

# ON TOP OF THE WORLD

## Brian Balmages

### Instrumentation

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 - Conductor's Full Score | 1 - Tuba              |
| 1 - Flute 1                | 1 - Timpani           |
| 1 - Flute 2                | 2 - Mallet Percussion |
| 1 - Oboe 1                 | Vibraphone            |
| 1 - Oboe 2                 | Marimba               |
| 1 - B♭ Clarinet 1          | Bells                 |
| 1 - B♭ Clarinet 2          | 2 - Percussion 1      |
| 1 - Bassoon 1              | Snare Drum            |
| 1 - Bassoon 2              | Bass Drum             |
| 1 - F Horn 1               | Triangle              |
| 1 - F Horn 2               | Tam-tam               |
| 1 - F Horn 3               | 3 Concert Toms        |
| 1 - F Horn 4               | 2 - Percussion 2      |
| 1 - B♭ Trumpet 1           | Crash Cymbals         |
| 1 - C Trumpet 1            | Suspended Cymbal      |
| 1 - B♭ Trumpet 2           | Tambourine            |
| 1 - C Trumpet 2            | 8 - Violin 1          |
| 1 - Trombone 1             | 8 - Violin 2          |
| 1 - Trombone 2             | 5 - Viola             |
| 1 - Trombone 3             | 5 - Violoncello       |
|                            | 5 - Double Bass       |

**Extra Conductor Score: \$14.00**

**Extra Parts: \$4.00**

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As a result, all single page parts are collated before multiple page parts.

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## The Composer

Brian Balmages (b. 1975) is an award-winning composer, conductor, producer, and performer. He holds a bachelor's degree in music from James Madison University and a master's degree from the University of Miami in Florida. His compositions have been performed worldwide at the state, national and international level. His active schedule of commissions and premieres has incorporated groups ranging from elementary schools to professional ensembles, including the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Miami Symphony Orchestra, University of Miami Wind Ensemble, Boston Brass, and the Dominion Brass Ensemble. In 2012, Mr. Balmages received the prestigious Albert Austin Harding Award from the American School Band Directors Association. He is also a 2010 winner of the Harvey G. Phillips Award for Compositional Excellence, presented by the International Tuba-Euphonium Association.

As a conductor, Mr. Balmages enjoys engagements with numerous all-state and regional honor bands and orchestras along with university and professional groups. Notable guest conducting appearances have included the Midwest Clinic, Western International Band Clinic, National Association for Music Educators, American School Band Directors Association, CBDNA, the Kennedy Center, and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. He has also served as an Adjunct Professor of Instrumental Conducting and Acting Symphonic Band Director at Towson University in Maryland.

Currently, Mr. Balmages is the Director of Instrumental Publications for The FJH Music Company Inc. in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He resides in Baltimore with his wife Lisa and their two sons.

## About the Music

*On Top of the World* is a celebration of achievement that seeks to portray the feeling of standing on top of the world. It is an energetic overture centered around several core rhythmic and melodic ideas. The opening of the work begins in a minimalist fashion and introduces some rhythmic fragments that are further developed later in the work. The opening brass fanfare is transformed into a lighter melody in the strings that almost seems to be floating.

As the music continues to develop, a second theme is introduced (measure 95) that is quite lush and lyrical in comparison to the previous music. It goes through several iterations before the presentation of a third and final idea (measure 119) that hints at the rhythmic energy of the opening but through a new melody. This melody continues to develop until it is ultimately juxtaposed with the first theme presented in the piece.

The three themes continue to play off each other, weaving in and out of the texture in various ways. The music increases in intensity, moving into a short fugue (measure 173) before arriving at a massive and powerful tutti passage for the entire orchestra. The opening brass fanfares return and develop as part of a short coda (measure 222).

*On Top of the World* was commissioned by the East Chapel Hill High School Symphony Orchestra (North Carolina) and conductor Ryan E. Ellefsen. The funding was made possible through the generous donations of the East Chapel High School parents and community.

