

RWS DEVELOPING BAND SERIES

Grade: 2.5

Conductor Score: RWS-2528-01

We Belong

Evan VanDoren

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INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1	F Horn	4
Flute	10	Trombone	6
Oboe	2	Euphonium B.C.	2
B $\flat$ Clarinet 1	6	Euphonium T.C.	2
B $\flat$ Clarinet 2	6	Tuba	4
B $\flat$ Bass Clarinet	2	Mallet Percussion: Xylophone, Bells	2
Bassoon	2	Timpani	1
E $\flat$ Alto Saxophone	6	Percussion 1: Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Suspended Cymbal, Wood Block, Wind Chimes	3
B $\flat$ Tenor Saxophone	2	Percussion 2: Triangle, Crash Cymbals, Tambourine, Suspended Cymbal	2
E $\flat$ Baritone Saxophone	2		
B $\flat$ Trumpet 1	5		
B $\flat$ Trumpet 2	5		

PROGRAM NOTE

In today's fast-paced and often judgmental world, finding a place for students to genuinely be themselves seems more challenging than ever. With its unique role in fostering a sense of belonging, the band hall stands out as a haven. Here, individuals are encouraged to express themselves freely through the universal language of music, fostering deep connections and understanding among peers and forming a tightly-knit community where everyone feels valued and included. Through rehearsals, performances, and shared musical experiences, band members learn to listen, collaborate, and support one another. The collective achievement of creating beautiful music together instills a profound sense of accomplishment and belonging.

Composer Evan Van Doren shares "I stand among the vast millions of musicians who have experienced the special kind of magic that takes root when embraced in a community of caring, empathetic individuals with a shared purpose. Some of the most powerful memories in my life have taken place within a music community, often physically inside a band hall. These core memories helped form the foundations of my character and personality, and I continue to feel immense gratitude towards those who made these experiences possible. This sense of appreciation fuels our commitment to the band community and the music we create together.

Today, more than ever, the band hall serves as a beacon of hope and positivity, reminding us of the power of community and the importance of spaces where everyone is welcome."

This work was commissioned by the Bee Cave Middle School Band from Austin, Texas, under the direction of band directors Greg Demoore, Amy Palese, & Brittany Baptista.

NOTES TO CONDUCTOR

We Belong was written with the young band in mind, with careful attention to range, rhythmic challenge, and phrase length. A consistent percussion presence throughout the up-tempo segments can help ensure ensemble vertical alignment. Additionally, considerations have been taken to ensure playability with limited instrumentation through careful orchestration, doublings, and occasional cueing. In the lyrical section, phrase lengths are kept somewhat short, and dynamic shapes are unified to set up the young band for a successful performance.

This work is intended to be performed by six percussionists. The mallet and timpani parts are each intended to be performed by one player. The Percussion 1 and 2 parts are intended to be divided as follows:

Percussion 1: Player 1: Snare Drum, Suspended Cymbal, Wind Chimes
Player 2: Bass Drum, Woodblock
Percussion 2: Player 1: Crash Cymbals, Triangle
Player 2: Suspended Cymbal, Tambourine

Should the double stops prove too challenging for the mallet performer, omit the bottom note of each double stop throughout the piece.

Ensemble balance to the melody (first heard in meas. 4 in the trumpets) is paramount to a successful performance of this work. As shorter forms of this melody are passed around the band more quickly (as in meas. 39), feel free to adjust dynamic markings, bringing melodic content to the foreground and accompaniment to the background, as it makes sense to do so within the performing band's specific instrumentation. Staccato eighth notes are marked through to indicate a "lifted" style - but be cautious not to let these notes become too short or dry.

In the lyrical segment (beginning at meas. 49), it's essential to keep the final notes of phrases followed by rests "long." (For example, the quarters note in m. 51 and m. 52).

Feel free to stretch the tempo rubato in measures 57 and 66-67 as much as the ensemble feels comfortable.

I sincerely hope you enjoy bringing *We Belong* to life! Best wishes for a successful performance! Please visit my composer page at rwsmusic.com to connect!



