restatement of the fast opening theme soars to a triumphant finale.

CAS127

Grade - 4-4½

Antamina
Lauren Bernofsky

The story of Antamina follows the process of mining and then refining silver, a metaphor for the rehearsal process, where the "raw material" at a first rehearsal is gradually honed into a sparkling, refined performance. Program this piece for an empowering selection your students will love both rehearsing and performing.

SAS4

Fidelio Overture
Ludwig van Beethoven

arr. Todd Parrish

Written in 1814, the *Fidelio Overture* was the fourth and final version chosen to open Beethoven's only opera by the same name. This string arrangement transposes the original key of E Major into the much more playable key of D Major. It retains the original opening which alternates between powerful majestic bursts and lyrical harmonic progressions while finishing with the energetic presto to the end. The optional timpani gives this arrangement a symphonic quality that closely resembles the original.

SAS1

Fantasia on Christmas Carols
Ralph Vaughan Williams

arr. Todd Parrish

This unique medley offering a fresh alternative to traditional holiday programming by Ralph Vaughan Williams uses three folk carols from his native country of England: *The Truth Sent from Above, Come all you Worthy Gentlemen,* and *the Sussex Carol.* This arrangement contains moments from each carol, including the solo cello opening. Though the melodies are mostly of unknown origin, the harmonies are uniquely the work of Vaughan Williams.

SAS3

Reverie
Claude Debussy

arr. Sam Gelfer

Reverie is one of Claude Debussy's most recognized works featured in many films and television shows, including HBO's *Westworld.* The main challenge of this arrangement, which can be played alongside the original solo piano piece, is connecting the moving lines through the sections to capture the elegance of a pianist's fingers. Other teaching opportunities include challenging position work, impressionistic tonalities, and advanced melodic phrasing. Directors, players, and audiences will find themselves lost and delighted in these beautiful ethereal melodies.

SAS2

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