

Invitational Band Members 2024,

Please look over these performance notes before you arrive, as they will help you know what I am doing that may not be printed on the page. Feel free to ask any questions about anything.

Our theme “WIND” is Part 2 of our summer series highlighting the elements: June 23 “Earth” – July 28 “WIND” – August 25 “Fire & Water.” I’m excited to see you all at our upcoming event!

Cheryl Woldseth, conductor

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Here are a few things you should know:

- I expect you to know your parts before you arrive. The Sunday morning rehearsal is just for touch-ups.
- If you know your music, you’ll have a better experience, and you’ll be able to watch the director. I tend to do things when musicians are watching. And if you’re not watching, your stand mates will know too. Use the [Listening Links](http://nccb.org/ncinvitational.htm) on the July Invitational Band website <http://nccb.org/ncinvitational.htm>.
- If you cannot play something well, sit out for that song or section of a song. There is no shame in this, and your fellow musicians will praise you for your choice.
- If you need a lip break, talk among your section so you can trade off who’s playing when.
- Do not play cues unless I specifically say to do so. We have enough musicians to cover everything.
- We use a script and announcer, adding about 3 minutes between pieces filled with stories, history, and banter.
- I like to engage the audience in our concerts, especially between numbers. You’ll see!
- The concert has a 15-minute intermission.
- Dress comfortably for rehearsal, and then wear your hometown band shirt for the concert. Shorts and sandals are appropriate on hot days, even at the concert.
- We have a lot of fun during our concerts. **If you have an appropriate hat or prop for a specific song, bring it!** Feel free to surprise me, as long as it doesn’t interfere with the music or the musicians.
- Your lunch is included, with sub sandwiches, fruit, and desserts, and plenty of vegetarian choices. You then have a few hours off to relax, sightsee, or swim in the park’s community pool (with showers). As you arrive, there should be coffee/pastries for a donation/fee. We’ll also take a mid-rehearsal break for refreshments.
- There will be a hot dog vendor and ice cream vendor from about 4pm -7pm at the concert location. Yum!

Remember to bring:

- Instrument
- Music
- Music stand
- Electronic tuners
- Sturdy folding chair (not canvas ones please)
- Chairs provided for large instruments *upon request*
- Hat and sunglasses for morning rehearsal
- Water bottle – we will NOT be providing one-use water bottles this year, instead opting for a **refilling station**

Please note that we meet outside, both for rehearsal and the concert.

**There are no extra chairs or music stands**, unless you bring them yourselves!

EXTRAS: Please help me brainstorm on how to use streamers, pinwheels, balloons, kites, bubbles, sails, and so forth. If it makes noise, I don’t want to use it (so no motorized fan stuff). Somehow, I want to show WIND even though the park location in July will have absolutely no breeze whatsoever. Do you have a creative Band Hand who would like to run a craft table so kids can make pinwheels? Suggest something and send me an email at [nccband@yahoo.com](mailto:nccband@yahoo.com). Also see below for stuff for “Colors of the WIND,” “Moana,” and “Olympics.”

## PERFORMANCE NOTES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

### STAR SPANGLED BANNER

We are using an 1861 military arrangement, so keep the tempo steady and quick.

- TEMPO quarter = 112.
- We start off with an unprinted drum roll, before the first note.
- There is no romantic moment after Letter C, so do NOT let it slow down.
- Upon the repeat at Letter C, we will then change the tempo to = 92, again with no tempo variance.

### CLARINET ESCAPEDE

NCCBand performed this piece at our June concert with a soloist, and I've updated the [Listening Link](#) to be that performance. Our July band asks all willing clarinet players to perform it together as a soli. For those who do not wish to be in the soli, feel free to play the non-solo standard Clarinet 2 & 3 parts. Otherwise, the Clarinet 1 part is the soli part, and it will be our woodWIND feature.

- TEMPO half = 132.
- ALL = Keep the tempo going at an energetic pace – no slowing ever.
- ALL = Watch the video, and pay attention to when to play softer than the soli, especially at Rehearsal G.

### CLOUDS

Here's a treasure I found while digging through the dusty boxes in our music library (although this piece needed some TLC from me as editor). There is no recording available of this, so the [Listening Link](#) is a MIDI that I created. However, this slow fox trot is a well-covered jazz standard, especially by guitar ensembles in the style of Django Reinhardt. The lyrics tell about watching clouds drifting through the night while pining for an unrequited love.

