

# Bubble Gum Blues

For String Orchestra, Grade 1  
by Caryn Wiegand Neidhold (ASCAP)

## Instrumentation

1 - Full Score  
8 - Violin 1  
8 - Violin 2 (Viola T.C.)  
5 - Viola  
5 - Cello  
5 - Bass  
1 - Optional Piano  
2 - Drum Set\*

## Note from the Editor:

This grade 1 piece provides a great introduction to swing style and improvisation. All parts start with a rhythm guide and include "rhythm guide words" in the piece as a tool for mastering the swing rhythms. A vamped solo section provides every instrument the option to play a solo, improvised or pre-written in the parts. \* Visit [randallstandridge.com](http://randallstandridge.com) for a free downloadable drum track to use for rehearsal, performance, or student practice.

- Katie O'Hara LaBrie

**Full Set - \$55.00**

**Extra Conductor Score - \$10.00**

**Extra Part - \$4.00**



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# Bubble Gum Blues

By Caryn Wiegand Neidhold, Grade 1

## Program Notes:

Remember stepping on a piece of gooey bubble gum or getting some stuck in your hair? Oh no! You've got the Bubble Gum Blues! This fun, bluesy tune says it all, with catchy rhythms, a swinging groove, and rehearsal lyrics to help tell the story. Listen for the walking bass line and even a few improvised solos in this jazzy musical lament for those sticky, icky Bubble Gum Blues!

## Teacher's Note:

Bubble Gum Blues is an excellent introduction to the jazz style for young string students. Included lyrics help students hear how the printed page translates into sound.

Here are some helpful teaching points.

- Listen to the recording with your class multiple times to encourage students to internalize the swing style. In addition, consider expanding students' listening to accessible jazz standards like "Take the A Train" and "C Jam Blues."
- Have students sing or say the rehearsal lyrics in the swing style. These are meant to help teach the rhythms, but are not necessarily intended to be performed.

### Warm-up

#### Swing Rhythm 1



#### Swing Rhythm 2



#### Swing Rhythm 3



#### Swing Rhythm 4



- When playing in the swing style, students should place their bow in the middle to the upper half.
- For an added challenge, any note before a rest should be dampened. This technique will sound best if the students dampen the string with their left hand rather than the bow. It takes lots of practice for students to do this automatically.
- The quarter note section (walking bass line) starts in m. 1 for cello/bass and m. 17 for violin/viola. Instruct students to accent beats 2 and 4 throughout. The markings were left out of the music to avoid visual clutter.
- Visit [randallstandridge.com](http://randallstandridge.com) to access a free downloadable backtrack. Use this in class or for the students to practice improvising at home.
- In the solo section, encourage students to improvise in addition to learning the written solo. Here is one method of approaching improv – the 4R's
  1. **Rhythm** – Try creating a solo on the note E, just focusing on rhythm
  2. **Rests** – Next, have the students include rests in their rhythms
  3. **Repeats** – once they find a rhythm they like, practice repeating it
  4. **Relax** and have fun!
- Once students are comfortable doing this all on E, start adding in new notes, one at a time: G, then A, then B, and then D. (As many or as few notes as they are comfortable with.)
- At first, students will often feel less self-conscious if everyone is practicing improvisation at the same time.

Have so much fun playing Bubble Gum Blues with your orchestra!

– Caryn Wiegand Neidhold



### **About the Composer**

Caryn Wiegand Neidhold is a composer and arranger for student level through professional ensembles. Her focus includes arranging classical "gems" and composing music for eclectic styles, including fiddle, rock, and jazz. With an emphasis on learning technique through literature, Caryn's music always distributes musical challenges to all string sections.

Caryn's background includes extensive work as a middle school educator, Suzuki teacher, and youth symphony conductor and coach. In addition, she has years of performance experience as a violist and violinist with orchestras including the Fairbanks Symphony, New World Symphony, Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, and the Reno Phil. Beyond classical performances, she also plays bass with the Sapphire Jazz Ensemble. Caryn enjoys writing articles for music education publications and presenting seminars for string educators.

# Bubble Gum Blues

Score  
Grade 1  
Duration 2:00

Caryn Wiegand Neihold  
(ASCAP)

Swing!  $\text{♩} = \text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩}$ ,  $\text{♩} = 116$

Violin 1

Violin 2  
(Viola T.C.)

