

Composer/Publisher Activity During The COVID-19 Pandemic

The composers and publishers of music for use in our school-based ensembles have collectively been working to address the coming need for music literature and educational curricular materials during the COVID-19 impacted era and beyond. The information provided in this document will be updated as additional information becomes available.

Frank Ticheli and Manhattan Beach Music

Frank Ticheli writes: "Anticipating the needs of instrumental music educators in the wake of the pandemic, I have been creating a fairly radical type of adaptable music that will allow a fairly complete musical experience regardless of ensemble size and makeup, from as few four players on up. So far, I've completed Joy, Four Shaker Songs, and a new piece written in homage to composer Terry Riley [language corrected to clarify to some vocal critics], In C Dorian. (A sample page of the latter is attached here.) Directors will be able to find this music at ManhattanBeachMusic.com or FrankTicheli.com after July 1."

Brian Balmages and FJH Music Company

Brian Balmages writes: "I have been reimagining some of my large ensemble music for highly adaptable ensembles. One of those pieces is "Blue Ridge Reel," which is reimagined for ANY FOUR instruments (or more). Yes, all instruments have access to all parts. Further, it includes a very simple piano part for support and chord changes in case you have a guitar player.

Robert W. Smith and RWS Music Company

Robert W. Smith writes: "I have been working on flexible instrumentation versions of several of my larger ensemble works including Encanto and Blue (from Krisanna's Colors). I believe it is important to create viable ensemble works at all grade levels to ensure the ensemble development of our student musicians. I am fortunate to also work with a gifted team of composers who have prepared flexible instrumentation works and solos/small ensembles that will be released through RWS Music Company later this summer. In particular, you may wish to investigate the new *Custom Concert Series*, a flexible-instrumentation catalog of works for the concert band across grade levels. We all look forward to working with our music educators to foster the growth of our student musicians, particularly during this challenged time."

For more information, visit RWSMusic.com.

Hal Leonard Publications

Hal Leonard pioneered a flexible instrumentation series that is rich with content. The Flex-Band catalog is available at the link below:

<https://www.halleonard.com/menu/1501/flex-band?subsiteid=6&dt=item#products>

C.L. Barnhouse Company

The C.L. Barnhouse Company developed a flexible instrumentation series that is rich with content. The Build-A-Band Series catalog is available at the link below:

<https://www.barnhouse.com/products/concert-band/series/concert-band-series-build-a-band/>

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

Larry Clark and Excelcia Music Publications

Larry Clark writes: "Flexible, compatible and adaptable instrumentation music has been a large part of my mission as a composer/arranger for many years now, and these types of works are needed right now more than ever. I've created a special page on my website with information on all of the books and pieces I have done that work in this flexible way." More information on Mr. Clark's music can be found at the following links:

https://www.larryclarkmusic.com/flexible-works-and-books/?fbclid=IwAR3I_hnEsHHEhHJBtfYfzYH-afQyDjmQJt2QJeXZR7LNudc0PpLVdpvP5wk

Excelcia Music Publications has released the Adaptable Ensemble Series. More information is available at the following link:

<https://excelciamusic.com/adaptable-ensemble-series/>

Kendor Music Inc.

Mandy Varga of Kendor writes: "Below are some links to Kendor product that would be beneficial to music educators next year as they adjust to new policies related to COVID. Thank you for including them in your listings through the American Bandmasters Association."

Solo/Ensemble featured catalog including FLEX ENSEMBLES: https://www.kendormusic.com/FlipBook/Kendor_Solo_and_Ensemble_2019/mobile/index.html#p=8

Jazz Ensemble, including flexible instrumentation:

https://www.kendormusic.com/FlipBook/Kendor_Jazz_2020/mobile/index.html

Kendor Complete catalog:

https://www.kendormusic.com/cc6/catalog_items/Kendor_Catalog_2020_Web.pdf

Robert Sheldon

This year, as I prepared for the Alfred Concert Band release of new music, I took two pieces of music that were being released this spring, and created multi level parts that are available on the Total Sheet Music website. Having these multi-level parts would enable bands with less experienced players to have a part those younger musicians could handle, and still make a positive and important contribution to the performance. Additionally, these multi-level parts would work well in a district-wide festival massed band where players of various ages and abilities were all supposed to perform as one large ensemble. If conductors/teachers would like to see these pieces and how they work, please search for these pieces on the promo:

<https://images.alfred.com/cms-assets/promotions/2020-band-jazz-promo.pdf>.

