

# High School Band Rehearsal Lab

## The “Small School” Band

### The Midwest Clinic

*Featuring the Illiana Christian School Wind Ensemble, Lansing, Illinois  
Patricia Menninga, Conductor  
And SSG Becca Bainbridge, U.S. Army Field Band, Horn Soloist*

*Thursday, December 17, 2015 – McCormick Place – 10:30-11:30AM – Room W183*

### Robert Sheldon

*Composer/Conductor/Clinician/Concert Band Editor  
Alfred Music  
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*Western Horizons.....Thomas Kahelin*

#### **The “special experience” of being part of a small-school band**

- ♪ Community support
- ♪ Opportunities for closer musical relationships with and among students
- ♪ Band students active in every aspect of school activities outside of music

#### **Challenges**

- ♪ Distance from music stores, private teachers, professional ensembles
- ♪ Smaller student body from which to recruit members
- ♪ Must work with (and not against) other teachers and coaches
- ♪ Class conflicts and keeping students in band
- ♪ Performance conflicts with other school activities and sports
- ♪ All band students on one ensemble/smaller number of students in program
- ♪ Budget challenges
- ♪ Expectation that band appears at many community events

#### **Solutions**

- ♪ Finding music that is REAL MUSIC, but with reduced instrumentation and more modest ability levels of the players

*Dorian Haiku.....Scott Watson*

- ♪ Bring in private teachers on a weekly basis
- ♪ Annual instrument workshops for each section
- ♪ Peer teaching/Section leader rotates through section

- ♪ Promote the concept that EVERYONE is in band, and celebrate the “other” organizations in which BAND MEMBERS participate
- ♪ Birthday Band, Booster Band, Chamber groups perform for other events
- ♪ Honors program for music
- ♪ Compromise
- ♪ Re-writing parts or substituting other instruments to cover all parts
- ♪ Keep advanced students motivated through S&E, leadership, peer teaching
- ♪ Finding the best literature
- ♪ High Interest/Low Readability Music
- ♪ When difficulty must be limited, expression is even more important
- ♪ Featuring professionals or outstanding student performers on concerts

*Serenade for Horn and Band*.....Barry Milner  
Staff Sergeant Becca Bainbridge, U.S. Army Field Band, Horn Soloist

- ♪ Always promote teamwork in covering missing parts
- ♪ Secondary instruments are FUN!
- ♪ Invite non-band students to join the band
- ♪ Ask band members to find recruits/high school beginning band
- ♪ College students provide weekly lessons for those switching instruments
- ♪ Promote student responsibility for instruments and facilities
- ♪ Learn how to make easy instrument repairs/students can assist!
- ♪ Find opportunities for collaboration and funding of the program
- ♪ PLAY IT AGAIN, SAM! Keep performance-ready music in the folder
- ♪ Consider your audience in programming
- ♪ “Fun” music that is really MUSIC!

*Travelin’ Music*.....Robert Sheldon

- ♪ Success in any program is a reflection of the band director
- ♪ Personality, drive, organization, sincerity, musicianship and attitude!
- ♪ Every student is important, and teamwork is essential
- ♪ We must provide a quality musical experience for every player
- ♪ It is the combination of students feeling a sense of belonging, knowing they are valued personally and as an important part of the organization, the joy of making music, and the positive experiences provided by a caring and excellent band director that create an atmosphere where students are successful. And that translates into creating a program where everyone can’t wait to get to rehearsal every day!

*La Tregenda*.....Puccini/Arr. Brian Beck  
conducted by Patricia Menninga

## Literature Recommendations for Small High School Bands

### GRADE 1.5

|                              |                        |      |                       |      |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------|-----------------------|------|
| All Through the Silent Night | Mark Williams          | 3:20 | Alfred Music          | 2004 |
| Black is the Color           | Robert Sheldon         | 3:15 | Alfred Music          | 2009 |
| Carpathia                    | William Owens          | 2:00 | The FJH Music Company | 2007 |
| December Sky                 | Erik Morales           | 2:30 | The FJH Music Company | 2005 |
| Serenade                     | Robert Sheldon         | 3:00 | Alfred Music          | 2015 |
| Shadows Unleashed            | Brian Balmages         | 2:30 | The FJH Music Company | 2013 |
| To a Wild Rose               | MacDowell/Arr. Sheldon | 1:50 | Alfred Music          | 2014 |

