

RWS BEGINNING STRINGS SERIES

Grade: 1

Conductor Score: RWS-2572-01

Star Of County Down

Mekel Rogers

RWS
Beginning Strings Series

RWS MUSIC
COMPANY

Star Of County Down

Mekel Rogers

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin 1.....	8
Violin 2.....	8
Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)	4
Viola.....	6
Cello.....	5
Double Bass.....	5
Piano (Optional).....	1

PROGRAM NOTE

The county of Down is located in what is today Northern Ireland. The lyrics to *Star of County Down* were written during the 19th century, but the music is a traditional folk tune that is much older in origin. Today, it is one of the most performed folk songs in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland (which is part of the United Kingdom today).

NOTES TO CONDUCTOR

The main tune is followed by several simple variations to provide variety while keeping the music technically accessible. All parts are written in a comfortable range, allowing students to focus on other musical elements such as style, dynamic contrast, and interplay between sections.

All low strings are unison, and the optional Violin III part is a treble clef version of the Viola part.

I hope you and your students enjoy playing and performing this beautiful tune! Please visit my composer page at rwsmusic.com to connect!

R. Mekel Rogers

ABOUT THE COMPOSER



Mekel Rogers has been involved in music education as a middle school band director and orchestra conductor since 1995. He is a Summa Cum Laude graduate of Appalachian State University, a charter member of the Carolina Crown Drum and Bugle Corps, and the founding conductor of the Union Symphony Youth Orchestra. Mekel is also active as a frequent guest clinician and adjudicator for both concert band and orchestral events.

Mekel's music for concert band and orchestra has been performed internationally and is published by the FJH Music Company, Alfred Music Publishing, Grand Mesa Strings, RWS Music, and TUX People's Music. Mekel's concert band and string orchestra compositions have received several Editors Choice Awards from the J. W. Pepper Music Company. Mekel's works have been performed at various district and state honor band events, music educator association conferences, adjudicated festivals, and the Midwest Clinic in Chicago. International performances include concert festivals in Canada, Japan, Australia, and the United Kingdom as well as world premieres in both London, England and Paris, France.

Mekel was inducted into the American School Band Directors Association (ASBDA) in 2008 and is a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP).



STAR OF COUNTY DOWN

Conductor Score

RWS-2572-00

Traditional Irish Folksong

Mekel Rogers (ASCAP)

Lively ♩ = 160

Violin 1

Violin 2

Violin 3
(Viola T.C.)

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

Piano
(Optional)

5

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

5 6 7 8 9

13

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

10 11 12 13 14

arco

arco

arco

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

15 16 17 18 19

21

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

20 21 22 23 24

arco

arco

29

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

25 26 27 28 29

f

f

f

f

f

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

30 31 32 33 34

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

35 36 37 38 39

41

Vln. 1 *mp*

Vln. 2 *mp*

Vln. 3 *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vcl. *mp*

D.B. *mp*

Pno. *mp*

40 41 42 43 44

49

Vln. 1 *p*

Vln. 2 *p*

Vln. 3 *p*

Vla. *p*

Vcl. *p*

D.B. *p*

Pno. *p*

45 46 47 48 49

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

mf

f

50 51 52 53

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

54 55 56 57