

# On Behalf Of A Grateful Nation

Composed by  
**Andrew F. Poor**

Commissioned by the Feagin Mill Middle School Band (Warner Robins, Georgia), Lloyd McDonald, Director of Bands in the fall of 2015. The work is dedicated to the children of members of our armed forces and the ongoing sacrifices these children make on behalf of our country.

The work is divided into three sections—*Service*, *Sacrifice* and *Tribute*—and each section honors different aspects of this commitment. The *Service* section (measures 1 to 23) is a blending of various patriotic melodic fragments, including, *Star-Spangled Banner*, *America the Beautiful* and *Taps*. These children are surrounded by patriotic music throughout their everyday lives. This section of the work symbolizes the dedication and purpose for the service for both the parents and the children. *Sacrifice* (measures 24-39) is a longingly lyrical portion of the work loosely based on the melodic structure of *Taps* and symbolizes the heartfelt losses the children are often forced to endure. These sacrifices, include, long and unplanned absences from their parents, frequent moves and loss of friends, and sometimes the ultimate sacrifice—being raised without a parent. *Tribute* (measures 40-59) begins with a bold brass fanfare and leads into a heroic restatement of the *Sacrifice* theme in a fanfare style. Symbolic of the heroism of these children, this section attempts to capture the strength and pride of these young people and their service to our country. The piece concludes with a brief restatement of the melodic content from initial *Service* section, which symbolizes the never-ending nature of their service.

## Rehearsal Notes

In the *Service* section, careful attention should be given to the balance of the melodic fragments. If possible, the trumpet/*Taps* part should be performed as a muted solo. *America the Beautiful* is the primary melodic focus and *Taps* serves as countermelody. Sustaining voices must remain softer than both melodic ideas.

In *Sacrifice*, there are numerous cross-cues and optional solos to allow optimal flexibility for your ensemble. The choice to utilize solos and cues is left to the discretion of the conductor. Be sure to strive for proper balance of accompaniment voices to the various melodies. Detailed dynamic adjustments have been noted in the score to assist with this balance. Freedom with the tempo is encouraged in this section.

*Tribute* was conceived as a bold brass fanfare, but utilize the cues as needed for your ensemble. Strive for excellent clarity and uniformity of articulation with clear spacing between quarter notes and eighth notes. When you arrive at the modulation, continue in the heroic and majestic feel of the previous section when playing the melodic material. The primary melody is in the clarinet and trumpet parts.

The closing should be a gradual unwinding of the musical energy of the previous section. Feel free to take liberties with the tempo and strive for clarity of the various motifs.

## Instrumentation:

1	Conductor	4	B♭ Trumpet 1
10	Flute	4	B♭ Trumpet 2
2	Oboe	2	F Horn
6	B♭ Clarinet 1	2	Trombone 1
6	B♭ Clarinet 2	2	Trombone 2
2	B♭ Bass Clarinet	2	Euphonium
2	Bassoon	2	Baritone T. C.
4	E♭ Alto Saxophone	3	Tuba
2	B♭ Tenor Saxophone	2	Mallets
2	E♭ Baritone Saxophone	2	Timpani
		2	Snare Drum/Bass Drum
		2	Crash Cymbals/Suspended Cymbals
			Triangle

Copyright © 2016 by Northeastern Music Publications, Inc.  
International Copyright Secured All Rights Secured

# On Behalf Of A Grateful Nation

## Service, Sacrifice, and Tribute

Commissioned by the Feagin Mill Middle School Band, Lloyd McDonald Director  
and dedicated all the children whose parents serve in our Nation's military.

Composed by  
**Andrew F. Poor**  
(ASCAP)

### Service

Boldy  $\text{♩} = 82-86$

The score is for a 4/4 piece in B-flat major. It features a variety of instruments with specific parts. The woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Clarinets, Bassoon, Saxophones) have melodic lines with triplets and dynamic changes. The brass section (Trumpets, Horns, Trombones, Euphonium, Tuba) provides harmonic support and power. The percussion section (Mallets, Timpani, Snare, Bass, Cymbals) adds rhythmic texture and drama. Performance instructions include 'opt. muted solo' for the trumpet and 'Field Drum, optional In the distant' for the snare drum.

On Behalf of a Grateful Nation/Poor/p. 3

9 Reverently  $\text{♩} = 78-82$

17

Fl.  $mp$

Ob.  $mf$   $mp$

B $\flat$  Cl. 1  $mp$   $mf$   $mp$

B $\flat$  Cl. 2  $mp$   $mf$   $mp$

B $\flat$  B. Cl.  $mp$

Bsn.  $mp$

E $\flat$  A. Sax.  $mf$   $mp$

B $\flat$  T. Sax.  $mf$   $mp$

E $\flat$  B. Sax.  $mp$

B $\flat$  Tpt. 1  $p$   $mf$

B $\flat$  Tpt. 2

F Hn.  $mp$

Tbn. 1, 2 Div.  $mp$

Euph.  $mp$

Tba. opt. Div. Tutti opt. Div.  $mp$

Mal. bells  $mf$

Timp.  $mp$

S.D. B.D. Reverently  $\text{♩} = 78-82$   $mf$   $p$

Cr. Cym. triangle  $mp$

Sus. Cym.  $f$   $mp$

Tri.  $mp$

# Sacrifice

With thoughtful reflection  $\text{♩} = 72-76$

18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

Fl. *mf* *f*

Ob. *mf* *f*

B♭ Cl. 1 *mf* *f* *mp*

B♭ Cl. 2 *mf* *f* *mp*

B♭ B. Cl. *mf* *f* *mp*

Bsn. *mf* *f* *mp*

E♭ A. Sax. *mf* *f* *mp*

B♭ T. Sax. *mf* *f* *mp*

E♭ B. Sax. *mf* *f* *mp*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *p* *sfz* *f* *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *sfz* *f* *mf*

F Hn. *mf* *sfz* *f* *mp*

Tbn. 1, 2 *mf* *sfz* *f* *mp*

Euph. *mf* *sfz* *f* *mp*

Tba. *mf* *sfz* *f* *mp*

Mal. Chimes, opt. *mf* *f* *mf* *mp*

Timp. *sfz* *f*

S.D. B.D. *f*

Cr. Cym. *mp*

Sus. Cym. *mp*

Tri. *mp*

On Behalf of a Grateful Nation/Poor/p. 5

27 28 opt. solo/soli **29** 30 31 32 33 34 35 Tutti

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf* *opt. solo/soli* Tutti *mf*

B $\flat$  Cl. 1 *mp* *opt. solo* *mf*

B $\flat$  Cl. 2 *mp*

B $\flat$  B. Cl. *mp*

Bsn. *mp*

E $\flat$  A. Sax. *p* *mp* *opt. muted solo* *mf*

B $\flat$  T. Sax. *p* *mp*

E $\flat$  B. Sax. *p* *mp*

B $\flat$  Tpt. 1 *mp*

B $\flat$  Tpt. 2

F Hn. *p*

Tbn. 1, 2 *p*

Euph. *mp* bsn cues Bari sx cue

Tba. *mp* Bass cl cue

Mal. bells *mf*

Timp. *mp*

S.D. *p*

B.D.

Cr. Cym. *p*

Sus. Cym.

Tri.