- TEMPO half = 60 and yes do swing the eighth notes.
- Flutes/Piccolos = based on our registration, this instrument group will overwhelm on this song. Save your power for another time, and take it gently please.
- Flute, piccolo, clarinetE123, SaxA1, SaxT = look over mm.83-98 and all similar places which are scale-like but not exact scales. You are not the melody, so relax and play quietly.
- Trombone123, BariHorn = mm.82-98 you have the melody, so play confidently while still *mf*.

### COLORS OF THE WIND

This is a simple arrangement, so watch out because I'm going to flex the tempo and exaggerate the dynamics. We can make this into an emotional and beautiful piece if we work together.

- TEMPO: quarter = 92
- EXTRAS = I'd like to add some "color" to this song. See the first page for possibilities, and help me think up a way to show WIND without blowing us all away with motorized noises.

### EARTH, WIND, & FIRE IN CONCERT

The NCCBand has recently performed this medley, so I know where all the problem spots are. Let's tackle them by email before arriving for our first rehearsal.

- DYNAMICS = follow these, and save the loud sections when actually marked forte. All crescendos start less than you think so there is room to grow. Exaggerate!
- Alto Sax = the solo at mm. 49-66 is up for grabs, although I have a very capable NCCBand player if needed. [Ask if you want to play this.](#)
- Tenor Sax = although not listed as a solo, I have had a very capable NCCBand player perform mm.57-65 as an improvisational solo, responding conversationally to the SaxA1 solo in the same section. The HornF part covers the counter-melody there nicely, leaving the SaxT player free to roam. That NCCBand SaxT player will not be at this concert, so [ask if you want to play this](#) – or it will revert to the section as written.
- TIME SIGNATURE CHANGE: I will be directing "Fantasy" starting at m.83 in Cut Time.

EXTRA PART: this medley has a rhythm guitar part. [Ask and I'll send you the PDF music.](#)

## GREASE!

Here's another one NCCBand has performed recently, and I just changed the [Listening Link](#) to our 2017 "Big Hair" performance (I hope you enjoy it). Follow along with the video, and you'll hear what I will be seeking.

- NO BREATH = continue the fermata into the next measure at these places: mm.5-6, 36-37, and 144-145.
- Tenor Sax, Trombone12, BariHorn = growl m.70 beat 3, slide m.74 beats 2-3-4, and fall m.78 beat 3.
- Drum set = free ad lib. solo mm.191-194. If you want more, we could add something – let's talk.

## MOANA

If you haven't seen the film "Moana" yet, you need to do so to understand the rhythms and inflections of this medley's songs. I cannot stress how important it is to have this context! Have a movie night, and invite your musical friends and family to watch it with you (this is your excuse to do "homework" or "research"). Besides, "Moana 2" will be released in November.

Does anyone have "Moana" items to contribute to the concert theme's fun antics, like perhaps a crazy chicken, a blow-able seashell, some leis, Moana's staff, or such? Please let me know.

- Percussion = we are adding an ocean drum (which we own) during the quiet moments. If you have other suggestions, please let me know.
- TEMPO quarter = 112 at m.1
- TIME CHANGE = m.32 is now in Cut Time, with TEMPO half = 86
- Alto Sax = there's a solo at mm.36-51. Any takers? As always, I have a capable NCCBand member as backup, but the solo is available if you request it.
- TIME CHANGE = m.95 is now in 4/4 Time (percussion is 12/8 Time), with TEMPO = 124 swing beat
- TEMPO quarter = 102 at m.127

## OLYMPICS: A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Have any of you ever competed professionally (sports, spelling, hot-dog eating, whatever)? Have you ever been a competitor at the Olympics? I am looking for a good story here, and you need not have won. Actually, it's better that way because it tells a better story. Please let me know. The 2024 Summer Olympics will have started only days before our concert, and many of those athletes can "fly like the WIND."

Use the [Listening Link](#) for this exact arrangement. Tempos jump suddenly without a transition, so be prepared! **This is a tough arrangement, so please work on it.**

- TEMPO quarter = 100 "Bugler's Dream." Watch for the timing on the sixteenth note pickups.
- TEMPO quarter = 88 "Olympic Fanfare and Theme."
- TEMPO quarter = 120 (not too fast) "Olympic Spirit." If you have staccato dots between measures 66-89, use them diligently.
- TEMPO quarter = 76 "Summon the Heroes."
- TEMPO m.121 is fast 4 quarter = 152 (exactly twice as fast). This transition is tricky if you're not ready, because the timing and the notes both go fast without warning.
- TEMPO m.140 returns the timing to the originally slow quarter = 76 (exactly twice as slow). There is a big crescendo leading into m.153, where the tempo increases to a relaxed quarter = 88. Practice this section carefully, until you are confident of your rhythms.
- TEMPO m. 173 is fast quarter = 152. What was previously a sixteenth note now appears as an eighth note, which means that eighth notes are now fast.

