

Polar Vortex

For Grade 3 or Multi-Level Orchestra

Grades 3 • 2.5 • 1.5 • Open String

by Katie O'Hara LaBrie (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

Part A	Part B	Part C	Part D
Grade 3	Grade 2.5	Grade 1.5	Open String
8 - Violin A1	2 - Violin B1	2 - Violin C1	2 - Violin D
8 - Violin A2	2 - Violin B2	2 - Vln. C2 (Viola T.C.)	2 - Viola D
5 - Viola A	2 - Viola B	2 - Viola C	2 - Cello D
5 - Cello A	2 - Cello B	2 - Cello C	2 - Bass D
5 - Bass A	2 - Bass B	2 - Bass C	

Note from the Editor:

This composition works as a stand alone piece for Grade 3 Orchestra (Part A).

Any of the multi-level parts can be added to enhance the overall experience, though it is best when the A part is prominent. This work contains rights to copy additional parts as stipulated on the copyright page in this score.

- Katie O'Hara LaBrie

Full Set - \$85.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$15.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



Polar Vortex

By Katie O'Hara LaBrie, for Grade 3 or Multi-Level Orchestra

Program Notes:

Cold air spins and an arctic chill sets in: a Polar Vortex has arrived. This work for multi-level orchestra by Katie O'Hara LaBrie encapsulates this wintery weather phenomenon through its driving d dorian tune, biting spiccato, and swirling motives.

About this Piece:

Polar Vortex was written for the orchestras of Park City, Utah - a beautiful ski town that sees a lot of snow! Inspired by this, and their love of driving minor orchestra pieces, I wrote this work to fit a multitude of levels for their thriving orchestra community. The most advanced parts work as a stand alone piece and you are welcome to add as many of the other levels alongside it. To keep a good balance it's important that the A parts are prominent in the performance.

At m. 9 the second violins should all stay on the bottom octave if you are only using the A parts. If you are using multiple levels please divide as you see fit. Originally written for a higher level, the A part also contains an optional division up one octave for first violin at m.45.

The last note of the A and B parts is meant to be played as a dotted half note with an accented release on beat 3. This can be executed by saving bow for the first two beats and using fast speed for the last beat. I encourage the performers to have their bows fly off the string for this final blast.

I hope you enjoy bringing your orchestras together for this exciting piece!

– Katie O'Hara LaBrie



About the Composer

Katie O'Hara LaBrie is a composer, conductor, clinician, and cellist from Northern Virginia and is the Orchestra Editor for Randall Standridge Music Publications. An educator at heart, Mrs. LaBrie spent the first 15 years of her career teaching orchestra in Fairfax County, Virginia. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from St. Olaf College, where she studied under Steven Amundson, and Masters of Music in Instrumental Conducting from George Mason University, where she studied with Anthony Maiello.

As a composer, Mrs. LaBrie's inspiration grows from many sources such as family and nature, but primarily draws from her experiences as a music educator. She enjoys creating new music with the goal of being educationally sound, pleasing to audiences, and above all, fun for the players. She is passionate about sharing music with others and teaching students how to practice with purpose.

Mrs. LaBrie is the founding conductor of the Fairfax Chamber Players and co-creator of "the Big IDEA" practice method. In 2022, she was honored as one of Yamaha's "40 Under 40," for her action, courage, creativity, and commitment to growth in the music education field. She lives in Fairfax, VA with her husband Joe, who is a middle school band director, and their budding musician, Liam.

Learn more at www.katieoharalabrie.com

Score
Duration 2:50

Polar Vortex

Katie O'Hara LaBrie
(ASCAP)

For Multi-Level String Orchestra

Fierce ♩ = 120

The musical score is arranged in a multi-system format. Each system contains staves for Violin A1, Violin A2, Viola A, Cello A, Bass A, Violin B1, Violin B2, Viola B, Cello B, Bass B, Violin C, Viola C (Violin C2), Cello C, Bass C, Violin D, and Cello D. The time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Fierce' with a quarter note equal to 120 beats per minute. Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The score includes various musical notations such as stems, beams, slurs, and accents. A large watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

9

The musical score is arranged in a system of 18 staves, grouped into three sections of six staves each. The instruments are labeled on the left as Vln. A1, Vln. A2, Vla. A, Cello A, Bass A, Vln. B1, Vln. B2, Vla. B, Cello B, Bass B, Vln. C, Vla. C, Cello C, Bass C, Vln. D, and Cello D. The score covers measures 6 through 10. Measure 9 is highlighted with a box containing the number '9'. Dynamic markings include *f* (forte) and *ff* (fortissimo). Performance instructions include 'Opt. upper octave' and '-2' (two ledger lines below). Fingerings are indicated with numbers 0, 1, 2, 4, and 5. A large watermark 'GrandStaffPreview.com' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Vln. A1