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

Optional Piano

Drum Set

1 2 3 4

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

D. S.

5 6 7 8

Bub - ble Gum Blues, Stuck to my shoes.

Bub - ble Gum Blues, Stuck to my shoes.

Bub - ble Gum Blues, Stuck to my shoes.

Bub - ble Gum Blues, Stuck to my shoes.

Tell ya I got those Bub - ble Gum Blues. Bub - ble Gum Blues, Stuck to my shoes.

Tell ya I got those Bub - ble Gum Blues. Bub - ble Gum Blues, Stuck to my shoes.

Tell ya I got those Bub - ble Gum Blues. Bub - ble Gum Blues, Stuck to my shoes.

## Bubble Gum Blues - Score

11

Vln. 1 Tell ya I got those Bub - ble Gum Blues. So stick - y, So ick - y. Tell ya I got those  
 Vln. 2 Tell ya I got those Bub - ble Gum Blues. So stick - y, So ick - y. Tell ya I got those  
 Vla. Tell ya I got those Bub - ble Gum Blues. So stick - y, So ick - y. Tell ya I got those  
 Vc. *f*  
 D.B. *f*  
 Pno. *f*  
 D. S. *f*

9 10 11 12 13

17

Vln. 1 Bub - ble Gum Blues. So ick - y. *mf*  
 Vln. 2 Bub - ble Gum Blues. So ick - y. *mf*  
 Vla. Bub - ble Gum Blues. So ick - y. *mf*  
 Vc. So stick - y. *mf* My bub - ble is get - ting scar - y  
 D.B. So stick - y. *mf* My bub - ble is get - ting scar - y  
 Pno. *mf*  
 D. S. *mf*

14 15 16 17 18

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

D. S.

19 20 21 22 23

I'm gon-na be le - gen - dar - y My bub-ble is get - ting scar - y. I'm gon-na be

I'm gon-na be le - gen - dar - y My bub-ble is get - ting scar - y. I'm gon-na be

25

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

D. S.

24 25 26 27 28

le - gen - dar - y. Over the top, Bub - ble gum POP! Tell ya I got those Bub - ble Gum Blues.

le - gen - dar - y. Over the top, Bub - ble gum POP! Tell ya I got those Bub - ble Gum Blues.

## Bubble Gum Blues - Score

31

Solo (one violin, viola, cello or bass)

Score for **Bubble Gum Blues**, measures 29 through 38.

**Measures 29-33:**

- Solo:** Starts at measure 31 with a **f** (forte) dynamic.
- Vln. 1 & 2:** Play *mp* (mezzo-piano) with lyrics: "So ick - y." (measures 29-30) and "So goo - ey. So oo - ey. Bub - ble gum is" (measures 31-33).
- Vln. 2:** Same as Vln. 1.
- Vla.:** Same as Vln. 1.
- Vc. & D.B.:** Play *mp* with lyrics: "So stick - y." (measures 29-30) and "So All others pizz. goo - ey. So oo - ey. Bub - ble gum is" (measures 31-33).
- Pno.:** Play *mp* with chords.
- D. S.:** Double bass line with a steady eighth-note pattern.

**Measures 34-38:**

- Solo:** Continues with a melodic line.
- Vln. 1 & 2:** Play with lyrics: "so chew - y..." (measures 34-38).
- Vln. 2:** Same as Vln. 1.
- Vla.:** Same as Vln. 1.
- Vc. & D.B.:** Continue with a steady eighth-note pattern.
- Pno.:** Continue with chords.
- D. S.:** Continue with a steady eighth-note pattern.

Measure numbers 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38 are indicated below the staves.

5

44

arco

Vln. 1

So stick - y, So ick - y. Tell ya I got those Bub - ble Gum Blues.

f

arco

Vln. 2

So stick - y, So ick - y. Tell ya I got those Bub - ble Gum Blues.

f

arco

Vla.

So stick - y, So ick - y. Tell ya I got those Bub - ble Gum Blues.

f

Vc.

Cello spin

arco

D.B.

Bass spin

arco

Pno.

f

D. S.

Fill

44 45 46 47 48