



Latin America

The Midwest Clinic, an International Band and Orchestra Conference
“**LATIN AMERICAN BANDS, MUSIC, & COMPOSERS**”

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0. Problem - Solution - Application

Problem: Latin American population represents the largest minority group of the United States. However, very few band works written by Latin American composers are part of our repertoire in the United States.

Solution: Selected band works composed by Latin American composers should be analyzed and included in our repertoire to make it universal, inclusive and representative. They may be acquired directly from composers, who can be contacted by email, by commissioning new works, or from some publishers in the US.

Use & Implementation: National Standards, Month of Hispanic Heritage, International day, and Spring concerts.

1. What is Latin America?

Latin America is more than just Mexico. Latin America is comprised of 17 continental countries (from Mexico to Argentina) and 3 Islands(Cuba, Puerto Rico, and Dominican Republic)

Each of these countries has different dialects, expressions, food, and music.

According to the INS (Census 2000), the origin of the Hispanic population in the US is distributed as follow:

Mexicans: 20,640,711 (58.5%)

Puerto Rican: 3,406,178 (9.6%)

Cubans:1,241,685 (3.5%)

Central Americans: 1,686,937 (4.8%)

South Americans: 1,353,562 (3.8%)

Dominicans: 764,945 (2.2%)

Other Hispanics: 6,211,800 (17.6%)

2. How is the Music Education in Latin America?

The education in Latin America is free from Kindergarten to College (undergraduate).

Instrumental Music Instruction is mainly provided by Conservatories of Music. However, in some countries music is also offered in Universities. There is still a great debate about moving from conservatories to Universities.

3. **Marching Bands in the Schools.**

Most Latin American countries have Marching Bands. Marching Bands are called Show Bands. Show Bands include students from 7 to 11 grade (Middle to High schools). Only private institutions have show bands.

4. **Military Bands.**

Every Military Force has a Band. Para-military Organizations such as the Police and Fight Firers also have their bands.

5. **Professional Symphonic / Concert Bands.**

There is a great band tradition in Latin American (Spanish and Italian influences). Every major city in each country of Latin America has a Professional Symphonic/Concert Band. Bands are official organizations; the governments pay the salary.

6. **Band Music Repertoire. Contemporary Works**

Until recent years, most works were orchestral transcriptions, marches, and folk music . Contemporary works reflect newest compositional techniques and still include national rhythms and/or melodies.

7. **Contemporary Composers**

See Music Examples.

8. **Music Excerpts**

- Composer: Vicente Moncho from Argentina

Example: "...de Tango"

- Composer: Blas Emilio Atehortua from Colombia

- Examples: "Music for Winds & Percussion, Opus 152"

Composer: Lucidio A. Quintero from Venezuela

- Examples: "Zulian Triptych" Flute & Piano; Saxophone Quartet

9. **Questions.**

GRACIAS !!!!!!!!!

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Latin American Musical Web Connection

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