(Bio on page 24)



WE BELONG

Evan VanDoren (ASCAP)

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WE BELONG

This is a page from a musical score for 'The Rose Tree' by John Williams. The score is for a full orchestra and includes parts for the following instruments:

- Fl.
- Ob.
- Clar. 1
- Clar. 2
- B. Cl.
- Bsn.
- A. Sax
- T. Sax
- B. Sax
- Trpt. 1
- Trpt. 2
- F. Hn.
- Tbn.
- Euph. B.C.
- Tuba
- Mlt.
- Timp.
- Perc. 1
- Perc. 2

The score is written in 2/4 time and features a large red watermark that reads "Preview Only Requires Purchase". The music is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and includes various dynamics such as *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *p* (piano). The percussion section includes a mallet part for the timpani and a part for the second percussionist using suspended cymbals and yarn mallets. The score is numbered 7 through 12 at the bottom.

WE BELONG

14

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Clar. 1 *mf*

Clar. 2 *mf*

B. Cl. *mp* *mf*

Bsn. *mp* *mf*

A. Sax *mp* *mf*

T. Sax *mp* *mf*

B. Sax *mp* *mf*

14

Trpt. 1 *mf*

Trpt. 2 *mf*

F Hn. *mp* *mf*

Tbn. *mp* *mf*

Euph. B.C. *mp* *mf*

Tuba *mp* *mf*

Mlt. (omit bottom note of double stops if needed) *mf*

Timp. *mp* *mf*

Perc. 1 *mp* *mf*

Perc. 2 *mp* *mf*

13 14 15 16 17 18

to Triangle

to Tambourine

WE BELONG

This image shows a page of a musical score, likely for a symphony orchestra. The score is written for various instruments, including Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet 1 (Clar. 1), Clarinet 2 (Clar. 2), Bassoon (B. Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sax), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax), Baritone Saxophone (B. Sax), Trumpet 1 (Trpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (Trpt. 2), Horn (F. Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Euphonium/Bassoon (Euph. B.C.), Tuba, Mellophone (Mit.), Timpani (Timp.), and Percussion 1 (Perc. 1) and Percussion 2 (Perc. 2). The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* (forte) and *p* (piano), and a large red watermark reading "Preview Only Requires Purchase" diagonally across the page. The page number 22 is visible in the top right corner.

WE BELONG

FL.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

sticks on rim
W.B. w/ hard mallet

Sus. Cym.

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WE BELONG

This image shows a page from a musical score, likely for a symphony or concert band. The page contains staves for various instruments, including Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet 1 (Clar. 1), Clarinet 2 (Clar. 2), Bassoon (Bsn.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sax), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax), Baritone Saxophone (B. Sax), Trumpet 1 (Trpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (Trpt. 2), French Horn (F Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Euphonium/Bassoon (Euph. B.C.), Tuba, Mellophone (Mlt.), Timpani (Timp.), and two types of Percussion (Perc. 1 and Perc. 2). The music is written in B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. A large, diagonal red watermark reading "Preview Only" is superimposed over the entire page. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *p* (piano), and articulation marks like accents (*>*). Some measures include performance instructions like "to Cr. Cym.", "to Sus. Cym.", and "to B.D.". The bottom of the page is numbered 33 through 38, corresponding to the measure numbers.

39

Fl. *f* *mf*

Ob. *f* *mf*

Clar. 1 *f* *mf*

Clar. 2 *f* *mf*

B. Cl. *f* *mf*

Bsn. *f* *mf*

A. Sax *f* *mf* *div.* *a2*

T. Sax *f* *mf*

B. Sax *f* *mf*

39

Trpt. 1 *f* *mf*

Trpt. 2 *f* *mf*

F Hn. *f* *mf*

Tbn. *f* *mf*

Euph. B.C. *f* *mf*

Tuba *f* *mf*

Mlt. *f* *to Bells* *Bells w/ hard mallets* *mf*

Timp. *f* *dampen* *mf*

Perc. 1 *f* *mp* *mf*

Perc. 2 *f* *Cr. Cym.* *choke* *mp* *Sus. Cym.*

39 40 41 *mf* 42 43 44 *mp*

49 Expressively ♩ = 80-88

rit.

