

Defenders of the Shore

For String Orchestra, Grade 2
by Gavin Lendt (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

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

Note from the Editor:

This adventurous grade 2 march will stretch students' understanding of dynamics through dramatic subito changes, while crisp quarter note - 2 eighth note motives propel the piece forward.

- Katie O'Hara LaBrie

Full Set - \$60.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$5.00



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Defenders of the Shore

By Gavin Lendt, Grade 2

Program Notes:

Defenders of the Shore transports listeners into a realm of courage and vigilance, where steadfast guardians stand watch over coastlines and their communities. The title suggests an age-old clash between light and darkness, as well as a responsibility to protect the natural world. A bold rhythmic motif—one quarter note followed by two eighth notes—drives this march-like work and shapes its character. Through commanding melodies, vibrant textures, and dramatic shifts between tension and heroism, students will develop expressive phrasing, explore varied articulations, and strengthen ensemble precision as they bring this compelling piece to life.

Notes To the Conductor:

Defenders of the Shore is an anthem of courage, honor, and determination, telling the story of brave guardians standing watch over their homeland. Every part is important in creating the overall sound. Encourage students to listen carefully, play with purpose, and work together to create a strong, balanced ensemble.

Play the opening melody with clear, separated articulation to firmly establish the character of the piece. *Defenders...* thrives on bold dynamic contrast, so the softer the pianos and the fuller the fortes, the more powerful the music becomes. In quieter, more mysterious passages such as bars 42–53, use light, controlled bow strokes in the upper strings and a darker tone in the lower parts to create suspense and anticipation. Throughout the piece, maintain a steady beat while clearly shaping sudden dynamic changes, especially the subito pianos and fortes. At Bar 62, aim for a polished and disciplined character for three bars, followed by an interruption of chaos at Bar 65. Near the end at Bar 97, use big exaggerated down bows for added impact. You may slow down the final three notes to give the ending more weight and decisiveness.

Play boldly

– Gavin Lendt



About the Composer:

Gavin Lendt is an award-winning composer, conductor, and horn player. Known mostly for his band works, he is also a recognized composer of music for orchestra, choir, solo instruments, and small ensembles, and writes music for YouTube and Twitch content creators. He has received several commissions throughout the United States, and his music has been performed all over the world. Most recently, his work "A Wind in Time" was selected as a winner of the 2021 Grand Mesa Music Composition Contest. In December of 2022, he premiered his large-scale work for orchestra and choir, "Living in the Light."

His music is known for incorporating rich harmonies and dramatic counterlines. Both students and teachers find his music accessible and enjoyable to play. Many high school bands have received superior ratings at contests performing his works.

Gavin studied composition at the University of Kansas with James Barnes and has had private instruction with luminary composers such as Stephen Melillo, John Mackey, Julie Giroux, Charles Rochester Young, and Gabriela Frank

An avid horn player, Gavin has performed with the Topeka Symphony, Kansas City Civic Orchestra, Hollywood Hills Orchestra, and the Lenexa Orchestra. Gavin is also the musical director and arranger for the Kansas City Horn Club, a nonprofit organization designed to share enthusiasm and increase interest for the horn. Gavin lives in Lenexa, Kansas, with his music educator wife, Stacy. Visit gavinlendt.com for more.

Defenders of the Shore

Score
Grade 2
Duration 2:20

Gavin Lendt
(ASCAP)

Vivace $\text{♩} = 92$

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola (Violin 3)
Cello
Double Bass

1 2 3 4 5

6 7 8 9 10

Musical score for measures 11-16. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 11-12 show the strings playing a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes. Measures 13-16 show a more complex rhythmic pattern with eighth and sixteenth notes. There are dynamic markings of *f* and *p* sub. throughout the section. A large watermark 'Preview Standridge Music' is overlaid on the score.

Musical score for measures 17-22. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 17-20 show the strings playing a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes. Measures 21-22 show a more complex rhythmic pattern with eighth and sixteenth notes. There are dynamic markings of *f* and *p* sub. throughout the section. A large watermark 'Preview Standridge Music' is overlaid on the score.

25

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

f *p* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *pizz.*

opt. -2

23 24 25 26 27 28

Detailed description: This system of the score covers measures 23 to 28. It features five staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measures 23 and 24 are marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. At measure 25, the dynamic shifts to piano (*p*) for the violins and mezzo-piano (*mp*) for the lower strings. The Viola part includes a 'pizz.' (pizzicato) marking at measure 25. The Violoncello part has an 'opt. -2' marking at measure 26. The Double Bass part is marked with 'pizz.' at measure 25. A box containing the number '25' is positioned above the first staff at the beginning of measure 25.

33

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Play

mf *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

29 30 31 32 33 34

Detailed description: This system of the score covers measures 29 to 34. It features the same five staves as the previous system. The key signature remains one sharp (F#). Measures 29 and 30 are marked with mezzo-forte (*mf*). At measure 31, the dynamic shifts to mezzo-piano (*mp*) for the violins and remains *mp* for the lower strings. At measure 33, the dynamic returns to mezzo-forte (*mf*) for the violins and mezzo-piano (*mp*) for the lower strings. A 'Play' marking is present above the Viola staff at measure 29. A box containing the number '33' is positioned above the first staff at the beginning of measure 33.