## OVERTURE FOR WINDS

This is standard band repertoire. Many players have told me that the fingerings remain in their muscle memory, even after many years. WIND is our theme, and this original composition is for WIND band, after all.

- TEMPO quarter = 144 at Allegro con moto (m.1) and at Tempo I (Rehearsal E)
- TEMPO quarter = 88 at Andante (before Rehearsal C)
- ALL = take care to obey all the slowdowns (*rall.* and *rit.*).
- DYNAMICS = exaggerate! Somewhat soft or sort of loud is not acceptable. Make it obvious which is which.

## THE RATTLIN' BOG

This is a favorite vocal/ukulele song in my general music Grade 4 & 5 school classes (yes, I teach Grades 4-8 music). However, it is also a popular Irish drinking song, so it is in both the “children’s songs” and the “bar songs” categories. Try the version by the [Irish Descendants on YouTube](#) for some fun.

- ALL = be careful when counting rests. Because this song adds something new at every verse, the length of each verse varies widely. Don’t get caught – count your rests!

## SKYROCKETS

Here’s another musty-dusty from our band library that needed some TLC (I cleaned it up – it’s amazing how many old song originals have mistakes that are easily caught now when put into music notation software). Anyway, the composer subtitled “Skyrockets” a descriptive march because it has upward scaled launches, percussive booms, followed by downward sound streamers.

- TEMPOS = dotted quarter = 112.
- ROCKET #1 = m.84-88 up, m.88 boom, m.88-91 down
- ROCKET #2 = m.92-96 up, m.96 boom, m.96-97 down
- ROCKET #3 = m.98 boom, m.98-99 down
- ROCKET #4 = m.100 boom, m.100-103 down
- ROCKET #5 = m.80 boom, m.80-82 down
- Percussion = “pistol” is the marking for the boom – find something to make a loud crack/boom that isn’t a pistol.

## SPACE AND BEYOND

At every concert now for a while, I've been including one John Williams' composition. Last year we did "Jurassic Park," and this year I'm doing several including "Star Wars" (which in this medley). Williams is a treasure, and some day we're going to be asked to play a tribute piece when he passes. However at age 92, he's still going strong!

According to several science-based Internet sources, there is neither air nor water in the vacuum of space. However, there is WIND – solar WIND – that is not air at all but a stream of energy and plasma from the sun. So yes, this medley of tunes does indeed fit into our theme.

- TEMPO quarter = 72 at m.1 – and wait for the timpani to complete its 4 beats of triplets. Many musicians told me that they didn't realize that the timpani were doing triplets. Now you know.
- BREATH = end of m.17 all blowing instruments take a breath together – all percussion play through.
- TEMPO quarter = 108 at m.18 Stately March.
- ADD COMPLETE SILENCE = end of m.44, cut off the fermata and add a caesura. There will be complete silence before m.45 for a moment.
- TEMPO quarter = 142 at m.45 "Mars."
- TEMPO quarter = 72 at m.77 Half-time – and play only the notes (not the rests). Do not be a soloist here.
- TEMPO quarter = 104 at m.86 Stately March
- TEMPO quarter = 92 at m.107 A little slower
- TEMPO quarter = 120 at m.114 Heroic March
- TEMPO quarter = 76 at m.145 Slowly
- Flute, Oboe, Clarinet123, SaxA12 = honor the breath mark at the end of m.146.
- TEMPO quarter = 88 at m.149 Maestoso

## WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD

Earth, WIND, fire, and water are the elements that make up this wonderful world, and this song reminds us to care of our planet because it is a true treasure in the cosmos.

- TEMPO dotted quarter = 80
- Flutes = tune carefully your F and high D before starting this piece. Flutes introduce the melody in unison. Also, separate the repeated F and D pitches to distinguish the rhythm.
- Alto Sax = here is yet another solo opportunity. The part is embedded in the Alto Sax 1 part, but should only be performed by one player. Others play only when it says "section." I have a ready-to-play NCCBand alto sax soloist, but it is also up for grabs if you ask.

## STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER

This will be our encore. This year, we WILL practice this piece (so be ready!).

- Piccolo = stop playing 6-8 measures early, and CREATE A LINE OUT FRONT to play the final Grandioso piccolo solo part during the first time through, then go back to seats for the song's remainder.
- Trombones = on the second time, you have the limelight during the final Grandioso verse. Stop playing at least 4 measures early, raise your music (or better yet, have it memorized), and STAND UP to play from here to the end.