

Program

Glorioso	Robert W. Smith
Bugler's Dream	Leo Arnaud Arr.: Paul Lavender
Morning Mood	Sandy Feldstein John O'Reilly
Visions on an Old American Tune	Wayne Pegram
Barn Dance Saturday Night	Pierre La Plante

Notes about tonight's selections:

Glorioso

Derived from the word glory, *Glorioso* means to rejoice triumphantly. The fanfare style of writing in this piece by Robert W. Smith is our way of welcoming you to this evening's performance. Smith is a highly performed composer that boasts over 300 published compositions. Fanfare-style pieces have been historically used as communication to announce the arrival of someone or something.

Olympic Fanfare March

The music in this easily recognizable piece has been used as the theme song for ABC's Olympic coverage since the 1960s. While sometimes mistakenly identified as American patriotic music, this melody was actually composed by a Frenchman named Leo Arnaud. To the good fortune of our beginner band students, Arnaud only used six notes in the tune!

Morning Mood

Edvard Grieg was a Norwegian composer that lived from 1843 – 1907. While Grieg's compositions include vocal works, piano works, and chamber works, *Morning Mood* (*Morgenstemning*) is possibly his most recognizable melody. Originally composed for orchestra, the piece was commissioned by a fellow Norwegian and play-writer Henrik Isben. Grieg had been approached to compose incidental music that would be used during one of Isben's theatrical performances. Unfortunately for the work of Isben, Grieg's music that accompanied the production certainly endured the test of time more-so than the play itself. Grieg is known for his ability to write music that sounds smooth, lyrical, and flowing. *Morning Mood* is certainly no exception and has been carefully arranged by Sandy Feldstein and John O'Reilly in a way that captures the original intent of the work.

Visions on an Old American Tune

Before the widespread instruction of modern music notation, a system called *fasola* was developed in an effort to standardize American music education. In the early 19th century “tunebooks” were printed using this system. One of the most popular tunebooks ever printed was called *Southern Harmony* and was released in 1835. The book contained a piece called *Happy Land*, which is the basis for this band work. The text reads:

There is a happy land,
Far, far away,
Where saints in glory stand,
Bright, bright as day.

Wayne Pegram’s setting for beginner band is a lyrical treat that provides students with a taste of history as well as an opportunity to explore beginning elements of improvisation too.

Barn Dance Saturday Night

With such an evocative title, it is hard not to smile when simply hearing the name of this piece. La Plante’s composition has all of the raucous energy that you might envision when you think of a fiddle-driven square dance. While some of the melodies are reminiscent of both American and African-American Folk tunes, the composer notes that the mood of the piece is intended to represent the early American settlers “play-partys.” These social gatherings involved family fun for members of all ages. Best of all, there was typically live music provided by the elders!

