

Blue Sky Horizon

For String Orchestra, Grade 3
by Randall D. Standridge (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
8 - Violin 1
8 - Violin 2
3 - Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)
5 - Viola
5 - Cello
5 - Bass*
1 - Piano

Note from the Editor:

In this energetic grade 3 piece shifting occurs primarily in the First Violin, Cello and Bass. Fingerings written in parenthesis are for the upper divisi part only. The piano is an integral part of the work.

*A Cello 2 part that doubles the Bass is available as a free download at randallstandridge.com.

- Katie O'Hara LaBrie

Full Set - \$65.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



Randall Standridge Music, LLC - 26 County Road 472 - Jonesboro, AR 72404 - 870-926-3479
www.randallstandridge.com - randallstandridge@yahoo.com

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Program Notes:

I live with cyclical depression.

What does that mean? It's a lot like clouds.

Some days the sky is a little cloudy. Some days it is scattered and changes rapidly. And some days (or weeks...or months) there are thunderstorms.

But, some days, I wake up and the sky is completely clear. I feel energized, I feel joyful, I feel ready to take on the entire world! I know it won't last. And that's okay.

Blue Sky Horizon was written on one of my "good days" when the sun was out and I felt truly happy and at peace. The work uses catchy rhythms and a pops inspired style to create a feeling of unbridled joy.

Not every day will be a great day...but we should make the most of the ones that are.

Peace, Love, and Music.

- Randall Standridge

About the unBroken Project:

The unBroken Project began with the composition of my work for concert band, *unBroken*. The work was my first to deal with mental health struggles and, inspired by its reception, I have created a series of works for performers, conductors, and audiences to use as conversational starting points for these issues. There are currently two works in the unbroken project for string orchestra – *Fragile* and *Blue Sky Horizon*.



About the Composer

Randall Standridge (b.1976) received his Bachelor's of Music Education from Arkansas State University. During this time, he studied composition with Dr. Tom O'Connor, before returning to Arkansas State University to earn his Master's in Music Composition, studying with Dr. Tom O'Connor and Dr. Tim Crist. In 2001, he began his tenure as Director of Bands at Harrisburg High School in Harrisburg, Arkansas. He left this post in 2013 to pursue a career as a full-time composer and marching arts designer.

Mr. Standridge's music is performed internationally. He has had numerous works selected for the J.W. Pepper's editor's choice. His compositions *Snake Charmer*, *Gently Blows the Summer Wind*, and *Angelic Celebrations* have been included in the "Teaching Music Through Performance in Band" series. He has had numerous works performed at the prestigious Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Illinois. The Arkansas State University Wind Ensemble premiered his work *Art(isms)* at the 2010 CBDNA conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and his work *Stonewall: 1969* was premiered at the National LGBA conference in 2019. His *Symphony no.1: A Ghost Story* was premiered in 2023. In addition, Mr. Standridge's "unBroken Project," a musical initiative about mental health, has received widespread acclaim for its musical content and for providing

opportunities to normalize discussions about mental health for music students and audiences.

In addition to his career as a composer, Mr. Standridge is the owner and editor of Randall Standridge Music, LLC and Grand Mesa Marching. He is in demand as an arranger/designer for the marching arts. He lives in Jonesboro, Arkansas, with his husband, Steven, and their very, very spoiled pets.

Find out more about Mr. Standridge by following him on social media, or at randallstandridge.com

Blue Sky Horizon

for String Orchestra and Piano

part of the unBroken Project, a musical initiative about mental health

Randall Standridge
(ASCAP)

Score
Grade 3
Duration 3:00

Joyous! ♩ = 154

The musical score is for a string orchestra and piano. It is in 4/4 time and has a tempo of 154 beats per minute. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into two systems. The first system includes Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, and Piano. The second system includes Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, and Piano. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *f* (forte). There are also performance instructions like *Joyous!* and a tempo marking of ♩ = 154. The score is marked with measures 1 through 8. A large watermark 'Randall Standridge Music' is visible across the score.

10

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.
Pno.

10 11 12 13 14

This block contains the musical score for measures 10 through 14. It features five staves for strings (Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass) and a grand piano (Pno.) staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamic markings. A box with the number '10' is located at the top left of the first staff. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading 'Randall Standridge Music' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

18

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.
Pno.