Musical score for measures 35-39. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 35 shows the beginning of the section. Measures 36-39 contain various rhythmic patterns and dynamics. A large watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

Musical score for measures 40-45. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 40 starts with a dynamic of *f*. Measure 41 includes a *arco* marking. Measure 42 features a *p sub.* dynamic. Measure 44 includes a *mf* dynamic. Measure 45 ends with a decrescendo hairpin. A box containing the number '42' is placed above the Vln. 1 staff at the start of measure 42. A large watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

46

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

p

mp

p sub.

mp

p sub.

46 47 48 49 50

Detailed description: This system of the score covers measures 46 to 50. It features five staves: Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 46 starts with a box containing the number 46. Dynamics include *p* (piano) for Vln. 2 and Vc., *mp* (mezzo-piano) for Vln. 1, Vla., and D.B., and *p sub.* (piano subito) for Vc. and D.B. in measures 46 and 47. Measures 48 and 49 are mostly rests. Measure 50 features a melodic line in Vln. 1 and Vln. 2, with dynamics *mp* and accents (V) above the notes.

54

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

f

f

f

f

51 52 53 54 55

Detailed description: This system of the score covers measures 51 to 55. It features the same five staves as the previous system. Measure 51 has a box containing the number 54. Dynamics include *f* (forte) for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. in measures 53, 54, and 55. Measures 51 and 52 are mostly rests. Measures 53 and 54 feature melodic lines in Vln. 1 and Vln. 2, with accents (V) above the notes. Measure 55 features a melodic line in Vln. 1 and Vln. 2, with accents (V) above the notes.

Musical score for measures 56-60. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score shows a dynamic shift from *p sub.* to *f* between measures 58 and 59. A large watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

56 57 58 59 60

Musical score for measures 61-66. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score shows dynamic shifts from *p sub.* to *f* and *p* between measures 64 and 65. A box containing the number '62' is placed above the Vln. 1 staff at the start of measure 62. A large watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

61 62 63 64 65 66

70

div. V 4 L2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

f *mp* *mp* *opt. -2* *pizz.*

67 68 69 70 71

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 67 to 71. It features five staves: Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 67 includes a 'div.' marking above the first violin staff and a 'V' marking above the second violin staff. Measure 68 has a '4' marking above the second violin staff. Measure 69 has an 'L2' marking above the first violin staff. Measure 70 has a 'pizz.' marking above the double bass staff. Measure 71 has an 'opt. -2' marking above the cello staff. Dynamics include *f* (forte) in measures 68 and 69, and *mp* (mezzo-piano) in measures 70 and 71. A large diagonal watermark 'Pre-release Standing Music' is overlaid on the score.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

72 73 74 75 76 77

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 72 to 77. It features the same five staves as the previous system. Measure 72 has a '4' marking above the second violin staff. Measure 73 has a 'Play' marking above the viola staff. Measure 74 has a '-2' marking above the cello staff. Dynamics are consistently *mf* (mezzo-forte) across all staves in this system. A large diagonal watermark 'Pre-release Standing Music' is overlaid on the score.

78

Musical score for measures 78-83. The score is for five instruments: Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The dynamics are marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) from measure 78 to 80, and *mf* (mezzo-forte) from measure 81 to 83. A crescendo hairpin is shown between measures 80 and 81. Measure 78 has a box around the number 78. Measure 81 has a box around the number 81. There are accents and a '4' marking above the notes in measures 79 and 80. There are also 'V' markings above notes in measures 81 and 83.

Vln. 1 *mp* *mf*

Vln. 2 *mp* *mf*

Vla. *mp* *mf*

Vc. *mp* *mf*

D.B. *mp* *mf*

78 79 80 81 82 83

86

Musical score for measures 84-88. The score is for five instruments: Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The dynamics are marked *f* (forte) from measure 85 to 87, and *sim.* (sforzando) in measure 88. A crescendo hairpin is shown between measures 84 and 85. Measure 86 has a box around the number 86. There are accents and a '4' marking above the notes in measure 85. There are also 'V' markings above notes in measures 85, 86, and 87. The word 'div.' is written above the notes in measure 88. The word 'arco' is written above the notes in measure 85. There are also 'V' markings above notes in measure 85.

Vln. 1 *f* *div.*

Vln. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

D.B. *f* *sim.*

84 85 86 87 88

Musical score for measures 89-93. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 89-91 show a melodic line in the violins with some grace notes and a fermata. Measures 92-93 feature a strong fortissimo (ff) dynamic. A large watermark 'Preview Standridge Music' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Musical score for measures 94-99. The score continues for the same five instruments. Measures 94-97 show a melodic line in the violins with accents and a fermata. Measures 98-99 feature a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. A large watermark 'Preview Standridge Music' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

100

Musical score for measures 100-104. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The dynamics are marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) for measures 100-101 and *f* (forte) for measures 102-104. The Vln. 1 part has a *div.* (divisi) marking in measure 102. The Vc. part has a *div.* marking in measure 102. The D.B. part has a *div.* marking in measure 102. The score includes various musical notations such as stems, beams, and accents.

Vln. 1
mp *f*

Vln. 2
mp *f*

Vla.
mp *f*

Vc.
mp *f* *div.*

D.B.
mp *f*

100 101 102 103 104

Musical score for measures 105-109. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The dynamics are marked *ff* (fortissimo) for measures 107-109. The Vln. 1 part has a *ff* marking in measure 107. The Vln. 2 part has a *ff* marking in measure 107. The Vla. part has a *ff* marking in measure 107. The Vc. part has a *ff* marking in measure 107. The D.B. part has a *ff* marking in measure 107. The score includes various musical notations such as stems, beams, and accents.

Vln. 1
ff

Vln. 2
ff

Vla.
ff

Vc.
ff

D.B.
ff

105 106 107 108 109