

Christmas Star (A Holiday Fanfare)

For Concert Band, Grade 1.5
By Randall D. Standridge (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 - Full Score | 4 - Bb Trumpet 1 |
| 8 - Flute | 4 - Bb Trumpet 2 |
| 2 - Oboe | 4 - F Horn |
| 2 - Bassoon | 6 - Trombone |
| 4 - Bb Clarinet 1 | 2 - Euphonium B.C. |
| 4 - Bb Clarinet 2 | 2 - Euphonium T.C. |
| 2 - Bb Bass Clarinet | 4 - Tuba |
| 6 - Eb Alto Saxophone | |
| 2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone | |
| 2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone | |
-
- | |
|---|
| 2 - Bells |
| 2 - Chimes |
| 2 - Timpani |
| 3 - Percussion 1&2: Snare Drum/Ride Cymbal/Medium Tom, Bass Drum (opt. 1 player on set) |
| 2 - Percussion 3: Wind Chimes/Crash Cymbals/Suspended Cymbal |
| 2 - Percussion 4: Sleigh Bells/Tam-Tam/Tambourine |

Full Set - \$65.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



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Christmas Star (A Holiday Fanfare)

By Randall D. Standridge

Program Notes

I love Christmas.

The lights, the gatherings, the music, the general sense that for a little while, the world slows down just enough for us to enjoy it. But if I had to pick one tradition that I love the most, it would be decorating the Christmas tree. Every ornament has a story. Some are old. Some are new. Some are meaningful. Some are... a little questionable. But they all find a place on the tree. And at the very end, there is that one final moment.

Putting the star on top.

Christmas Star is my attempt to capture that feeling in music. This high-energy holiday fanfare weaves together a variety of familiar seasonal melodies, including Joy to the World, Deck the Halls, We Three Kings, Ukrainian Bell Carol, O Tannenbaum, and more. Each tune appears like an ornament, adding color and character as the piece builds. And then, at the climax, we arrive at the "star of wonder" section from We Three Kings. That moment serves as the musical tree topper, shining above everything that came before it. This piece is meant to be joyful, festive, and just a little bit nostalgic. Whether it opens your concert or brings it to a close, I hope it captures a bit of that magic we all feel during the holiday season. Because at the end of it all, after the decorations are up and the music is playing, sometimes the most meaningful moments are the simplest ones.

Peace, Love, and Music - Randall

Rehearsal suggestions

-The tempo of this work is critical to its character. When planning your preparation, make sure to allow time for proper technical development to achieve the written tempos, lest the work come off as "boring."

-Dynamics should be noticeable and taken to extremes.

-Percussion should be on the higher end of dynamic balance. Do not hide them.

About the Composer



Randall Standridge (b.1976) received his Bachelor's of Music Education from Arkansas State University. During this time, he studied composition with Dr. Tom O'Connor, before returning to Arkansas State University to earn his Master's in Music Composition, studying with Dr. Tom O'Connor and Dr. Tim Crist. In 2001, he began his tenure as Director of Bands at Harrisburg High School in Harrisburg, Arkansas. He left this post in 2013 to pursue a career as a full-time composer and marching arts designer.

Mr. Standridge's music is performed internationally. He has had numerous works selected for the J.W. Pepper's Editor's Choice list. His compositions Snake Charmer, Gently Blows the Summer Wind, and Angelic Celebrations have been included in the "Teaching Music Through Performance in Band" series, and he has had numerous works performed at the prestigious Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Illinois. The Arkansas State University Wind Ensemble premiered his work Art(isms) at the 2010 CBDNA conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and his work Stonewall: 1969 was premiered at the National LGBA conference in 2019. His works Stonewall: 1969, unBroken, and Animation (Episode 1: WABBIT!), have all been recognized as honorable mentions for the American Prize in Composition, and his Symphony no.1: A Ghost Story was premiered in 2023 and was awarded 3rd Place in the American Prize for Composition in 2025. In addition, Mr. Standridge's "unBroken Project," a musical initiative about mental health, has received widespread acclaim for its musical content and for providing opportunities to normalize discussions about mental health for music students and audiences.

In addition to his career as a composer, Mr. Standridge is the owner and chief editor of Randall Standridge Music, LLC, and Grand Mesa Marching. He is in demand as a composer, conductor, clinician, and arranger/designer for the marching arts. He lives in Jonesboro, Arkansas, with his husband, Steven, and their very, very spoiled pets.