*Brian Balmages*

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# ON TOP OF THE WORLD

BRIAN BALMAGES  
(ASCAP)

**Allegro vivo ( $\text{J}=152$ )**

Flutes 1, 2  
Oboes 1, 2  
 $\text{B} \ddot{\text{b}}$  Clarinets 1, 2  
Bassoons 1, 2

**Allegro vivo ( $\text{J}=152$ )**

F Horns 1, 2  
C Trumpets 1, 2  
Trombones 1, 2  
3 (Bass)  
Tuba  
Timpani

Mallet Percussion  
(Vibraphone,  
Marimba, Bells)

Percussion 1  
(Snare Drum,  
Bass Drum,  
Triangle, Tam-tam,  
3 Concert Toms)

Percussion 2  
(Crash Cymbals,  
Suspended Cymbal,  
Tambourine)

Vibra.

p

mp

**Allegro vivo ( $\text{J}=152$ )**

Violin 1  
Violin 2  
Viola  
Violoncello  
Double Bass

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53

54

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59

60

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62

63

64

65

66

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72

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74

75

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77

78

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80

81

82

83

84

85

86

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89

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92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cls. 1  
Cls. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2  
Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tuba  
Tim.   
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
D.B.

12 13 **f** 14 15 16

Fls.

Obs.

Cls.

Bsns.

Hns.

Tpts.

Tbns.

Tuba

Timp.

Mallets

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

D.B.

23

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Clss. 1  
Clss. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2

Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tbns. 3  
Tuba  
Timpani  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
D.B.

Fls.

Obs.

Cls.

Bsns.

Hns.

Tpts.

Tbns.

Tuba

Timp.

Mallets

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

D.B.

28

29 *mf*

30

31

32



Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cl. 1  
Cl. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2  
Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tbns. 3  
Tuba  
Timpani  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cls. 1  
Cls. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2  
Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tuba  
Timp.  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

51

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cl. 1  
Cl. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2

Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tuba  
Tim. *f*  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2 *f* Cr. Cym.  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla. *f*  
Vlc.  
D.B.

51

52

53

54

Fls.

Obs.

Cls.

Bsns.

Hns.

Tpts.

Tbns.

Tuba

Timp.

Mallets

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

D.B.

55 56 57 58 59 60



Fls.  
2  
1  
Obs.  
2  
1  
2  
Clss.  
2  
1  
Bsns.  
2  
1  
Hns.  
2  
3  
4  
1  
2  
3  
4  
Tpts.  
2  
1  
2  
Tbns.  
3  
1  
2  
Tuba  
Timp.  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

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69 70 71 72 73 74

PREVIEW ONLY

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Clrs. 1  
Clrs. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2  
Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tbns. 3  
Tuba  
Timp.  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

75      76      77      78      79



Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cl. 1  
Cl. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2  
Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tbns. 3  
Tuba  
Timp.  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cl. 1  
Cl. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2  
Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tuba  
Timpani  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
D.B.

95

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cl. 1  
Cl. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2  
Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tuba  
Timpani  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

*f*

*mp*

*mf*

*mf*

*pizz.*

*Reproduction Prohibited*

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Clrs. 1  
Clrs. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2  
Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tbns. 3  
Tuba  
Timp.  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

99 100 101 102 103 104

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cl. 1  
Cl. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2

Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tuba  
Tim. Timp.  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

111

Fls. 1 *mp*

Fls. 2 *mp*

Obs. 1

Obs. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2 *mp*

Bsns. 1 *mp*

Bsns. 2 *mp*

Hns. 1 *mp*

Hns. 2

Hns. 3 *mp*

Hns. 4 *mp*

Tpts. 1

Tpts. 2

Tbns. 1 *mp*

Tbns. 2

Tbns. 3 *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Tim. *mp*

Mallets

Perc. 1 *mp*

Perc. 2

Vln. 1 *mp*

Vln. 2 *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vlc. *mp*

D.B. *mp*

111 *mp* 112 113 114 115 116

119

Fls.  
1  
2

Obs.  
1  
2

Cls.  
1  
2

Bsns.  
1  
2

Hns.  
1  
2  
3  
4

Tpts.  
1  
2

Tbns.  
1  
2  
3

Tuba

Tim.