Fl. *f* *p*

Ob. *f* *p*

Clar. 1 *f* *mp* *p*

Clar. 2 *f* *mp* *p*

B. Cl. *f* *mp* *p*

Bsn. *f* *mp* *p*

A. Sax *f* *mp* *p*

T. Sax *f* *mp* *p*

B. Sax *f* *mp* *p*

rit.

Trpt. 1 *f* *p* *p* *mf* *p*

Trpt. 2 *f* *p* *p* *mf* *p*

F Hn. *f* *mp* *p* *mp* *mf* *p*

Tbn. *f* *p* *p* *mf* *p*

Euph. B.C. *f* *p* *p* *mf* *p*

Tuba *f* *p* *p* *mf* *p*

Mlt. *f*

Timp. *f* *p*

Perc. 1 *f* to Wind Chimes

Perc. 2 *f* to Tri.

45 46 47 48 49 50 51

poco rit.

Fl. *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *poco rit.*

Ob. *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *p*

Clar. 1 *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Clar. 2 *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

B. Cl. *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Bsn. *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

A. Sax *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

T. Sax *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

B. Sax *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

poco rit.

Trpt. 1 *p* *mf* *p* *p*

Trpt. 2 *p* *mf* *p* *p*

F Hn. *p* *mf* *p* *p*

Tbn. *p* *mf* *p* *p*

Euph. B.C. *p* *mf* *p* *p*

Tuba *p* *mf* *p* *p*

Mlt. *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *p*

Timp. *mf* *p*

Perc. 1 *p*

Perc. 2 Tri. *p*

52 53 *p* 54 to Cr. Cym. 55 56 57 *p*

58 *a tempo*

Fl. *f* *mp* *f* *p* *mp* *mf* *p*

Ob. *f* *mp* *f* *p* *mp* *mf* *p*

Clar. 1 *f* *mp* *f* *p* *mp* *mf* *p*

Clar. 2 *f* *mp* *f* *p* *p* *mf* *p*

B. Cl. *f* *mp* *f* *p* *p* *mf* *p*

Bsn. *f* *mp* *f* *p* *p* *mf* *p*

A. Sax *f* *mp* *f* *p* *p* *mf* *p*

T. Sax *f* *mp* *f* *p* *p* *mf* *p*

B. Sax *f* *mp* *f* *p* *p* *mf* *p*

58 *a tempo*

Trpt. 1 *f* *mp* *f* *p*

Trpt. 2 *f* *mp* *f* *p*

F Hn. *f* *mp* *f* *p*

Tbn. *f* *mp* *f* *p*

Euph. B.C. *f* *mp* *f* *p*

Tuba *f* *mp* *f* *p*

Mlt. *f* *mp* *f* dampen to Xylo.

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1 W.C. to Snare Drum
f Cr. Cym. to Wood Block

Perc. 2 to Tri.

58 59 60 61 62 63

f *mp* *f*

68 Energetically! ♪ = 152-160

WE BELONG

Fl.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

70

71

72

73

74

mf

p

Sus. Cym.
w/ wooden stick

14

77

Fl. *div.* *p* *mf* *p* *mp* *a2*

Ob. *p* *mf* *p* *mp*

Clar. 1 *mp*

Clar. 2 *mp*

B. Cl.

Bsn. *p*

A. Sax *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

T. Sax *mf* *p*

B. Sax

77

Trpt. 1 *p* *mf* *Tutti*

Trpt. 2 *mf*

F Hn. *p*

Tbn. *p*

Euph. B.C. *p*

Tuba

Mlt. *mf*

Timp.

