

***Skywalking* Notes**

Films have undoubtedly deepened our appreciation for concert music and affected the way we hear music! *Skywalking* pays homage to the sounds of the silver screen, and students will enjoy playing the cinematic themes in this work and (possibly) being introduced to the eighth note triplet for the first time. The vocalizing and foot taps will provide directors the opportunity to teach about the extramusical elements that contribute to many film-scores.

The wind instruments who tap their feet at the beginning also are asked to sing beginning in m.4. Please ask them to continue tapping their feet while they sing if possible, and to stop when they start playing. The same is true at m.41 to the end. I have also included a “foot taps” line in the score so you can see where the foot taps are occurring and roughly what dynamic level they should be. In regard to the singing, I have written the choral line in the range where each instrument is used to reading respectively, but have them sing in whatever octave is most comfortable for their voice!

At m.24-25, you can double the trumpets on the alto saxophone’s part. I chose not to cue this because this note (Concert C4) is very sharp on the trumpet, and beginner trumpet’s third valve slides sometimes are very hard to move!

Ranges are purposefully written beyond the “six note” Grade .5 parameters to create specific learning opportunities for specific instruments. For this reason, I have labeled this work as a “Grade .75” – certainly beyond a Grade .5, but not as difficult as a Grade 1. The flute and alto saxophone play up to concert Bb in their respective octaves. Tenor Saxophone and Horn play a concert Eb in their upper registers, and the rest of the instruments play down to concert G in their respective octaves.

A HUGE thank you to Commissioning Director Scott L. Prescott and Pioneer Ridge Middle School for funding the work, and the commitment to the development of highly accessible works for young concert bands. Thank you for partnering with me in both the creative process and premiere! *Skywalking* would not exist without you.

Composer Bio

Haley Woodrow is a composer, educator, trumpeter and pianist. She loves to partner with performers in crafting musical experiences that offer listeners an active role.

Haley’s compositions have received awards from the National Band Association, the Texas Music Educators Association, and the VLAMO International Composition Contest. She has been commissioned by the Florida Bandmasters Association, the Kenosha Community Foundation, the Young Band March Project and the Texas Christian University Trombone Summit. Her music has been widely performed throughout the US and Canada, Europe and Australia.
More at haleywoodrow.com