

# STRING EXPLORER SERIES

## Blue Christmas

(A Christmas feature for basses)

Words and Music by Bill Hayes and Jay Johnson

*Arranged by Bob Phillips*

### INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score.....	1
Violin I.....	8
Violin II.....	8
Viola.....	5
Violin III (Viola  .....	3
Cello.....	5
String Bass.....	5
Piano Accompaniment.....	1

### NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Made famous by Elvis Presley in the 1950s, this fun and swingin' blues piece is delightfully arranged to feature an individual bass player or the whole section with the strings playing backup. The bass solo is easy and the rest of the orchestra gets in on the fun when they simulate the drumset in bars 22–36. Go all out with this one! The bass section may want to dress like Elvis, and they should say the words in bar 52 in an “Elvis”-like voice. Take care to play the slides in bars 35 and 54 as a blues ornament.



Dedicated to my favorite bass player, Katy Bowers

# Blue Christmas

CONDUCTOR SCORE  
Duration - 2:30

(A Christmas feature for basses)

Words and Music by  
BILL HAYES and JAY JOHNSON

Arranged by Bob Phillips

Moderate swing eighth notes (♩ = 92)

Violins I

Violins II

Viola (Violin III)

Cello

String Bass

Moderate swing eighth notes (♩ = 92)

Piano Accompaniment

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

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Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

10 11 12 13

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

14 15 16 17 18

*mp* *mp* *mp* *f* *ff* *mp*

*p* *p* *p* *mf* *f*

Hi 3 4 Hi 3 4 Hi 3 4

x4

-4 V -2 1 -4 1 -2 -1 V

22 Chu, chu chu, chu, chu chu

Vlns. I *pp* *f*  
Hold hand up and snap fingers.

Vlns. II *pp* *f*  
Hold hand up and snap fingers.

Vla. (Vln. III) *pp* *f*  
Hold hand up and snap fingers.

Cello *pp* *f*  
Tap cello top.

Str. Bass *mf* *pizz.* *f*

Piano Accomp. *pp* *f*  
Hold hand up and snap fingers.

19 20 21 22

Vlns. I *simile*

Vlns. II *simile*

Vla. (Vln. III) *simile*

Cello *simile*

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp. *simile*

23 24 25 26 27

30 Hold hand up and snap fingers.

**Vlns.**  
I  
II

**Vla. (Vln. III)**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

**Piano Accomp.**

Chu, chu chu, chu, chu chu

Tap viola top.

pizz.  
*f*

*f*

30

28 29 30 31 32

**Vlns.**  
I  
II

**Vla. (Vln. III)**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

**Piano Accomp.**

arco  
*f* arco 4

*f* arco

*f* arco

*f* arco

*f*

33 34 35 36 37

38

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

*f*

38 39 40 41 42

46

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

*mp*, *p*

*mp*, *p*

*mp*, *p*

*mp*, *pizz.*

*mp*, *mf*

*f*

arco

Lo 4

46

43 44 45 46 47

Lo 1

Hi 3

x1 arco

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

\*\* (Spoken like Elvis)  
"Thank you, thank you very much!"

\*\* (Spoken like Elvis)  
"Thank you, thank you very much!"

\*\* (Spoken like Elvis)  
"Thank you, thank you very much!"

\*\* (Spoken like Elvis)  
"Thank you, thank you very much!"

\*\* (Spoken like Elvis)  
"Thank you, thank you very much!"

48 49 50 51 52

53 A tempo

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

*p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

V 2 2

3

V Lo 4 3

3

V

V

V

V

3

53 54 55 56

\*\* The basses should speak in an "Elvis" like cadence and range, with the rest of the orchestra joining in after the first "Thank You".

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