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Concert work: Christmas Star (A Holiday Fanfare) (Standard edition, RSMC118)

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Director

Administrator

Christmas Star (A Holiday Fanfare)

SCORE
GRADE 1.5
DURATION 2:00

RANDALL D. STANDRIDGE
(ASCAP)

Joyous! ♩=152

5

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. It features a woodwind section (Flute, Oboe, B♭ Clarinet 1 & 2, E♭ Alto Saxophone, B♭ Tenor Saxophone), a brass section (B♭ Trumpet 1 & 2, Horn in F, Trombone, Euphonium/Bassoon (opt. Trb. 2), and Low Reeds/Tuba), and a percussion section. The percussion section includes Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Wind Chimes, and Sleigh Bells. The score is in 4/4 time and begins with a key signature of one flat (B♭). The tempo is marked as 'Joyous!' with a quarter note equal to 152 beats per minute. The score is divided into six measures, with measure 5 highlighted by a box containing the number '5'. Dynamics range from mezzo-piano (mp) to fortissimo (f). Performance instructions include '(hard mallets)' for the Bells and '(med. hard mallets)' for the Timpani. A 'R. Hand down' instruction is present in the B♭ Clarinet 1 part in measure 5.

RSMC118

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Christmas Star (A Holiday Fanfare) - Score

17

Fl. *fp* *f*

Ob. *fp* *f*

Cl. 1 *fp* *f*

Cl. 2 *f*

A. Sx. *f*

T. Sx. *fp* *f*

Tpt. 1 *fp* *f*

Tpt. 2 *fp* *f*

Hn. *f*

Trb. *fp* *f*

Euph. Bssn. *fp* *f*

L.R. Tuba *fp* *f*

Bls. *f*

Ch. *f*

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1/2 *f*

Perc. 3

Perc. 4 Tam-Tam Sleigh Bells *f*

13

14

15

16

17

18

The musical score for page 23 of "Christmas Star (A Holiday Fanfare)" features the following instruments and parts:

- Fl. (Flute)
- Ob. (Oboe)
- Cl. 1 (Clarinet 1)
- Cl. 2 (Clarinet 2)
- A. Sx. (Alto Saxophone)
- T. Sx. (Tenor Saxophone)
- Tpt. 1 (Trumpet 1)
- Tpt. 2 (Trumpet 2)
- Hn. (Horn)
- Trb. (Trombone)
- Euph. Bssn. (Euphonium/Bassoon)
- L.R. Tuba (Left/Right Tuba)
- Bls. (Bells)
- Ch. (Chimes)
- Timp. (Timpani)
- Perc. 1/2 (Percussion 1/2)
- Perc. 3 (Percussion 3)
- Perc. 4 (Percussion 4)

The score is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. It includes dynamic markings such as *f* (forte) and *sfz* (sforzando), and various articulation marks like accents and slurs. The page covers measures 19 through 24.

29

Fl. *sfz* *mf*

Ob. *sfz* *mf*

Cl. 1 *sfz* *mp*

Cl. 2 *sfz* *mp*

A. Sx. *sfz* *mp*

T. Sx. *sfz* *mp*

Tpt. 1 *sfz*

Tpt. 2 *sfz*

Hn. *sfz* *mp*

Trb. *sfz* *mp*

Euph. Bssn. *sfz* *mp*

L.R. Tuba *sfz* *mp*

Bls. *sfz* *mf*

Ch. *sfz*

Timp. *sfz* *mp*

Perc.1/2 *sfz* *mp* Ride Cymbal (stick)

Perc.3 *sfz* *p* *mf* Sus. Cym. (yarn mallets)

Perc.4 *sfz*

Christmas Star (A Holiday Fanfare) - Score

40

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Trb.

Euph. Bssn.

L.R. Tuba

Bls.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc.1/2

Perc.3

Perc.4

Medium Tom

Tambourine

f *sfz* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

37

38

39

40

41

42

Fl. *sub p* *f*

Ob. *sub p* *f*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2 *f*

A. Sx. *sub p* *f*

T. Sx. *sub p* *f*

Tpt. 1 *p* *f*

Tpt. 2 *p* *f*

Hn. *sub p* *f*

Trb. *sub p* *f*

Euph. Bssn. *sub p* *f*

L.R. Tuba *f*

Bls. *sub p* *mf*

Ch.

Timp. *p* *mf*

Perc.1/2 *mp* *f*
Crash Cyms. (Ch.)

