

My current top picks from the 1GREEN folder (180 pieces!)

First off, several of you came to me thanking me because you have little to no budget for your group literature. Please take advice from someone who has taught in the public schools for 26 years: NEVER TELL ANY ADMINISTRATOR that you have found a free source for even a portion of your music literature and support materials needs. That is a sure way of having your budget cut or your department not considered for funds in the future. We must maintain our stance of fair and equal budget representation for our music departments! Also, in no way is this PDF library intended to replace the purchase of literature from our standard sources, we truly have mutually supportive roles in this wonderful thing we call performance.

Second, most of what I have listed below are relatively unknown pieces to most of us. I wanted to point you towards great sounding literature that we don't already know about. You will find in the 1Green folder many of the standards such as the First and Second Suites by Holst, standard Fillmore, Sousa, Alford, Pryor and other standard marches, etc. You will recognize the standard ones, enjoy the OTHER classics that have been sitting on shelves for 75+ years!

Third, as you use these or other pieces from the Band PDF Library if you would email me and let me know how you used the piece (concert intro, peak piece, closer) and how it worked for your group – just short comments – I want to establish a database of played pieces and comments on use. Thank you for reading these comments, enjoy the Library and be educated by it!

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#### **MARCHES:**

**B. R. and P. Band:** Grade 4, Ab/Db. Handwritten flute part hard to read. Someone redo, please.

**Exalted Ruler:** Band Grade 3+, Clarinets and Baritone BC 4, Eb/Ab. Flute up octave.

**Gippsland March:** Grade 4, Clarinets 5, Ab/Db.

**Gladiator March:** Band Grade 3, 1<sup>st</sup> Clarinet 4.

**Men Of Valor:** Grade 3+, Eb/Ab.

**Show Boy, The:** Grade 3, Simple contrasting lines and most sections have at least one nice part. Nice low voice parts. Simple but classic band sound.

#### **COMPILATION:**

**Hail Columbia:** Grade 3. Short arrangements of Hail Columbia, Battle Hymn of the Republic and Yankee Doodle. Hail Columbia Flute part is missing most of first measure. Good short fillers.

**Gen. Mixup, U.S.A.:** Grade 3. In one fun march a medley of Dixie, Yankee Doodle, etc. Good “Americana” and audience pleaser.

**GALOPS:** Galops are great energy pieces. As implied by the title, galop means to play as fast as your group can handle. Good for a peak in your program after a slow piece or as an encore. I have seen galops (as well as marches) used as a final piece/closer at medium to fast tempo, but on applause the director jumps back on the podium and restarts it at maximum band speed with no repeats or just the final section.

**Flirt-Galop:** Grade 4+, Bb/Ab.

**Galop Zip Boom:** Grade 4-, Bb.

**Midnight Fire Alarm:** Grade 5, Db/Gb. Considered to be one of the classics of the galop style.

**Prince Of Decorah Galop:** Grade 4+, Ab/Db.

#### **PROGRAMMATIC:**

**Gallito (Spanish March):** Grade 5, Ab/C. Classic Spanish sounding march. Audience pleaser.

**In A Persian Market:** Grade 4, Ab. Sections have titles such as “The camel-drivers gradually approach”, “Beggars in the marketplace”, “The beautiful princess approaches”, “The snake charmer” and more. You could do the old-style large poster boards visually announcing the sections or use computer/projector using a parchment-style background and old-style font. Or you could have an announcer state the titles of the sections as they musically begin.

**Sousa Swing:** Grade 3, Eb/Ab, 6/8. Can be played as a Saxophone Quartet! Sop/Alto/Tenor/Baritone. You might add percussion or drum set for rhythmic interest.

**Watermelon Club:** Grade 5, Ab/Db. March/Two step. Popular sounding. Audience pleaser.

**RAGTIME:** Rags were extremely popular in the early 1910s to 1920s. Flying finger parts! Good for teaching odd 16<sup>th</sup> note rhythm combinations.

**12<sup>th</sup> Street Rag:** Grade 4, Bb/Eb. Tough parts if played up to speed. Classic piece of this style.

**Frozen Bill Rag:** Grade 4, Db/Gb. Tough parts. Another ragtime classic.

**Some Band Rag:** Grade 4, F/Bb. Reasonable difficulty.

**SOLOS WITH BAND:** Why not BE the soloist with your band? Show your band you are a real musician as well as conductor! Have your Drum Major conduct or develop a student conductor. Or have a guest conductor conduct? Conducting is relatively easy in the solos, FOLLOW THE SOLOIST’S TEMPO! Or have a student soloist, a local university soloist (a former student?), a colleague, etc., play the solo.

**Fire Fly Galop:** Solo Grade 4, Band Grade 3. Xylophone/Flute solo: Incorrectly in the second Green/NoFH folder. Bass Clarinet to Bb Bass, Tenor Sax to Baritone TC and Baritone Sax sight-transposing Bases.

**Jupiter (Polka Petite):** Bb Cornet solo. Solo Grade 4, Band Grade 3. Cute! Solo is not too hard.

**Stars In A Velvety Sky:** Bb Cornet solo. Solo Grade 5, Band Grade 4. In the second Green/NoFH folder. Solo composed by Herbert L. Clarke. “It is estimated that Herbert L. Clarke played over 15,000 solos during his long and active career. He traveled over 90,000 miles with the bands of Gilmore, Sousa, Innes, Herbert, and others. He made 34 tours of the United States and Canada, four European tours, and one tour around the world. A dedicated composer, author, conductor, cornetist, and teacher, Clarke believed that cornet playing should be pleasure rather than a chore. An example of his skill with the cornet is the fact that he could play a chromatic scale of three full octaves four times through in one breath.”

**Tramp, Tramp, Tramp:** Bb Cornet/Treble clef Baritone/Bb Clarinet solo. Solo Grade 5, Band Grade 4. Famous Civil War song. Theme and variations style.

**Tyrolienne:** Eb Clarinet/Eb Alto Sax solo. Solo Grade 4, Band Grade 3.

**Willow Echoes:** Bb Cornet solo. Solo Grade 4, Band Grade 3. This is a solo played many times by Frank Simon, cornet soloist with the Sousa Band. “It is speculated that the title reflects fond memories of many rehearsals and concerts at Willow Grove Park, home of the Sousa Band. It is one of the most elegant works in the cornet solo repertory.”

**WALTZES:** We play too much in 4/4, Cut time and 2/4!

**Artist’s Life:** Grade 4, Eb/Bb/Ab. Theme and variations. A classic of this style!

**Blue Danube:** Grade 4, Eb/Ab. Another historic classic of this style!