Then go to Total Sheet Music's website and see the easier parts available.

Available Exclusively Online. 1. Go to totalsheetmusic.com 2. Enter the item number below 3. Purchase and print immediately

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

Boston Brass

The Boston Brass writes, “For the first time ever your students now have the opportunity to play chamber music with Boston Brass at home or in the classroom. Turn your band of any size into a musical experience that will give your students the opportunity to express their own musical independence and grow your band’s ears. The Boston Brass Flex Band Arrangements can be performed by any size band, in any size room, for any size audience. Connect with your listeners with pre-written program notes and introductions for your students to present. Best of all, play along with Boston Brass’s coveted custom arrangements, available here for the first time ever!”

For more information, email the Boston Brass at bostonbrass.flex@gmail.com

Creative Repertoire Initiative

The Creative Repertoire Initiative (CRI) is a collective of composers and conductors committed to creating adaptable music for ensembles in the coming academic year and beyond, due to the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

While CRI is not a clearinghouse, distributor, or publisher, we hope that the resources found on this page and on our [Facebook group](#) can be of use to other composers who wish to contribute to this much-needed and growing body of repertoire.

We are actively engaged in creating adaptable music that will meet the needs of music students of all ability levels.

Join the [Facebook group](#) and visit CRI at www.creativerepertoire.com.

Composers/Conductors include:

[Robert Ambrose](#)

[John Mackey](#)

[Brian Balmages](#)

[Pete Meechan](#)[Steven Bryant](#)

[Alex Shapiro](#)[Michael Daugherty](#)

[Frank Ticheli](#)[Julie Giroux](#)

[Omar Thomas](#)

[Jennifer Jolley](#)

[Eric Whitacre](#)

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

Bravo Music Inc./Brain Company Ltd

Mark Humphreys, Director of Bravo Music Inc./Brain Company Ltd. writes, "If you haven't seen our narrative, parts of Japan have been experiencing a severe population decline, with a number of schools and clubs operating at half or less than previous size. Resulting, we have been rescoring (reducing) larger works, and greatly enhancing flexible options for regular performance. Interestingly, the uncertainty surrounding the disease has put the rest of the band world where Japan has been for some time. Thank you for your excellent presentation, and we hope we can help the cause."

Bravo Music <https://bravomusicinc.com/> has for several years been developing adaptable scores for small groups, with more than 100 concert-quality titles for Flexible Band, grade 2-5 and 50 works for Chamber Ensembles grade 2-6. Also, the new Dual Grade series allows for beginners to perform with more advanced students. Please examine individual entries for listening samples and instrumentation options.

Jim Stephenson Music

Jim Stephenson Music writes, "In an effort to meet the needs of bands seeking flexible music for these uncertain times, Jim has created the following Adaptable (Flex) Band scores. He has created multi-level works for those middle-school, high-school, and university bands looking for music at the appropriate level. Furthermore, he has created what he calls "Flexkets" – chamber music that can be played by small groups of any instrument combination, or by an entire band. Please see a current list of new works at the link below."

<https://composerjim.com/new-adaptable-flex-band-music/>

C. Alan Publications

C. Alan Publications presents the Compact Band Series. Playable by as few as four players provided each of the four parts is covered, each 'choir' within the band - woodwinds, saxophones, Bb clarinets and brass - is complete so you may use contrasting choirs for different sections for variety. For more information, visit C. Alan Publications at the link below.

<http://c-alanpublications.com/band/g-m-brand-catalog/compact-band/>

Dealer Resources

Visit your local music dealer online to access flexible instrumentation publications for all publishers. In addition, please examine solos, duets, trios, quartets and other small ensembles for additional musical and educational opportunities for your students.

PLEASE NOTE: This living document will be updated as resources are shared. Composers/Publishers: Please email rsmith@troy.edu if you would like to share updates on your catalog as it relates to the COVID-19 impacted academic year.