WRITING AND ARRANGING FOR YOUR YOUNG BAND

by Randy Navarre, DMA Presented on Friday, December 16, 2005 8:30 A.M.

- 1. Set parameters before you start to imagine the composition or arrangement:
 - a. the more parameters you set before you start, the faster you will write.
 - b. less rewrites will be necessary.
- 2. Make a decision for which grade level yoù wish to write this piece.
- 3. Review the grading system chart.
- 4. Decide what style of piece you wish to write:
 - a. Overture
 - b. March
 - c. Jazz
 - d. Rock
 - e. Pop
 - f. Latin
 - g. Pavane
 - h. Other
- 5. Programmatic or absolute.
- 6. Programmatic:
 - a. Image:

Strong intervals-perfect fifth, 8va: Distant Castles

Effect: not reality-middle ages-open 5ths in the lower instruments. 3rds & 6ths in the upper instruments: result: a Middle Ages/Renaissance sound, but still pleasant sound that we are used to today softer intervals-3rds -2nds In The Valley Of Magic

- 7. Absolute:
 - a. Motif.
 - b. Melody.
- 8. Always: When writing for school bands, what do you want to teach?
 - a. New notes.
 - b. New rhythms.
 - c. Complexity.
 - d. New or different styles.