



# NEED SOME HELP . . .

## SIMPLIFIED FORMULA FOR SELECTING CONCERT BAND REPERTOIRE

### A NOTE FROM THE CONDUCTOR:

I CAN'T EVEN COUNT HOW MANY TIMES I HAVE BEEN ASKED OVER THE YEARS TO CLARIFY MY PROCESS FOR SELECTING REPERTOIRE FOR ANY ENSEMBLE I CONDUCT. FIRST OF ALL, LET ME ASSURE YOU, THE PROCESS IS MUCH MORE INVOLVED THAN SELECTING A NUMBER OF PIECES 'I WANT TO PLAY'. IT USUALLY TAKES MONTHS OF PLANNING TO ASSEMBLE A COLLECTION OF WORKS THAT I FEEL BOTH COMPLEMENT EACH OTHER AND WHICH MEET THE NECESSARY CRITERIA FOR ANY PARTICULAR SEASON.

THE ISSUE, I SUPPOSE, HAS BEEN THAT THE PROCESS ISN'T TRANSPARENT. SO I AM GOING TO TRY AND GIVE YOU A BETTER IDEA OF HOW THESE DECISIONS ARE MADE. LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS.

CHRIS WARD

### THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND WHEN SELECTING REPERTOIRE . . .

- LIMIT OF SELECTIONS IN FOLDER — 8 MAX... 5-6 PREFERRED (MASS BAND SELECTIONS ARE AN EXCEPTION TO THIS COUNT)
- HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE THE ENSEMBLE TO PREPARE A SELECTION FOR PERFORMANCE? (4 OR 8 MONTHS)
- IS THERE A HEALTHY MIXTURE OF UPBEAT AND LYRICAL WORKS?
- DOES THE INSTRUMENTATION FIT WITH OUR ENSEMBLE? (DOES IT REQUIRE INSTRUMENTS WE DON'T HAVE, OR HAVE ENOUGH OF?)
- DOES THE PIECE HIGHLIGHT OUR STRONGER OR OUR WEAKER SECTIONS IN THE BAND? (DOES IT REQUIRE A SOLOIST?)
- IS THERE SOMETHING TO CHALLENGE THE GROUP, AS WELL AS SOME EASIER/ENJOYABLE WORKS?
- WILL THE BAND FIND SUCCESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENT IN LEARNING THIS PIECE?

### CATEGORIES CONCERT SELECTIONS MUSIC MUST FIT

STANDARD CONCERT BAND LITERATURE	CONCERT MARCHES	FESTIVAL TEST PIECES	ROCK, JAZZ, BLUES SELECTIONS	SEASONAL/ CHRISTMAS SELECTION	MASS BAND WORKS
REMEMBER THERE CAN BE A MAX. OF 8 PIECES SPREAD OVER THESE 4-5 CATEGORIES AND THEY MUST FIT ALL THE CRITERIA LISTED ABOVE.					USUALLY 1-2 PIECES
USUALLY 1-2 SELECTIONS	USUALLY ONLY 1 SELECTION	USUALLY 1-2 SELECTIONS	USUALLY 1-2 SELECTIONS	USUALLY ONLY 1 SELECTION	THESE ARE NOT PART OF YOUR COUNT
EXAMPLES FROM THE MANY TITLES CHOSEN FOR OUR 2012-2013 SEASON -- NOTICE THAT A NUMBER OF THE SELECTIONS CAN BE LISTED UNDER MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY. --					
INTERMEDIATE BAND	INTERMEDIATE BAND	INTERMEDIATE BAND	INTERMEDIATE BAND	INTERMEDIATE BAND	INT. & ADV. BAND
DECEMBER SKY ANCIENT VOICES LAND OF THE SILVER BIRCH	ADVANCE GUARD	ANCIENT VOICES LAND OF THE SILVER BIRCH	MOONDANCE THEME FROM MASH WIPE OUT MERCY, MERCY, MERCY		ALLEGRETTO FROM SYMPHONY No.7  RUSSIAN SAILOR'S DANCE
ADVANCED BAND	ADVANCED BAND	ADVANCED BAND	ADVANCED BAND	ADVANCED BAND	VARIOUS PIECES FROM DAVID NEWELL'S CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS
GREAT LOCOMOTIVE CHASE CREED NEWFOUNDLAND FOLK SONG CRIMEBUSTERS	MIGHTY MITE MARCH	CREED NEWFOUNDLAND FOLK SONG	25 OR 6 TO 4 BROWN EYED GIRL PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ CRIMEBUSTERS	CAROL OF THE BELLS	