15 16 17 18 19

fp
mf
fp
fp
fp
mf
fp

This block contains the musical score for measures 15 through 19. It features the same five string staves and grand piano staff as the previous block. The key signature remains one sharp (F#). The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamic markings. A box with the number '18' is located at the top left of the first staff. Dynamic markings *fp* and *mf* are present. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading 'Randall Standridge Music' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

22

Musical score for measures 20-23. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Piano (Pno.).

- Vln. 1:** Starts with a rest, then plays a half note G4 in measure 20, followed by rests in measures 21-23.
- Vln. 2:** Plays a continuous eighth-note pattern starting in measure 20.
- Vla.:** Starts with a rest, then plays a half note G3 in measure 21, followed by a quarter note G3 in measure 22, and a quarter note G3 in measure 23.
- Vc.:** Starts with a rest, then plays a half note G3 in measure 21, followed by a quarter note G3 in measure 22, and a quarter note G3 in measure 23.
- D.B.:** Starts with a rest, then plays a half note G3 in measure 20, followed by rests in measures 21-23.
- Pno.:** Plays a continuous eighth-note pattern starting in measure 20. Measure 22 has a first ending bracket (1-7) over measures 22-23. Measure 23 has a second ending bracket (2) over measure 23.

Measures 20, 21, 22, and 23 are labeled at the bottom of the system.

Musical score for measures 24-28. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Piano (Pno.).

- Vln. 1:** Rests in all measures.
- Vln. 2:** Plays a continuous eighth-note pattern starting in measure 24.
- Vla.:** Plays a half note G3 in measure 24, followed by a quarter note G3 in measure 25, and a quarter note G3 in measure 26. Measure 27 has a quarter note G3, and measure 28 has a quarter note G3.
- Vc.:** Plays a half note G3 in measure 24, followed by a quarter note G3 in measure 25, and a quarter note G3 in measure 26. Measure 27 has a quarter note G3, and measure 28 has a quarter note G3.
- D.B.:** Rests in all measures.
- Pno.:** Rests in all measures.

Measures 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28 are labeled at the bottom of the system.

30

Musical score for measures 30-32. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Piano (Pno.). Measure 30 features dynamic markings of *mf* and *f*, and a 'div.' instruction for the cello. Measure 31 has a '4' marking above the violin parts. Measure 32 continues the musical progression. A large watermark 'Mandall Standridge Music' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Musical score for measures 33-37. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Piano (Pno.). Measures 33-36 show a continuation of the musical themes, with various dynamics and articulations. Measure 37 concludes the section with a final chord. A large watermark 'Mandall Standridge Music' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

38

Violin 1 (Vln. 1) starts with a rest, then plays a half note G4 with a breath mark (V) and a dynamic marking of *mp*. It has a four-measure slur over measures 40-41. Violin 2 (Vln. 2) plays a continuous eighth-note pattern starting at measure 38 with a dynamic marking of *p*. Viola (Vla.) has a rest until measure 40, then plays a half note G3 with a dynamic marking of *mf*. Violoncello (Vc.) and Double Bass (D.B.) play a half-note bass line starting at measure 38 with a dynamic marking of *p*. The piano (Pno.) has a right-hand part with a continuous eighth-note pattern and a left-hand part with a half-note bass line, both starting at measure 38 with a dynamic marking of *p*. Measure numbers 38, 39, 40, 41, and 42 are indicated at the bottom.

46

Violin 1 (Vln. 1) plays a half-note G4 with a breath mark (V) and a dynamic marking of *mp*. It has a four-measure slur over measures 45-46. Violin 2 (Vln. 2) continues the eighth-note pattern with a dynamic marking of *p*. Viola (Vla.) has a four-measure slur over measures 43-44. Violoncello (Vc.) and Double Bass (D.B.) continue the half-note bass line with a dynamic marking of *p*. The piano (Pno.) continues with the eighth-note pattern in the right hand and the half-note bass line in the left hand, both with a dynamic marking of *p*. Measure numbers 43, 44, 45, 46, and 47 are indicated at the bottom.

