

Northern Lights

For Concert Band, Grade 3

By Matt Neufeld

Instrumentation

- 1 - Full Score
- 2 - Piccolo
- 3 - Flute 1
- 3 - Flute 2
- 2 - Oboe
- 2 - Bassoon
- 3 - Bb Clarinet 1
- 3 - Bb Clarinet 2
- 3 - Bb Clarinet 3
- 2 - Bb Bass Clarinet
- 4 - Eb Alto Saxophone
- 2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone
- 2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone
- 4 - Bb Trumpet 1
- 4 - Bb Trumpet 2
- 4 - F Horn 1
- 3 - Trombone 1
- 3 - Trombone 2
- 4 - Euphonium B.C.
- 2 - Euphonium T.C.
- 4 - Tuba
- 2 - Bells
- 2 - Xylophone/Vibraphone
- 2 - Chimes
- 2 - Timpani
- 2 - Percussion 1: Snare Drum/Hi-Hat/Bass Drum
- 2 - Percussion 2: Ride Cymbal/Tam-Tam/Sleigh Bells/Tambourine
- 2 - Percussion 3: Toms/Crash Cymbal

Full Set - \$75.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



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Program Notes

One of the best parts about living on the Canadian Prairies is the sky. The vast expanse of blue in the day, and the tapestry of stars at night is an essential part of the Prairie identity - only people from the Prairies really understand what this open sky means to them.

A spectacular part of this sky is the appearance of the Aurora Borealis, also known as the Northern Lights, in the nighttime sky. These dancing, twisting, shimmering, mischievous tendrils of light appear seemingly at random, but captivate all who see them, spellbound for a few precious minutes until the Northern Lights fade into oblivion.

"Northern Lights" depicts the shifting, shimmering aura of the Aurora Borealis, and evokes images of wildlife frolicking under the Northern Lights at nighttime. As I wrote this piece, I envisioned a pack of wolves running under the Arctic night sky, swiftly speeding over the frozen tundra, stars, and the Northern Lights dancing in the sky above.

This piece was commissioned by the Henry G. Izatt Middle School Band and Band Parents' Association, under the direction of my good friend Dave Pelletier, who I am eternally grateful for supporting my music through the years!



About the Composer

A graduate of the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada, Matt Neufeld (b. 1985) does his best to compose, teach, and perform music for as many people as he can convince or coerce.

Matt spends most of his days working with middle and high school band students at Ecole Van Wallegghem and Oak Park High School in Winnipeg.

In his spare time, Matt enjoys competitive board gaming, playing his wife's favorite songs on the piano in ways that does NOT endear him to her, and having his three children try to beat him at Mario Kart.

Commissioned by the Henry G. Izatt Middle School Band and
HGI Band Parents' Association, Winnipeg, Manitoba - David Pelletier, Director.

FULL SCORE
GRADE 3
DURATION 3:25

Northern Lights

MATT NEUFELD
(SOCAN)

Allegro ♩ = 152

The score is for a 3/4 time piece in B-flat major. It features a variety of instruments. The woodwinds (Piccolo, Flute 1 & 2, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinets 1-3, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone) and brass (Trumpets 1 & 2, Horn, Trombones 1 & 2, Euphonium, Tuba) are mostly silent in this section. The Tenor Saxophone, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, and Euphonium play a melodic line starting at measure 3, marked *mp*. The Xylophone/Vibraphone plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes starting at measure 1, marked *mf*. The Chimes are silent. The Timpani play a single note at measure 6, marked *mp*. Percussion 1 (Snare/Bass Drum) plays a short pattern at measure 6, marked *mp*. Percussion 2 (Ride Cymbal/Tam-Tam/Sleigh Bells/Tambourine) and Percussion 3 (Toms/Crash Cymbal) are silent.

Hard mallets If possible, use two players on xylophone and vibraphone. If only one player, use vibraphone.

Tune G, A, B \flat , E \flat

solo - medium mallets

S.D.

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Northern Lights

15

The musical score for Northern Lights, page 3, covers measures 13 through 17. The instrumentation includes Piccolo, Flutes 1 and 2, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinets 1, 2, and 3, Bass Clarinet, Saxophones (Alto, Tenor, Baritone), Trumpets 1 and 2, Horns, Trombones 1 and 2, Euphonium, Tuba, Bells, Xylophone/Vibraphone, Chimes, and three Percussion parts. The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The woodwinds and strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The saxophones and horns enter in measure 15 with a *mp* dynamic. The percussion parts feature a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

19

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Euph.

Tuba

Bs.

Xyl./ Vib.

Chm.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

mp

fp

f

mp

Ride cymbal - with stick

Picc. *f*
 Fl. 1 *f*
 Fl. 2 *f*
 Ob. *f*
 Bsn. *f* *mf* Solo (opt.)
 B. Cl. 1 *f* *mf*
 B. Cl. 2 *f* *mp*
 B. Cl. 3 *f* *mp*
 B. Cl. *f* *mf*
 A. Sx. *f* *mp* div.
 T. Sx. *f* *mf*
 B. Sx. *f* *mf*
 B. Tpt. 1 *f* To cup mute
 B. Tpt. 2 *f* To cup mute
 Hn. *f* Div. *mp*
 Tbn. 1 *f* *mf*
 Tbn. 2 *f* *mf*
 Euph. *f* *mf*
 Tuba *f* *mf*
 Bls. *f*
 Mrb. *f*
 Chm. *f*
 Timp. *f* *p* solo *mf*
 Perc. 1 *f* SD to brushes *mf*
 Perc. 2 *f* To tambourine *mf*
 Perc. 3 *f*

40

Picc. *mp*

Fl. 1 *mp*

Fl. 2 *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Bsn. *All mp*

B. Cl. 1 *mp*

B. Cl. 2 *mp*

B. Cl. 3 *mp*

B. Cl. *mp tutti*

A. Sx. *mp Play*

T. Sx. *mp* Tbn. cues

B. Sx. *mp*

B. Tpt. 1

B. Tpt. 2

Hn. *tutti mp*

Tbn. 1 *mp*

Tbn. 2 *mp*

Euph. *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Bells

Mrb.