Mallets

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

D.B.

127

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cl. 1  
Cl. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2

Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tbns. 3  
Tuba  
Tim. 1  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
D.B.

127

128

129

*mp*

*pizz.*

*arco*

*bp*

*cresc. poco a poco*

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145

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cls. 1  
Cls. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2

p

Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tbns. 3  
Tuba  
Timp.  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

Bsn. 2  
p

p

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

145

p

mp

143      144      145      p      146      147      148      149

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Clrs. 1  
Clrs. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2  
Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tbns. 3  
Tuba  
Timp.  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

150 151 152 153 154 155 156

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cls. 1  
Cls. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2

Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tbns. 3  
Tuba  
Timpani  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

157 158 159 ***mf*** 160 161 162

163

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cl. 1  
Cl. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2

Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tuba  
Tim.  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vcl.  
D.B.

173

Fls.  
2

Obs.  
2

Cls.  
2

Bsns.  
2

Hns.  
3  
4

Tpts.  
2

Tbns.  
2

Tuba

Timp.

Mallets

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

D.B.

169      170      171      172      173      174

Fls.

Obs.

Cls.

Bsns.

Hns.

Tpts.

Tbns.

Tuba

Timp.

Mallets

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

D.B.

Toms

*mf*

175      176      177      178      179      180

181

Fls. 1 f  
Fls. 2 f  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cls. 1 f  
Cls. 2 f  
Bsns. 1 f  
Bsns. 2 f

181

Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1 f  
Tbns. 2 f  
Tuba  
Timp.  
Mallets  
Perc. 1 f  
Perc. 2

181

Vln. 1 f  
Vln. 2 f  
Vla. f  
Vlc. f  
D.B.

186            187            188            189            190            191            192

**Fls.**            **Obs.**            **Cls.**            **Bsns.**            **Hns.**            **Tpts.**            **Tbns.**            **Tuba**            **Tim.**            **Mallets**            **Perc. 1**            **Perc. 2**            **Vln. 1**            **Vln. 2**            **Vla.**            **Vlc.**            **D.B.**

**190**

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cl. 1  
Cl. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2  
Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tuba  
Timpani  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

193 194 195 196 197 198

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cls. 1  
Cls. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2  
Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tuba  
Tim. *mf*  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2 *Cr. Cym.* *ff*  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

206

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cls. 1  
Cls. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2

Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tuba  
Tim.  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

*Review Only*

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206 207 208 209

Fls.

Obs.

Cls.

Bsns.

Hns.

Tpts.

Tbns.

Tuba

Timp.

Mallets

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

D.B.

Fls.

Obs.

Cls.

Bsns.

Hns.

Tpts.

Tbns.

Tuba

Timp.

Mallets

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

D.B.

Fls.

Obs.

Cls.

Bsns.

Hns.

Tpts.

Tbns.

Tuba

Timp.

Mallets

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vlc.

D.B.

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cls. 1  
Cls. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2

Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Hns. 3  
Hns. 4  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tuba  
Tim. Tam-tam  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

Vln. 1 ff div.  
Vln. 2  $\frac{8}{8}$   
Vla.  $\frac{8}{8}$  div.  
Vlc.  $\frac{8}{8}$   
D.B.

rit.

Fls. 1  
Fls. 2  
Obs. 1  
Obs. 2  
Cl. 1  
Cl. 2  
Bsns. 1  
Bsns. 2  
Hns. 1  
Hns. 2  
Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Tbns. 1  
Tbns. 2  
Tuba  
Timp.  
Mallets  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vlc.  
D.B.

rit.

*ff*

228      229      230      231      232      233

