

RWS DEVELOPING BAND SERIES

FULL CONDUCTOR SCORE

Catalog No: RWS-2246-01

# Freedom's Banner March

Linda Anne Parsons

Arranged by

Steve Parsons

**RWS**  
**DEVELOPING BAND SERIES**

**RWS** MUSIC  
COMPANY

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### INSTRUMENTATION

|                                   |    |                                          |   |
|-----------------------------------|----|------------------------------------------|---|
| Conductor Score.....              | 1  | F Horn.....                              | 4 |
| Flute.....                        | 10 | Trombone.....                            | 6 |
| Oboe (opt. Flute 2).....          | 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  | Timpani.....                             | 1 |
| Bassoon.....                      | 2  | Mallet Percussion: Chimes, Bells.....    | 4 |
| E $\flat$ Alto Saxophone.....     | 6  | Percussion 1: Snare Drum, Bass Drum..... | 3 |
| B $\flat$ Tenor Saxophone.....    | 2  | Percussion 2: Crash Cymbals.....         | 1 |
| E $\flat$ Baritone Saxophone..... | 2  |                                          |   |
| B $\flat$ Trumpet 1.....          | 5  |                                          |   |
| B $\flat$ Trumpet 2.....          | 5  |                                          |   |

### PROGRAM NOTE

The arranger writes, "It was always a dream of my late mother, Linda (Bentz) Parsons, to have one of her many compositions published. As an organist and music director for over 50 years, she frequently wrote original pieces for choir and piano/organ, including a large-scale instrumental work that I orchestrated and premiered at a 2014 concert. Since her passing in 2017, I've made it a mission to get a composition of hers in print to honor her memory and show my love for the person who was my biggest fan and supporter."

*Freedom's Banner* was originally written for a July 4th celebration and shows how much Linda Parsons loved patriotic themes. The melody is very memorable and heartfelt, and lends itself well to special performance today.

### NOTES TO CONDUCTOR

The arranger writes, "As with any march, attention to articulations and accents is extremely important. I've also used dynamics to give some effective moments of contrast without taking away from the overall forward momentum, so be sure to work with your ensemble on these elements. It will also be helpful to review the eighth/sixteenth rest/sixteenth rhythm with the entire group, as everyone plays that figure at some point in the piece. The goal is to have a small bit of space on the rest for a crisper attack.

Most of all, I hope you enjoy playing this march. It's truly a labor of love allowing Mom's music and positive spirit to live on!"

### ABOUT THE COMPOSER



**Linda Anne Parsons** (1943-2017) was many things: a musician for over 50 years, a devoted wife, and most importantly to composer/arranger Steve Parsons and his siblings, she was a loving (and much-loved) mother.

Linda Parsons' life included many roles and accomplishments. She was an ordained music minister and organist (American Guild of Organists). She played piano, autoharp and served as a choir director in numerous churches. She was a writer of choral music for use in church choir and educational settings, including writing and producing children's musicals. She was an event musician, playing for community dinners. She even tackled the calliope for street fair events! Simply stated, music has been very important part of the Parsons' family history.

Steve Parsons writes, "One of her best and endearing qualities was her unwavering support of all her children, especially my music career. As a composer and arranger myself, I tried to help Mom fully realize her creative vision on a regular basis, and always desired to see through one of her life goals: to get one of her original works into print. While I wasn't able to achieve this prior to her passing, it became a major mission of mine to complete the task. After combing through her files, I selected a catchy patriotic selection to arrange for concert band, which has resulted in *Freedom's Banner*, a concert march suitable for any flag-waving occasion, and very typical of mom's inspiring optimism.

### ABOUT THE ARRANGER



**Steve Parsons** is an award-winning composer, orchestrator and music director. Among his many composing credits are: *Evensong* (for Choir and Orchestra), *Distant Thunder*, *Seascapes*, *Frankenstein: The Puppet Opera* (Translations Art Gallery), *Visions* (an oratorio), *College Slam* (video game *Akkalim*), and numerous commissions for symphony orchestra, wind ensemble, concert band and choral ensembles.

An experienced arranger for marching bands and show choirs throughout the United States and Canada, many of his original works and arrangements have been featured in state contest lists and national championship performances. His music has been prominently recognized through several Outstanding Music awards at Bands of America finals.

His musical adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* is published by Steele Spring Stage Rights in Los Angeles and has enjoyed performances at The Players Guild Theatre (15 seasons,) New York (Off-Off Broadway,) Los Angeles, and Vietnam (The International Choir and Orchestra of Ho Chi Minh City.) As an orchestrator, he has arranged the Grateful Dead musical *Cumberland Blues* (NYMF, NY,) *Life Could Be A Dream* (Additional vocal arrangements/orchestrations, LA,) *It's A Wonderful Life* (Regional,) and *Footloose* (Additional vocal arrangements/orchestrations, Rodgers & Hammerstein Library.) Other credits include: *Nonsense and Nonsense A-Men!* (music preparation, NY,) *The Tick* (member of the "Tickestra," FOX,) and *Defying Gravity: The Creative Career of Stephen Schwartz* (consultant and contributor, Applause Books.) Mr. Parsons holds both Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts degrees in composition from Kent State University.

# FREEDOM'S BANNER

Conductor Score  
RWS-2246-00

March

Linda Anne Parsons  
Arr. by Steve Parsons (ASCAP)

Moderate March ♩ = 104

Flute

Oboe  
(opt. Flute 2)

B♭ Clarinet 1

B♭ Clarinet 2

B♭ Bass Clarinet

Bassoon

E♭ Alto Saxophone

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone

B♭ Trumpet 1

B♭ Trumpet 2

F Horn

Trombone

Euphonium B.C.

Tuba

Timpani  
B♭, E♭

Mallet Percussion  
Chimes  
Bells

Percussion 1  
Snare Drum  
Bass Drum

Percussion 2  
Crash Cymbals

Moderate March ♩ = 104

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[illegible]



25 %

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. 1 *mf*

Cl. 2 *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

A. Sax. *mf*

T. Sax. *mf* Play

B. Sax. *mf*

25

Tpt. 1 *mp* *mf*

Tpt. 2 *mp* *mf*

Hn. *mp* *mf*

Tbn. *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Mal. *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2

26 27 28 29 30 31 32

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mal.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40

*mf*



To Coda  $\emptyset$

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2 *f*

B. Cl. *f*

Bsn. *f*

A. Sax. *f*

T. Sax. *f*

B. Sax. *f*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbn. *f*

Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

Timp. *f*

Mal. *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *f*

choke

49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56



## D.S. al Coda

FL.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mal.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72

## ⊕ Coda

FL.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Mal.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81

