

**Grade
1½**

Expanding ranges and rhythms for the Rising Band!

FULL CONDUCTOR SCORE

Catalog No: 024-4538-01

Amber Skies

Jonathan McBride

Rising Band Series

FOR DEVELOPING BANDS!



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Rising Band Series

(Grade levels 1 1/2 - 2)

The Rising Band Series is carefully designed and written to serve the performance needs of the developing band program. In addition to providing quality performance literature for your concert program, each title in the series provides an appropriate musical setting for the conductor/teacher to reinforce musical concepts and skills that have been addressed in the first two years of instruction. Written at two grade levels (1 1/2 and 2), the Rising Band Series provides a variety of musical works that employ the note and rhythm sequence used in most band method books. The Rising Band Series is a sound fundamental approach leading to a command of the concert band.

AMBER SKIES

Jonathan McBride

Instrumentation

Full Conductor Score	1
Flute	10
Oboe	2
1st B \flat Clarinet	6
2nd B \flat Clarinet	6
B \flat Bass Clarinet	2
Bassoon	2
E \flat Alto Saxophone	8
B \flat Tenor Saxophone	2
E \flat Baritone Saxophone.....	2
1st B \flat Trumpet	5
2nd B \flat Trumpet	5
F Horn	4
Trombone	6
Baritone B.C.	2
Baritone T.C.	2
Tuba	4
Bells.....	4
Timpani	1
Percussion 1: Suspended Cymbal, Crash Cymbals.....	2
Percussion 2: Triangle, Wind Chimes	2
Piano/Keyboard (optional).....	1

About the Composer



After Graduating from high school in Nome, Alaska and from the University of Alaska, Anchorage with a degree in music education, Jonathan McBride went on to teach multiple levels of both band and choir in Alaska for 9 years. Jonathan currently teaches K-12 band, choir, and general music in the small town of Pateros, Washington.

In 2010 Jonathan earned his master's degree in instrumental conducting from the American Band College, and became a National Board Certified Teacher in Instrument Music. Jonathan is a consistent presenter at Washington's State Music Education Conference, and his bands have been featured performers at both the Alaska and Washington conferences. In addition to teaching and composing, Jonathan McBride enjoys working as a guest director and adjudicator, and also directs the Okanogan Valley Chorus.

Jonathan's compositions have been performed by various bands and choirs at honor and mass festivals, as well as regional contests, and are considered favorites for both students and audiences.

Program Notes

Amber Skies is a simple, peaceful work depicting the vibrant and ever-changing colors of sunset. Sweet, simple melodies interweave with flowing countermelodies as the sky changes to new hues of pinks, blues, and bright amber. The majesty of sunset is short-lived, however. Just as quickly as the colors have erupted in the evening sky, the sunset fades, and Amber Skies resolves into the peaceful darkness of nightfall.

Rehearsal Suggestions

Dotted quarter note rhythms: Two 8th different dotted quarter/8th rhythms appear throughout this work. Example one is found first in the flute, oboe, and alto saxophone in m. 9, where the dotted note appears on beat two. Example two can be found in these same parts in m. 15, with the dotted quarter note starting on beat one. Taking time to identify, count, and perform these two rhythms with the entire band will pay dividends as individual sections encounter them throughout the piece.

Melodic balance (Harmony/counter melody): In **Amber Skies**, the melody and counter melody are often presented simultaneously. Dynamics have been carefully marked to help discern one from the other. Help your students listen for these independent elements. The end result will not merely be an exercise in dynamics, but a musical performance where students strive to balance prominent melodies with softer supporting countermelodies.

Playing with expression: Playing with expression comes from maintaining a focused and supported tone in all registers and dynamic levels, along with musical phrasing and breathing. Encourage your students to *always go for the best sound possible* while stretching their dynamic range away from the relative comfort of mezzo forte. Use **Amber Skies** to help develop the skill of identifying the most musical places to breathe. Point out phrasing cues such as slurs and cadence points, and practice the idea of breathing where it makes the most sense in the music.

I hope you enjoy performing **Amber Skies**.