Perc. 1 *W.B.* *p* *mf* *p* *S.D.* *p*

Perc. 2

75 76 77 78 79 80

85

Fl. *f* *mf* *p* *p*

Ob. *f* *mf* *p* *p*

Clar. 1 *f* *mf* *p* *p*

Clar. 2 *f* *mf* *p*

B. Cl. *fp* *p*

Bsn. *fp* *p*

A. Sax *f* *mf* *p* *p*

T. Sax *f* *mf* *p*

B. Sax *fp* *p*

85

Trpt. 1 *f* *mf* *p*

Trpt. 2 *f* *mf* *p*

F Hn. *f* *mf* *p*

Tbn. *fp* *p*

Euph. B.C. *fp* *p*

Tuba *fp* *p*

Mlt. *p* *mf* *p*

Timp. *p*

Perc. 1 *f* *p* *mf* *p* to B.D. *p*

Perc. 2 *mf* *p*

81 82 83 84 85 86

Fl. *mp* *mf*

Ob. *mp* *mf*

Clar. 1 *mp* *mf*

Clar. 2 *mp* *mf*

B. Cl. *mp* *mf*

Bsn. *mp* *mf*

A. Sax *mp* *mf*

T. Sax *mp* *mf*

B. Sax *mp* *mf*

Trpt. 1 *mp* *mf*

Trpt. 2 *mp* *mf*

F Hn. *mp* *mf*

Tbn. *mp* *mf*

Euph. B.C. *mp* *mf*

Tuba *mp* *mf*

Mlt. *mp* *mf*

Timp. *mp* *mf*

Perc. 1 *mp* *mf* B.D.

Perc. 2

87 88 89 90 91

93

Fl.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

93

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

92

93

94

95

96

mp

f

f

p

f

choke

choke

p

Sus. Cym.
w/ yarn mallets

- 18 -

97

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Clar. 1 *mf*

Clar. 2 *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

A. Sax *mf*

T. Sax *mf*

B. Sax *mf*

97

Trpt. 1 *f*

Trpt. 2 *f*

F Hn. *mf*

Tbn. *mf*

Euph. B.C. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Mlt. *mf*

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

97 98 99 100 *p* 101 *mf*

105

Fl.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

105

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

102 103 104 105 106

f

f

f

f

mf

mf

f

mf

mf

f

mf

mf

f

p

mf

WE BELONG

Fl.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

107

108

109

110

111

p

mf

mp

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112

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Clar. 1 *f*

Clar. 2 *f*

B. Cl. *f*

Bsn. *f*

A. Sax *f* *div.* *fp*

T. Sax *f* *fp*

B. Sax *f* *fp*

112

Trpt. 1 *f* *fp*

Trpt. 2 *f* *fp*

F Hn. *f* *fp*

Tbn. *f* *fp*

Euph. B.C. *f* *fp*

Tuba *f* *fp*

Mlt. *f*

Timp. *f* *dampen* *fp* *f*

Perc. 1 *f* *choke* *fp* *f*

Perc. 2 *f* *choke* *fp* *f*

112 113 114 115

WE BELONG

Fl.

Ob.

Clar. 1

Clar. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax

T. Sax

B. Sax

Trpt. 1

Trpt. 2

F Hn.

Tbn.

Euph. B.C.

Tuba

Mlt.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

116

117

118

119

a2

dampen

choke

Sus. Cym.
w/ wooden stick

ABOUT THE COMPOSER



Evan VanDoren is a freelance arranger, composer, and educational consultant. As the owner of VanDoren Music, Evan is commissioned each year to create works for concert and marching ensembles. He has arranged and orchestrated award-winning marching shows for numerous high school bands across the country.

Evan is an active clinician, presenting for Drum Corps International, the Music Educators National Convention, the Texas Bandmasters Association, the Texas Music Educators Association, and Music for All. He regularly consults with band programs around the country. Additionally, Evan is an active adjudicator with Bands of America, the University Interscholastic League, and the Texas Music Adjudicators Association.

Evan is the brass arranger for the Santa Clara Vanguard Drum and Bugle Corps, from Santa Clara, California, as well as the leadership faculty of SASI Leadership, based in central Texas.

Before devoting his life to creating music, Evan was a band director at Cedar Park High School, in Cedar Park, Texas, during which time the band was awarded multiple marching state championships and national recognition. He received a Bachelor in Music Education with Honors from Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana. Currently, he lives in Cedar Park, Texas, with his wife, Katie, and their dog, Cooper.

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