Perc.3 *p* *mf* *f*

Perc.4 *f*

43 44 45 46 47 48

Christmas Star (A Holiday Fanfare) - Score

51

Fl. *p* *f*

Ob. *p* *f*

Cl. 1 R. Hand down *p* *f*

Cl. 2 *p* *f*

A. Sx. *mf* *ff* (Bring out strongly)

T. Sx. *mf* *ff* (Bring out strongly)

Tpt. 1 *p* *f*

Tpt. 2 *p* *f*

Hn. *mf* *ff* (Bring out strongly)

Trb. *mf* *f*

Euph. Bssn. *p* *f*

L.R. Tuba *p* *f*

Bls. *f*

Ch. *f*

Timp. *fp* *f*

Perc.1/2 Snare Drum *p* *f*

Perc.3 *f*

Perc.4 Tam-Tam *p* *f*

49 50 51 52 53 54

59

The musical score for page 10 of "Christmas Star (A Holiday Fanfare)" covers measures 55 through 60. The instrumentation includes:

- Flute (Fl.)
- Oboe (Ob.)
- Clarinets 1 and 2 (Cl. 1, Cl. 2)
- Alto Saxophone (A. Sax.) and Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.)
- Trumpets 1 and 2 (Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2)
- Horn (Hn.)
- Trombone (Trb.)
- Euphonium/Bassoon (Euph. Bssn.)
- Low/Right Tuba (L.R. Tuba)
- Bells (Bls.)
- Chimes (Ch.)
- Timpani (Timp.)
- Percussion 1/2 (Perc. 1/2)
- Percussion 3 (Perc. 3)
- Percussion 4 (Perc. 4)

Measure 59 is marked with a dynamic of *f* (forte). The score features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The percussion parts include complex rhythmic figures with accents and dynamic markings.

Christmas Star (A Holiday Fanfare) - Score

This page of the musical score, page 11, contains measures 61 through 66. The instruments and parts are arranged as follows:

- Fl.:** Flute part, starting with a half note G4 and moving to a half note A4.
- Ob.:** Oboe part, mirroring the flute's melody.
- Cl. 1:** Clarinet 1 part, playing a half note G4, with a "R. Hand down" instruction and a dashed line indicating a rest for the remainder of the measure.
- Cl. 2:** Clarinet 2 part, playing a half note G4.
- A. Sx.:** Alto Saxophone part, playing a half note G4.
- T. Sx.:** Tenor Saxophone part, playing a half note G4.
- Tpt. 1:** Trumpet 1 part, playing a half note G4.
- Tpt. 2:** Trumpet 2 part, playing a half note G4.
- Hn.:** Horn part, playing a half note G4.
- Trb.:** Trombone part, playing a half note G4.
- Euph. Bssn.:** Euphonium/Bassoon part, playing a half note G4.
- L.R. Tuba:** Left/Right Tuba part, playing a half note G4.
- Bls.:** Basses part, playing a half note G4.
- Ch.:** Chorus part, playing a half note G4.
- Timp.:** Timpani part, playing a half note G4.
- Perc. 1/2:** Percussion 1/2 part, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Perc. 3:** Percussion 3 part, playing a half note G4.
- Perc. 4:** Percussion 4 part, playing a half note G4.

Dynamic markings include *p* (piano) and *f* (forte) for the Timp. and Perc. 1/2 parts. The score includes various musical notations such as stems, beams, and slurs.

69

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Trb.

Euph. Bssn.

L.R. Tuba

Bls.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc.1/2

Perc.3

Perc.4

R. Hand down

ff

f

fp

Christmas Star (A Holiday Fanfare) - Score

This musical score page, numbered 13, features 18 staves for various instruments. The instruments listed on the left are: Fl. (Flute), Ob. (Oboe), Cl. 1 (Clarinet 1), Cl. 2 (Clarinet 2), A. Sx. (Alto Saxophone), T. Sx. (Tenor Saxophone), Tpt. 1 (Trumpet 1), Tpt. 2 (Trumpet 2), Hn. (Horn), Trb. (Trombone), Euph. Bssn. (Euphonium/Bassoon), L.R. Tuba (Left/Right Tuba), Bls. (Bassoon), Ch. (Chimes), Timp. (Timpani), Perc. 1/2 (Percussion 1/2), Perc. 3 (Percussion 3), and Perc. 4 (Percussion 4). The score is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor) and a common time signature. It includes dynamic markings such as *sub p*, *f*, *ff*, and *fp*, along with articulation marks like accents and slurs. The bottom of the page is marked with measure numbers 73 through 79, with a final *ff* dynamic marking at the end of measure 79.