### GRADE 2

|                          |                    |      |                        |      |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------|------------------------|------|
| Aggressive               | Randall Standridge | 2:00 | Grand Mesa             | 2013 |
| Adrenaline Engines       | Randall Standridge | 2:20 | Grand Mesa             | 2010 |
| An American Hymntune     | Robert Sheldon     | 2:15 | Alfred Music           | 2005 |
| ...And Goodnight         | Chris Bernotas     | 2:45 | Alfred Music           | 2014 |
| Bartok Variations        | Timothy Broege     | 2:40 | Grand Mesa             | 2003 |
| Black Forest Overture    | Michael Sweeney    | 3:20 | Hal Leonard/Flex-Band  | 2008 |
| Brave Spirit             | Randall Standridge | 4:30 | Grand Mesa             | 2013 |
| A Cambridge Carol        | Vince Gassi        | 2:30 | Alfred Music           | 2007 |
| Crazy for Cartoons       | Robert Sheldon     | 2:10 | Alfred Music           | 2011 |
| Darklands March          | Randall Standridge | 3:00 | Grand Mesa             | 2014 |
| Dorian Haiku             | Scott Watson       | 4:15 | Alfred Music           | 2014 |
| Epic Venture             | Tyler S. Grant     | 2:30 | The FJH Music Company  | 2015 |
| Ever More Distant        | Doug Akey          | 3:10 | Alfred Music           | 2007 |
| Hercules vs the Hydra    | Scott Watson       | 4:15 | Alfred Music           | 2013 |
| Korean Folk Rhapsody     | James Curnow       | 2:50 | Hal Leonard/Flex-Band  | 2011 |
| Let Evening Come         | Robert Sheldon     | 4:30 | C.L. Barnhouse Company | 2000 |
| The Message on the Rock  | Robert Sheldon     | 4:40 | Alfred Music           | 2004 |
| Rippling Watercolors     | Brian Balmages     | 4:30 | The FJH Music Company  | 2015 |
| Skygazer Fanfare         | Randall Standridge | 2:25 | Alfred Music           | 2015 |
| Song of the Blacksmith   | Holst / Arr. Loest | 1:30 | The FJH Music Company  | 2011 |
| Variants on a Sea Shanty | Robert Sheldon     | 1:20 | Alfred Music           | 2014 |

### GRADE 2.5

|                                |                          |      |                          |      |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|------|
| Abington Ridge                 | Ed Hucceby               | 4:02 | Barnhouse/Build-a-Band   | 2014 |
| Amazing Grace                  | Sean O'Loughlin          | 4:12 | Fischer/Flex Performance | 2014 |
| Beyond the Riverbend           | Robert Sheldon           | 3:55 | Alfred Music             | 2013 |
| Contraption                    | Brendan McBrien          | 3:50 | Alfred Music             | 2007 |
| Courage March                  | Bennett/Arr. Clark       | 2:18 | Fischer/Flex Performance | 2012 |
| Fantasy Early Am Marching Song | Robert Sheldon           | 3:25 | Alfred Music             | 2008 |
| Homeward Bound                 | Keen/Arr. Karrick        | 3:35 | Alfred Music             | 2009 |
| Hypnotic Fireflies             | Brian Balmages           | 4:00 | The FJH Music Company    | 2012 |
| In the Shining of the Stars    | Robert Sheldon           | 3:30 | C.L. Barnhouse Company   | 1996 |
| Intrepid Journey               | Robert Sheldon           | 4:25 | Alfred Music             | 2015 |
| Ironclads                      | William Owens            | 3:30 | The FJH Music Company    | 2012 |
| Lightning                      | Todd Stalter             | 2:45 | Alfred Music             | 2004 |
| Mars (from The Planets)        | Holst/Arr.               | 2:00 | Hal Leonard/Flex-Band    | 2009 |
| Mighty Mite                    | Mesang/Arr. O'Loughlin   | 2:39 | Fischer/Flex Performance | 2013 |
| Pevensey Castle                | Robert Sheldon           | 4:01 | Barnhouse/Build-a-Band   | 2012 |
| Phantom of Dark Hollow         | Robert Sheldon           | 3:20 | Alfred Music             | 2006 |
| Pictures at an Exhibition      | Moussorgsky/Arr. Sweeney | 3:35 | Hal Leonard/Flex-Band    | 2012 |
| The Pioneers                   | Robert Sheldon           | 4:10 | Alfred Music             | 2010 |
| Radetzky March                 | Strauss/Arr. Clark       | 3:20 | Fischer/Flex Performance | 2015 |
| Rampage                        | Todd Stalter             | 3:25 | Alfred Music             | 2009 |

**GRADE 2.5 (continued)**

|                        |                       |      |                          |      |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------|--------------------------|------|
| A Renaissance Revel    | Susato/arr. Singleton | 6:30 | Grand Mesa               | 2002 |
| Rhythm of the Spheres  | Erik Morales          | 3:30 | The FJH Music Company    | 2011 |
| Shackelford Banks      | Jay Bocook            | 3:30 | Hal Leonard/Flex-Band    | 2010 |
| Solstice Dance         | Jack Wilds            | 3:30 | The FJH Music Company    | 2015 |
| Storm Warning          | Robert Sheldon        | 2:35 | Alfred Music             | 2014 |
| The Spirit of an Eagle | Larry Clark           | 3:56 | Fischer/Flex Performance | 2012 |
| Sun Cycles             | Brian Balmages        | 6:00 | The FJH Music Company    | 2012 |
| Sundance               | Carl Strommen         | 3:28 | Fischer/Flex Performance | 2014 |
| Wind                   | Darren Jenkins        | 3:30 | Alfred Music             | 2008 |