Vln. A2

Vla. A

Cello A

Bass A

Vln. B1

Vln. B2

Vla. B

Cello B

Bass B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Cello C

Bass C

Vln. D

Cello D

11 12 13 14 15 16

17

Musical score for Polar Vortex, measures 17-21. The score is for a string ensemble with parts for Violin A1, Violin A2, Viola A, Cello A, Bass A, Violin B1, Violin B2, Viola B, Cello B, Bass B, Violin C, Viola C, Cello C, Bass C, Violin D, and Cello D. The music is in 4/4 time and features various rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth notes, eighth notes, and quarter notes. There are several trills and slurs throughout the piece. A large watermark 'Mandal Standard Music Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

17

18

19

20

21

Polar Vortex - Score

Violin A1, Violin A2, Viola A, Cello A, Bass A, Violin B1, Violin B2, Viola B, Cello B, Bass B, Violin C, Viola C, Cello C, Bass C, Violin D, Cello D

22 23 24 25 26 27

29

The musical score for page 6 of 'Polar Vortex' covers measures 28 through 33. It is arranged for a string ensemble with the following parts: Violin A1, Violin A2, Viola A, Cello A, Bass A, Violin B1, Violin B2, Viola B, Cello B, Bass B, Violin C, Viola C, Cello C, Bass C, Violin D, and Cello D. The score begins at measure 28 with a *pp* dynamic. In measure 29, the dynamic changes to *p* for the first violins and violas, and *mf* for the cellos and basses. In measure 30, the first violins and violas play *pp*, while the cellos and basses play *mf*. In measure 31, the first violins and violas play *mf*, and the cellos and basses play *mf*. In measure 32, the first violins and violas play *mf*, and the cellos and basses play *mf*. In measure 33, the first violins and violas play *mf*, and the cellos and basses play *mf*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings. A large watermark reading 'Randall Standridge Music' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

28

29

30

31

32

33

37

Musical score for Polar Vortex, page 7. The score is arranged in three systems. The first system includes Vln. A1, Vln. A2, Vla. A, Cello A, and Bass A. The second system includes Vln. B1, Vln. B2, Vla. B, Cello B, and Bass B. The third system includes Vln. C, Vla. C, Cello C, Bass C, Vln. D, and Cello D. The music is in 3/4 time and features various dynamics including *mf* and *div.* (divisi). A large watermark "Handall Stanbridge Music Preview Only" is overlaid on the score.

34

35

36

mf

37

38

Violin A1, Violin A2, Viola A, Cello A, Bass A, Violin B1, Violin B2, Viola B, Cello B, Bass B, Violin C, Viola C, Cello C, Bass C, Violin D, Cello D

39 40 41 42 43 44

45 Opt div. 8va

Vln. A1 *mp*

Vln. A2 *p* pizz. div.

Vla. A *p* pizz. arco div.

Cello A *p*

Bass A *mp*

Vln. B1 *p*

Vln. B2 *p*

Vla. B *p*

Cello B *mp*

Bass B *mp*

Vln. C *p* pizz.

Vla. C *p* pizz.

Cello C

Bass C

Vln. D *p* pizz.

Cello D

Violin A1, Violin A2, Viola A, Cello A, Bass A, Violin B1, Violin B2, Viola B, Cello B, Bass B, Violin C, Viola C, Cello C, Bass C, Violin D, Cello D

50 51 52 53 54

Vln. A1

Vln. A2

Vla. A

Cello A

Bass A

Vln. B1

Vln. B2

Vla. B

Cello B

Bass B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Cello C

Bass C

Vln. D

Cello D

55 56 57 58 59 60

61

61

Vln. A1

Vln. A2

Vla. A

Cello A

Bass A

Vln. B1

Vln. B2

Vla. B

Cello B

Bass B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Cello C

Bass C

Vln. D

Cello D

div.

sim.

norm.

arco

f

61

62

63

64

65

69

Vln. A1

Vln. A2

Vla. A

Cello A

Bass A

Vln. B1

Vln. B2

Vla. B

Cello B

Bass B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Cello C

Bass C

Vln. D

Cello D

ff

ff

ff

arco

4

ff

arco

ff

66

67

68

69

70

Vln. A1

Vln. A2

Vla. A

Cello A

Bass A

Vln. B1

Vln. B2

Vla. B

Cello B

Bass B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Cello C

Bass C

Vln. D

Cello D

71

72

73

74

75

77

Vln. A1

Vln. A2

Vla. A

Cello A

Bass A

Vln. B1

Vln. B2

Vla. B

Cello B

Bass B

Vln. C

Vla. C

Cello C

Bass C

Vln. D

Cello D

76 77 78 79 80

Violin A1
Violin A2
Viola A
Cello A
Bass A
Violin B1
Violin B2
Viola B
Cello B
Bass B
Violin C
Viola C
Cello C
Bass C
Violin D
Cello D

81 82 83 84 85 86