

Maryland Music Educators Association
Fall In-Service Conference - Friday, October 20, 2023
Long Reach High School, Columbia, MD

New String Orchestra Music Reading Session
Featuring the Robert Frost Middle School Advanced Orchestra*
8:30 AM - 9:15 AM
Presenter: Mike Kamuf Director: Andrea Cameron
**sponsored by Lashof Violins www.lashofviolins.com*

Selections

At this time, all selections are available in MakeMusic Cloud except Playground Games

Playground Games - Cooper Ford - Grade 1 - Belwin Beginning Strings

[Webpage](#) [Score PDF](#) [YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- D Major
- 3 part writing (VI 1, VI2/Va, C/B)
- All parts play melodic material/themes
- Reinforce or introduce spiccato/staccato bowing & dynamics
- Second theme utilizes a round

I Spy - Katie O'Hara LaBrie - Grade 1 - MakeMusic Publications Developing Strings

[Webpage](#) [Score PDF](#) [YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- D Major (E minor/dorian tonality)
- 3 part writing (VI 1, VI2/Va, C/B)
- Cello and Bass use both C natural & C#
- Reinforces subdivision with fun interplay between the various sections of the ensemble
- Nice harmonic twists for the grade level

Air Warriors - Erica Donahue - Grade 1.5 - Highland/Etling String Orchestra

[Webpage](#) [Score PDF](#) [YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- E minor
- 5 part writing (no 3rd Violin/Viola TC part)
- Simultaneous contrasting styles
- D# (low 1) utilized in all parts except for viola
- Heroic themes with a quasi-march feel
- Great way to honor our veterans!

Golden Grove - Brian Balmages - Grade 1.5 - MakeMusic Publications Developing Strings

[Webpage](#)

[Score PDF](#)

[YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- D major
- For single or multi-level orchestra
- A Parts are required; B parts are supplemental grade 1, C parts are grade .5 and use only open strings
- Varying textures for this grade level
- Contemporary harmonies & driving rhythms
- Everything that you expect from this composer....and more!

Colliding Fates - Tyler S. Grant - Grade 2 - MakeMusic Publications Intermediate Strings

[Webpage](#)

[Score PDF](#)

[YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- E minor/dorian
- 4 part writing (C & B doubled)
- Themes presented in Violin 1 & 2
- Contrasting styles, driving rhythmic pulse, and contemporary harmonies
- Great opening or closing selection

A Quiet Peace - Richard Meyer - Grade 2 - Sound Innovations Strings

[Webpage](#)

[Score PDF](#)

[YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- C Major
- 5 part writing (some bass cues in cello)
- Very expressive work
- Rich harmonic palette includes 7th & 9th chords, extensive suspensions and dissonances
- Minimal technical demands but complex chords will need require instruction and careful tuning

Heavy Lifting - Chris Bernatos - Grade 2 - Sound Innovations Strings Flex

[Webpage](#)

[Score PDF](#)

[YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- D minor
- 4 part writing (cello & Bass are doubled); Flex parts can highlight any instrument or group of instruments in the string orchestra and are a free download
- All melodies utilize a minor pentatonic scale (D, G and A minor)
- Sliding for Violins
- Melodies appear in all parts

To The Moon and Back - Michael Kamuf - Grade 2 - Belwin Intermediate Strings

[Webpage](#)

[Score PDF](#)

[YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- G major (G Lydian at times)
- 5 part writing
- AABA form with contrasting textures and expressive moments
- All sections play one of the themes
- Four measure Violin 1 solo

Galatic Nature - Victor Lopez - Grade 2 - Belwin Intermediate Strings

[Webpage](#)

[Score PDF](#)

[YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- E minor
- 5 part writing (cello and bass double for most of the piece)
- Percussion can be played by two players (player 1- snare drum & triangle; player 2 - bass drum) or an optional drum set could be used
- Optional piano accompaniment
- ABA/ "Bright/Dark/Bright" form

Lotus - Yukiko Nishimura - Grade 2.5 - Highland/Etling String Orchestra

[Webpage](#)

[Score PDF](#)

[YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- D Major
- 5 part writing
- Expressive works with contrasting textures and very independent part writing for the grade level
- Rich harmonies include chords with altered extensions (i.e. A7b9#5) - will require careful tuning
- Pizzicato used to represent the faint "popping" sound the flower makes when it blooms

Volcano - Michael Hopkins - Grade 2.5 - Belwin Intermediate Strings

[Webpage](#)

[Score PDF](#)

[YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- E minor
- 5 part writing
- Driving themes & accompaniment figures
- Contrasting sections with opportunities for expressive playing
- Very musical development section

Herr Mannelig - Soon See Newbold - Grade 2.5 MakeMusic Publications Intermediate Strings

[Webpage](#)

[Score PDF](#)

[YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- E minor
- 5 part writing
- Based on a Swedish folk song known as *The Mountain Troll's Proposal* - text and information in conductor's notes
- 2 percussionists required - low tom and floor tom
- Optional piano
- Separate solo violin and cello for 8 measure passages each
- Great orchestration!

Danse (from African Suite) - Samuel Coleridge-Taylor/arr. Kirk Moss - Grade 3 - Belwin Concert Strings

[Webpage](#)

[Score PDF](#)

[YouTube Score & Sound](#)

- D & G Major
- 5 part writing
- Optional Piano accompaniment
- Written by Black British composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912) most known for his serious choral works
- Light hearted
- Varying bowing styles
- Fun and playful in nature