**GRADE 3**

|                                     |                       |      |                          |      |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|------|--------------------------|------|
| Achilles Wrath                      | Sean O'Loughlin       | 3:19 | Fischer/Flex Performance | 2013 |
| Appalachian Morning                 | Robert Sheldon        | 3:05 | Alfred Music             | 2008 |
| Call of the Wild                    | Brian Balmages        | 4:30 | The FJH Music Company    | 2013 |
| Celebration and Song                | Robert Sheldon        | 4:45 | Alfred Music             | 2009 |
| Cold Mountain Saga                  | Larry Clark           | 4:35 | Fischer/Flex Performance | 2015 |
| Counterbalance                      | Todd Stalter          | 3:50 | Alfred Music             | 2013 |
| Digital Prisms                      | Larry Clark           | 5:41 | Fischer/Flex Performance | 2013 |
| El Relicario                        | Padilla/Arr. Clark    | 2:43 | Barnhouse/Build-a-Band   | 2010 |
| Fanfare and Flourishes              | James Curnow          | 2:00 | Hal Leonard/Flex-Band    | 2013 |
| Furaha                              | Brian Beck            | 3:30 | Alfred Music             | 2014 |
| Great Movie Adventures              | Williams/Arr. Sweeney | 3:15 | Hal Leonard/Flex-Band    | 2006 |
| The Haunted Carousel                | Erika Svano           | 4:35 | Alfred Music             | 2015 |
| His Honor                           | Fillmore/Arr. Clark   | 2:42 | Fischer/Flex Performance | 2014 |
| Ides of March                       | Sean O'Loughlin       | 3:28 | Fischer/Flex Performance | 2015 |
| Imaginarium                         | Randall Standridge    | 6:00 | Grand Mesa               | 2016 |
| Last Ride Pony Express              | David Shaffer         | 4:30 | Barnhouse/Build-a-Band   | 2013 |
| Les Miserables (Selections)         | Arr. Vinson           | 5:50 | Hal Leonard/Flex-Band    | 2013 |
| The Liberty Bell                    | Sousa/Arr.            | 3:30 | Hal Leonard/Flex-Band    | 2011 |
| Nathan Hale Trilogy                 | James Curnow          | 6:15 | Hal Leonard/Flex-Band    | 2013 |
| Nimrod (from Enigma Var)            | Elgar/Arr. Bocook     | 2:30 | Hal Leonard/Flex-Band    | 2011 |
| Pony Express                        | Chris Bernotas        | 4:10 | Alfred Music             | 2009 |
| Reign of Fire                       | Jeremy Bell           | 2:40 | Alfred Music             | 2015 |
| Serenade for Horn and Band          | Barry Milner          | 4:05 | Alfred Music             | 2015 |
| Songs/2 <sup>nd</sup> Suite/Mvt 2&3 | Holst/Arr. Stanton    | 3:38 | Barnhouse/Build-a-Band   | 2012 |
| Spontaneous Combustion              | Robert Sheldon        | 3:10 | Alfred Music             | 2011 |
| Steel                               | Randall Standridge    | 3:30 | Grand Mesa               | 2011 |
| Synergies                           | Robert Sheldon        | 3:50 | Alfred Music             | 2008 |
| The Thunderer                       | Sousa/Arr. Stanton    | 1:34 | Barnhouse/Build-a-Band   | 2010 |
| The Thunderer                       | Sousa/Arr. Bocook     | 2:45 | Hal Leonard/Flex-Band    | 2010 |
| To Absent Friends                   | Chris Teischler       | 3:25 | Alfred Music             | 2014 |
| Travelin' Music                     | Robert Sheldon        | 3:40 | Alfred Music             | 2016 |
| Visigoths                           | Sean O'Loughlin       | 3:38 | Fischer/Flex Performance | 2012 |
| West Highlands Sojourn              | Robert Sheldon        | 5:14 | Barnhouse/Build-a-Band   | 2014 |
| Western Horizons                    | Thomas Kahelin        | 2:55 | Alfred Music             | 2009 |

**GRADE 3.5**

|                                  |                     |      |                        |      |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|------|------------------------|------|
| Danny Boy                        | Barker/Arr. Clark   | 4:29 | Barnhouse/Build-a-Band | 2010 |
| Fantasia on the Dargason         | Holst/Arr. Stanton  | 2:27 | Barnhouse/Build-a-Band | 2013 |
| Hungarian Dance No. 5            | Brahms/Arr. Stanton | 2:06 | Barnhouse/Build-a-Band | 2009 |
| La Tregenda                      | Puccini/Arr. Beck   | 2:50 | Alfred Music           | 2012 |
| March/2 <sup>nd</sup> Suite in F | Holst/Arr. Stanton  | 3:50 | Barnhouse/Build-a-Band | 2010 |
| Two Bagatelles                   | Reed/Arr. Clark     | 5:09 | Barnhouse/Build-a-Band | 2010 |