Chm.

Timp.

Perc. 1 *pp* Brushes

Perc. 2

Perc. 3 *pp*

40 41 42 43 44 45

48

46 47 48 49 50 51

54

52 53 54 55 56 57

62 Andante ♩ = 66, freely Rit. -----

Picc. *fp* *f* *ff*
 Fl. 1 *fp* *f* *ff*
 Fl. 2 *fp* *f* *ff*
 Ob. *fp* *f* *ff*
 Bsn. *fp* *f* *ff*
 B. Cl. 1 *fp* *f* *ff*
 B. Cl. 2 *fp* *f* *ff*
 B. Cl. 3 *fp* *f* *ff*
 B. Cl. *fp* *f* *ff*
 A. Sx. *fp* *f* *ff* div.
 T. Sx. *fp* *f* *ff*
 B. Sx. *fp* *f* *ff*
 B. Tpt. 1 *fp* *f* *ff*
 B. Tpt. 2 *fp* *f* *ff*
 Hn. *fp* *f* *ff*
 Tbn. 1 *fp* *f* *ff*
 Tbn. 2 *fp* *f* *ff*
 Euph. *fp* *f* *ff*
 Tuba *fp* *f* *ff*
 Bln. *f* *ff*
 Xyl./Vib. *f* *ff*
 Chm. *f* *ff*
 Timp. *f* *ff* solo
 Perc. 1 *fp* *ff* To sticks
 Perc. 2 *fp* *ff* To sleigh bells
 Perc. 3 *ff* To crash cymbal (mounted)

65 Allegro ♩ = 152

Picc. *p*
 Fl. 1 *p*
 Fl. 2 *p*
 Ob. *p*
 Bsn. *mf*
 B. Cl. 1 *p*
 B. Cl. 2 *p*
 B. Cl. 3 *p*
 B. Cl. *mf*
 A. Sx. *p*
 T. Sx. *p*
 B. Sx. *mf*
 B. Tpf. 1
 B. Tpf. 2
 Hn.
 Tbn. 1 *p*
 Tbn. 2 *p*
 Euph. *mf*
 Tuba *mf*
 Bls. *mf*
 Xyl./Vib. *mf*
 Chm.
 Timp. *mf*
 Perc. 1 *p*
 Perc. 2 *mp*
 Perc. 3 *mf*

Sticks
 R. Cym.
 S.B.

Northern Lights

74

71 72 73 74 75 76

Picc.
 Fl. 1
 Fl. 2
 Ob.
 Bsn.
 B. Cl. 1
 B. Cl. 2
 B. Cl. 3
 B. Cl.
 A. Sx.
 T. Sx.
 B. Sx.
 B. Tpt. 1
 B. Tpt. 2
 Hn.
 Tbn. 1
 Tbn. 2
 Euph.
 Tuba
 Bls.
 Xyl./Vib.
 Chm.
 Timp.
 Perc. 1
 Perc. 2
 Perc. 3

Dynamics: *p*, *f*, *ff*
 Performance instructions: *solo*, *Tam-tam*, *To tamb.*

Measures: 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82

86 Stagger breathe with the flutes

83 84 85 86 87 88

Picc. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Fl. 1 *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Fl. 2 *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Ob. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Bsn. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

B. Cl. 1 *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

B. Cl. 2 *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

B. Cl. 3 *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

B. Cl. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

A. Sx. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

T. Sx. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

B. Sx. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

B. Tpt. 1 *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

B. Tpt. 2 *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Hn. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Tbn. 1 *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Tbn. 2 *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Euph. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Tuba *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Bls. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Xyl./ Vib. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Chm. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Timp. *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Perc. 1 *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Perc. 2 *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

Perc. 3 *fp* *fp* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp* *f*

89 90 91 92 93 94

To Toms Toms

95

95 96 97 98 99 100

Northern Lights

Picc. *mf* *f* *ff*

Fl. 1 *mf* *f* *ff*

Fl. 2 *mf* *f* *ff*

Ob. *mf* *f* *ff*

Bsn. *mf* *f* *fp* *ff*

B. Cl. 1 *mf* *f* *ff*

B. Cl. 2 *mf* *f* *ff*

B. Cl. 3 *mf* *f* *ff*

B. Cl. *mf* *f* *fp* *ff*

A. Sx. *mf* *f* *ff*

T. Sx. *mf* *f* *ff*

B. Sx. *mf* *f* *fp* *ff*

B. Tpt. 1 *mf* *f* *ff*

B. Tpt. 2 *mf* *f* *ff*

Hn. *mf* *f* *ff*

Tbn. 1 *mf* *f* *fp* *ff*

Tbn. 2 *mf* *f* *fp* *ff*

Euph. *mf* *f* *fp* *ff*

Tuba *mf* *f* *fp* *ff*

Bls. *mf* *f* *ff*

Xyl./ Vib. *mf* *f* *p* *ff*

Chm. *mf* *f* *ff*

Timp. *mf* *f* *(dampen)* *fp* *ff*

Perc. 1 *mf* *f* *ff*

Perc. 2 *mf* *f* *p* *ff*

Perc. 3 *mf* *f* *ff*

101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108