Musical score for measures 48-51. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The dynamic marking is *f* (forte). The piano part includes the instruction "non div." (non-diviso). The measures are numbered 48, 49, 50, and 51 at the bottom.

Musical score for measures 52-56. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The dynamic marking is *f* (forte). The piano part includes the instruction "div. (-4)" (diviso -4). The measures are numbered 52, 53, 54, 55, and 56 at the bottom.

Blue Sky Horizon - Score

58

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

57 58 59 60 61

div.

(-1)

mp *f*

div.

div. (-4)

fp *f*

62 63 64

RSMS043

66 70

Vln. 1 *p*

Vln. 2 U.H. *mp* non div. *mf*

Vla. U.H. *mp* *mf*

Vc. *mf*

D.B. *mp*

Pno. *p*

66 67 68 69 70

Detailed description: This system of the score covers measures 66 to 70. It features six staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, and Piano. Violin 1 plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents, starting at a piano (*p*) dynamic. Violin 2 and Viola have rests until measure 67, where they enter with a half note (U.H.) and a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. In measure 68, they play a sustained note with a 'non div.' marking. In measure 69, they play a half note with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Violoncello and Double Bass have rests until measure 67, then play a half note with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. In measure 69, they play a half note with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The Piano part consists of a rhythmic eighth-note pattern in the right hand and rests in the left hand, starting at a piano (*p*) dynamic.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

D.B. *mf*

Pno. *mp*

71 72 73 74 75

Detailed description: This system of the score covers measures 71 to 75. It features the same six staves as the previous system. Violin 1 continues with the rhythmic eighth-note pattern. Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass all play a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes with accents, starting at a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The Piano part continues with the rhythmic eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes in the left hand, starting at a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic.

78

Musical score for measures 76-80. The score includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, and Piano. Measure 78 is highlighted with a box containing the number 78. Dynamics include *f*, *mp*, and *p*. There are also hairpins and accents throughout the passage.

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.
Pno.

76 77 78 79 80

Musical score for measures 81-85. The score includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, and Piano. Measure 81 has a 4-measure rest for the first violin. Measure 85 has a *div.* marking for the first violin. Dynamics include *mf* and *mp*. There are also hairpins and accents throughout the passage.

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.
Pno.

81 82 83 84 85

86

Musical score for measures 86-89. The score includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and Pno. Measure 86 starts with a box containing the number 86. Measure 87 has a (-2) marking above the first violin staff and a 4 marking above the second violin staff. Measure 88 has a non div. marking above the cello staff. Measure 89 has a dynamic marking of mp followed by a crescendo to f. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc. div. non div.

D.B.

Pno.

86 87 88 89

92

Musical score for measures 90-94. The score includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and Pno. Measure 92 has a box containing the number 92. Measure 92 has a dynamic marking of mf above the first violin staff and mp below the second violin staff. Measure 93 has a (V) marking above the second violin staff. Measure 94 has a dynamic marking of mp followed by a crescendo to f. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

90 91 92 93 94

Musical score for measures 95-99. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score features various dynamics such as *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *f* (forte), and includes performance markings like *div.* (divisi) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). Measure numbers 95, 96, 97, 98, and 99 are indicated at the bottom of the staves.

Musical score for measures 100-104. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score features various dynamics such as *fp* (fortissimo) and *f* (forte), and includes performance markings like *fp* (fortissimo) and *f* (forte). Measure numbers 100, 101, 102, 103, and 104 are indicated at the bottom of the staves.

108

105 106 107 108 109

This block contains the musical score for measures 105 through 109. The score is arranged in a grand staff with six parts: Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score features dynamic markings of *f* (forte) and *fp* (fortissimo piano). A box labeled '108' is positioned above the first staff. A 'non div.' marking is present above the Cello part in measure 108. The piano part includes a complex chordal texture with many beamed notes.

110 111 112 113 114

This block contains the musical score for measures 110 through 114. The instrumentation remains the same as in the previous block. Dynamic markings include *f* and *fp*. A 'div.' (divisi) marking is present above the Violin 1 and Violin 2 parts in measure 112, indicating that the strings are to be divided. The piano part continues with its complex chordal texture.