– Jonathan McBride

New Young Band CD



WFR393

BLAZE!

The Washington Winds, Edward Petersen - Conductor

CONTENTS: Rejoice! (Swearingen), Celtic Lullaby (arr. Phillips), American Legion March (Parker/arr. Glover), Blaze! (Romeyn), Ancient Conquest (Coles), The Red Sled (Fossa), A Time To Reflect (Swearingen), Woodwinds Of Mass Destruction (Conaway), Chimes Of Freedom (R.W. Smith), At Peace (Conaway), Interstellar Fanfare (J. McBride), Cartoon Classics (Shaffer), Amber Skies (J. McBride), Missa Festi: Music for a Festival (Shaffer), And To The Republic: Concert March (Huckeby), Musical Mayhem (R.W. Smith), Promise Of Tomorrow (P. Clark), Blessings (R.W. Smith), Into The Court Of The King (Romeyn), Flutitude (Neeck), Long Day's Journey: A Triumphant Return (Swearingen), Daydreams (Romeyn), First Decree (R.W. Smith), March A Doodle Dandy (Shaffer), Waltz Of The Wraiths (Conaway), Alien Crossfire (McBride), Chorale & Fugue in F (Bach/Daehn)

AMBER SKIES

Conductor Score

Jonathan McBride

024-4538-00

Andante (♩ = c. 72)

The conductor score for "Amber Skies" is written for a 3/4 time signature and an Andante tempo (♩ = c. 72). The score is divided into two systems. The first system includes the Flute, Oboe, 1st B♭ Clarinet, 2nd B♭ Clarinet, B Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, E♭ Alto Saxophone, B Tenor Saxophone, and E♭ Baritone Saxophone. The second system includes the 1st B♭ Trumpet, 2nd B♭ Trumpet, F Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Bells, Timpani (B, E), Percussion 1 (Suspended Cymbal, Crash Cymbals), Percussion 2 (Triangle, Wind Chimes), and Piano/Keyboard (opt.). Dynamics range from *p* (piano) to *mf* (mezzo-forte). The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

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Flute

Oboe

1st Cl. *mp*

2nd Cl. *mp*

B. Cl.

Bsn. *mf*

A. Sax. *mp*

T. Sax. *mp*

B. Sax.

9

1st Tpt.

2nd Tpt.

Horn

Trom. *mf*

Bar. *mf*

Tuba *p*

Bells

Timp. *mp*

Perc. 1 *mp* *p* **Suspended Cymbal w/soft mallets**

Perc. 2

Piano

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

17

Flute

Oboe

1st Cl.

2nd Cl.

B. Cl. *mp*

Bsn.

A. Sax. *mp*

T. Sax.

B. Sax. *mp*

Baritone Saxophone cue

17

1st Tpt.

2nd Tpt.

Horn

Trom.

Bar.

Tuba

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1 *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Perc. 2

Piano *mf*

Wind Chimes *mp*

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

Flute

Oboe

1st Cl.

2nd Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

1st Tpt.

2nd Tpt.

Horn

Trom.

Bar.

Tuba

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Piano

33

Flute

Oboe

1st Cl.

2nd Cl.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

f *mf* *mp*

33

1st Tpt.

2nd Tpt.

Horn

Trom.

Bar.

Tuba

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Wind Chimes

Piano

f *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mf*

33 *mf* 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 *mp*

42

Flute *mf* *rit.* *p*

Oboe *mf* *p*

1st Cl. *mf* *p*

2nd Cl. *mf* *p*

B. Cl. *p*

Bsn. *mp* *p*

A. Sax. *mf* *p*

T. Sax. *mp* *p*

B. Sax. *p*

42

1st Tpt. *mf* *rit.* *mp* *p*

2nd Tpt. *mf* *mp* *p*

Horn *mf* *p*

Trom. *mp* *p*

Bar. *mp* *p*

Tuba *mp* *p*

Bells *mf* *p*

Timp. *mp* *p*

Perc. 1 *p* *mp*

Perc. 2 *p*

Piano *mf* *p*

Suspended Cymbal w/soft mallets *p* *mp*

42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51