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As Eagles Soar

James Swearingen



FOR DEVELOPING BANDS!



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Rising Band Series (Grade levels 1 1/2 - 2)

The Rising Band Series is carefully designed and written to serve the performance needs of the developing band program. In addition to providing quality performance literature for your concert program, each title in the series provides an appropriate musical setting for the conductor/teacher to reinforce musical concepts and skills that have been addressed in the first two years of instruction. Written at two grade levels (1 1/2 and 2), the Rising Band Series provides a variety of musical works that employ the note and rhythm sequence used in most band method books. The Rising Band Series is a sound fundamental approach leading to a command of the concert band.

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Instrumentation

Conductor Score	1
Flute	10
Oboe	2
1st Bb Clarinet	
2nd B Clarinet	6
Bb Bass Clarinet	2
Bassoon	2
E Alto Saxophone	8
B Tenor Saxophone	2
E Baritone Saxophone	2
1st Bb Trumpet	
2nd Bb Trumpet	5
F Horn	4
Trombone	6
Baritone BC	2
Baritone TC	2
Tuba	4
Mallet Percussion: Chimes, Bells	4
Timpani	
Percussion 1: Snare Drum, Bass Drum	3
Percussion 2: Crash Cymbals, Sleigh Bells, Triangle,	
Suspended Cymbal	2
Piano/Keyboard (optional)	1

Program Notes

All birds should be considered special, but to many the eagle is quite extraordinary. It soars through the sky with great beauty as well as tremendous strength and skill. For all Americans, this bird is the symbol of our country. It should be noted that the eagle is also the mascot for many schools, including the Charter School for Applied Technologies, which is located in Buffalo, New York. Adam Brignone, their director, requested that we dedicate this fanfare to past, present, and future band members of this outstanding music program.

Rehearsal & Performance Suggestions

- Encourage the percussionists to play with great confidence in the opening two measures. Starting in measure three, their dynamics should then be adjusted to provide appropriate balance with the entrance of the fanfare.
- At measure thirteen, the clarinets and alto saxophones carry the melody. The accompaniment should strive to play within the sound of this heroic theme.
- Flutes, oboes, and bells provide a nice counter-melody to the main theme at measure twenty-one. Once again, do not exceed the volume of the melody.
- At measure twenty-nine, adjust the volume down and strive for a smooth and lyrical style. The chime part is important but bells may serve as a substitution.
- Starting at measure thirty-seven, the theme reaches a glorious peak accompanied by 1st trumpets playing a descant part.
- The last note of the piece is in unison and should project quite nicely without extra emphasis. Instead, focus on providing a slight touch of tone.
- Above all else, have as much fun performing this piece as I did in composing it.

James Sweamzer

About the Composer



James Swearingen's talents as a performer, composer/arranger and educator include a background of extensive training and experience. He has earned degrees from Bowling Green State University and The Ohio State University. In recognition of distinguished contributions, Mr. Swearingen was recently accorded the title of Professor Emeritus from Capital University located in Columbus, Ohio. Prior to his appointment at Capital in 1987, he spent eighteen years teaching instrumental music in the public schools of

central Ohio. His first teaching assignment took him to the community of Sunbury, Ohio. He then spent fourteen years as Director of Instrumental Music at Grove City High School, where his marching, concert, and jazz bands all received acclaim for their high standards of performing excellence.

Mir. Swearingen currently serves as a staff arranger for the famed Ohio State University Marching Band. In addition to his arranging responsibilities, Mir. Swearingen manages to be very active as a guest conductor, adjudicator and educational clinician. Appearances have included trips throughout the United States, as well as Australia, Canada, Europe, Japan, Norway, the Republic of China and Singapore.

School directors, student performers and audiences worldwide have enthusiastically received Mr. Swearingen's numerous contributions for band. With nearly 600 published works, he has written band compositions and arrangements that reflect a variety of musical forms and styles. Many of his pieces, including 113 commissioned works, have been chosen for contest and festival lists. He is a recipient of several ASCAP awards for published compositions and in 1992 was selected as an Accomplished Graduate of the Fine and Performing Arts from Bowling Green State University. In March of 2000, he was invited to join The American Bandmasters Association, considered to be the most prestigious bandmaster organization in the world. Mr. Swearingen received the 2002 Community Music Educator Award given annually by the Columbus Symphony Orchestra. In that same year, he became conductor of the Grove City Community Winds. This highly talented ensemble consists of many fine musicians from the central Ohio area. On June 20, 2009, The American School Band Directors Association, Inc., presented Mr. Swearingen with the A. Austin Harding Award. This prestigious award is presented annually by the organization and is reflective of valuable and dedicated service to the school bands of America. In 2011, he received the Hall of Fame Award presented by the Ohio Chapter (Mu) of Phi Beta Mu. The OMEA Distinguished Service Award was presented to him at the 2014 OMEA Professional Development Conference. Later that year, he was presented the Signature Sinfonian Award by Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. On April 21, 2015, The Ohio State School of Music honored Mr. Swearingen with their Distinguished Alumnus Award. It should be noted that he is also a member of numerous professional and honorary organizations including NAfME, ASBDA, Phi Beta Mu and Pi Kappa Lambda.

Many of Mr. Swearingen's most popular band compositions have been recorded by the prestigious Washington Winds and are available on Walking Frog Records compact discs: His recordings include In All Its Glory, Exaltation, Celebration For Winds And Percussion, The Light Of Dawn, and the newest release, Flight of Valor.

CD Recording Available

WFR390
KICK-START!
The Washington Winds,
Edward Petersen - Conductor

Edward Petersen - Conductor

CONTENTS: Rattle The Cage (Neeck), Thunderbolt Galop (Huffer/arr. Glover), After The Storm (J. McBride), Insurrection (Coles), Christmas Fantasy (P. Clark), Siberian Express (Phillips), Elf Dance (Conaway), Desert Fire (J. McBride), Silver Wings March (R.W. Smith), Mission To Mars (Chattaway), Secret Agent (Romeyn), As Eagles Soar (Swearingen), The Quest for Greatness (Conaway), Sleddin' Hill (Shaffer), Spirits of the Heavens (Shaffer), Argosy (R.W. Smith), The Sounds Of Liberty (Swearingen), Pajaritos (Huckeby), Simple Dreams (Romeyn), Christmas Angels (P. Clark), Promise Of A Pide Vunrise (Shaffer), Attack of the Zombie Trombones (Meeck), Power And Pride (Conaway), Circus Time (Shaffer), Time For Trumpets (R.W. Smith), A Quiet Song (Swearingen), Jingle Drums (Neeck), Call To Glory (Romeyn), Kick-Start! (Swearingen), On Parade (Glover), Drum & Drummer (Shaffer), Mach One (J. McBride), Just As I Am (Setting by R.W. Smith), Deck The Holidays (Romeyn)

AS EAGLES SOAR



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