Primer String Orchestra



Grade 1/2

# Contemplation

# Larry Clark

#### PAS22 INSTRUMENTATION

Full Score	1
Violin 1	8
Violin II	
Violin III (Viola T.C.)	
Viola	
Cello ,	
Bass	
Piano	

### About the Composition

Contemplation: the action to look thoughtfully at something for a long time.

When composing music that will be used with younger students, I want to stimulate in them thoughtfulness. In this particular piece I want the students to be be able to stretch their musicianship beyond their experience on their instruments to play in a contemplative manner. To me this is the essence of music: playing in an emotional and thoughtful way. It is something that cannot be stressed enough, even in students that have just begun to play. As soon as possible they should be asked to put themselves into the music and make it more than the notes and rhythms on the page.

This piece is my attempt to provide very young students who are just beginning their musical journey with something they can reach technically, but have to stretch for musically. The notes and rhythms are limited, but students should strive for beauty of tone, good phrasing and emotional involvement.

After a short introduction, the heartfelt main theme begins at a lyrical and slow tempo. This is developed with the addition of a secondary theme featuring the lower voices, before the piece leads to an Allegro section that is based on the same musical material with a difference in tempo and a variation in rhythm patterns. The piece can serve to show students that the same basic music can have an entirely different emotional connection with difference in tempo, rhythm and style, with the first section of the piece being sentimental and the faster section being more joyous in nature. As with all of my pieces for younger students, it is completely acceptable to adjust the tempo to fit the educational needs of your students.

It has been my pleasure to have the opportunity to write this piece. I hope you and your students enjoy it and find it useful for your program.

—Larry Clark Lakeland, FL 2018

## About the Composer

Music by Larry Clark (b. 1963) is some of the most popular and most performed by concert bands and string orchestras of all ability levels. Larry is equally adept at writing music for beginners as he is for high school and college ensembles. His music is tuneful, contains a fresh harmonic perspective, is well scored and stretches the musicianship of the performers. He prides himself on producing music that is not only intriguing to performers and audiences alike but that contains a playability that comes from a keen understanding of the technical difficulties inherent in all instruments. His pieces have been performed internationally and appear on numerous contest/festival performance required music lists. He is an ASCAP award-winning composer, has over 300 publications in print and is in demand to write commissions for bands and orchestras across the country.

Besides his abilities as a composer Larry serves as Vice President, Editor-in-Chief for Carl Fischer Music. In this capacity he oversees all publications in all genres for this esteemed music publisher. However, his main focus is on selecting, editing and producing concert band and string orchestra music for the company. He travels the world representing Carl Fischer Music doing clinic/workshops and guest conducting appearances. His background as a former middle school and university band director at Syracuse University, combined with his composing and editing, have placed Larry at the forefront of music for school ensembles. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Music Education from Florida State University and Masters Degrees in Conducting and Composition from James Madison University in Virginia. For more information about the music of Larry Clark, visit his website www.larryclarkmusic.com. or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/larryclarkmusic/















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PAS22 — Set PAS22F — Full Score PAS22P — Parts

