

JAZZ BEGINNINGS SERIFS



Conductor

1st El Alto Saxophone

2nd El Alto Saxophone

1st Bl Tenor Saxophone

2nd Bl Tenor Saxophone (Optional)

1st Bl Trumpet

2nd Bl Trumpet (Optional)

1st Trombone
2nd Trombone (Optional)
Guitar Chords
Guitar (Optional)
Piano
Bass
Drums
Percussion (Large Cowbell,
Tambourine, Shaker)

Optional Alternate Parts

1st C Flute
2nd C Flute
1st B♭ Clarinet
2nd B♭ Clarinet
E♭ Baritone Saxophone
Tuba (Doubles Bass part)
Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)
Baritone T.C./B♭ Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 1st Trombone)

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Rock Hero is an original composition in a funk rock style. It is commissioned by and dedicated to the jazz ensembles at Zionsville West Middle School, under the direction of Matthew Doublestein and Liz Leatherberry. Funding for this project was made possible through a grant provided by Kappa Kappa Kappa of Zionsville, Indiana.

The tempo 140 is only a suggestion. Depending on the technical ability of the group, the it can vary a bit. Beginning with the introduction, when playing the unison 2-bar motive, make certain that the entire ensemble can hear the bass for intonation and the (steady) tempo. Note that the dynamic level is indicated as # implying a heavy unison; however, the motive should not be played so loud that it becomes strident. Make certain that everyone is articulating and phrasing the notes the same way. The idea is to make it sound as if one player is executing all of the parts.

The marcato rooftop accent (A) may be new to some of the young musicians. It is played with the same dynamics as a regular accent mark but the effect is a "daht" sound. Make certain that the articulations are played accurately throughout.

At measure 17, the 1st tenor and 1st trombone have the melody; however, for reinforcement, the melody has also been cued in the 2nd alto and all optional parts.

At measure 33, the rhythm section goes into a contrasting section with specific articulation to include the rooftop accents. The tendency is to slow down the tempo—caution the students to maintain the tempo. There are written-out drumset fills which can be played as written or ad lib but in the style of the chart.

The solo section is in measures 53–68. A suggested written solo has been written in unison for all wind players. This solo can be played by an individual, a section, or the entire wind section.

Throughout this section, there is much flexibility and opportunity to expose your stronger soloists and/or sections. Additionally, students are encouraged to come up with their own solo improvisation. Add some of your ensemble's creative juices and personalize this work to fit your needs. The drumset solo at measure 69 may be extended as needed. Measures 73 through 80 set up the *D.S. al Fine*.

Please enjoy!

-Victor López



Victor López



Victor López is a highly acclaimed educator, composer, arranger, and adjudicator. He holds music degrees from the University of Florida and Florida International University, with an Ed.D. in Educational Administration and Supervision. He has served as director of bands at the middle and senior high school levels and as an administrator in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools. He has recorded and performed with various artists and has appeared in numerous music videos. He has over 450 compositions/arrangements published as an exclusive composer, arranger and clinician for Alfred Music Publishing Co., Inc.



























