

Commissioned by the Minnesota River Valley Music Teachers Association in honor of their 25th anniversary as a local association of the Music Teachers National Association and the Minnesota Music Teachers Association (1987-2012)  
Dedicated to the students and teachers of MRVMTA

# Magnificent Minnesota

Forests, rivers, parks, and prairies—Minnesota has them all, making it one of the most diverse and beautiful states in the USA. Known as the “Land of 10,000 Lakes,” it is a summer destination for boating, fishing, water skiing, tubing, and camping. There are 72 state parks, spectacular sights, wonderful wildlife, and great cities. Minnesota is truly magnificent!

Melody Bober

Majestic (♩ = 96)

Flowing (♩ = 108)

# Mississippi River Adventure

The headwaters of the Mississippi River are located in north central Minnesota at Lake Itasca State Park and flow southward for 2,530 miles to the Gulf of Mexico. It is the fourth longest and the tenth largest river in the world. Mark Twain called it, "The Great Mississippi, the majestic, the magnificent Mississippi rolling its mile-wide tide along, shining in the sun."

Melody Bober

Bold and dramatic (♩ = 116)

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as 'Bold and dramatic' with a quarter note equal to 116 beats per minute. The dynamic is *mf*. The right hand features a melodic line with triplets and a sequence of notes (1, 2, 3, 5). The left hand provides a simple harmonic accompaniment.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. The right hand continues with triplets and a melodic line that rises in pitch towards the end of the system. The left hand accompaniment remains consistent.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. The right hand is marked *f* and includes the instruction '8va' (octave up) at the beginning. The melodic line continues with triplets. The left hand accompaniment is consistent.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. The right hand continues with triplets and a melodic line that rises in pitch. The left hand accompaniment is consistent. The piece concludes with a final chord in the right hand.

# Lady's Slipper Waltz

Minnesota's beautiful state flower is the Lady's Slipper, a brightly colored orchid in pink, red, white, or green. It blooms from early June to mid-July and has a very long life span—some may be 100 years old! Lady's Slipper is found in spruce and tamarack bogs, wet meadows, swamps, and cool, damp woods.

Melody Bober

Delicately (♩ = 112)

The musical score is written for piano in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of five systems of two staves each (treble and bass clef).  
- **System 1 (Measures 1-5):** Starts with a *mp* dynamic. The right hand has a melodic line with fingerings 5, 4, 5, 4, 5, 4, 5, 4, 5, 4, 5, 4. The left hand has a simple accompaniment with fingerings 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 4, 5, 4, 3, 4.  
- **System 2 (Measures 6-11):** Starts at measure 6. The right hand has a melodic line with fingerings 5, 4, 2, 1, 5, 4, 2, 1, 5, 4, 1. The left hand has a simple accompaniment with a half note in measure 6 and chords in measures 7-11.  
- **System 3 (Measures 12-16):** Starts at measure 12. The right hand has a melodic line with fingerings 3, 1, 2, 5, 2, 3, 1. The left hand has a simple accompaniment with fingerings 5, 2, 1, 1. A section symbol is present at the end of measure 12.  
- **System 4 (Measures 17-21):** Starts at measure 17. The right hand has a melodic line with fingerings 1, 2, 4, 4. The left hand has a simple accompaniment with fingerings 1, 2, 4, 4.  
- **System 5 (Measures 22-26):** Starts at measure 22. The right hand has a melodic line with fingerings 5, 5, 5, 4, 1, 3, 1, 2, 3. The left hand has a simple accompaniment with fingerings 5, 2.

# Riverboat Rag

Steamboats and riverboats played an important role in the early settlement of the Midwest. As rivers were the primary method of trade and travel in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, riverboats took wood and produce to markets down the river and brought manufactured goods to communities up the river. It was a thriving industry along the banks of the Mississippi River in Minnesota.

Melody Bober

Spirited (♩ = 112-116)  $\text{♩} = \overset{\frown}{\text{♩}} \overset{\frown}{\text{♩}}$

The musical score for "Riverboat Rag" is presented in four systems, each with a piano (right) and bass (left) staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The piece is marked "Spirited" with a tempo of 112-116 beats per minute. The notation includes various musical elements:

- System 1:** Measures 1-3. Dynamics range from *mp* to *f*. Includes fingering numbers (1-5) and a triplet in the right hand.
- System 2:** Measures 4-6. Dynamics range from *mp* to *mf*. Includes a box number "4" at the start of the system.
- System 3:** Measures 7-10. Dynamics range from *mp* to *mf*. Includes a box number "7" at the start of the system.
- System 4:** Measures 11-14. Dynamics range from *mp* to *f*. Includes a box number "11" at the start of the system and a repeat sign (double bar line with dots) above measure 13.

The score is characterized by flowing eighth-note patterns, often with slurs and ties, and includes various articulation marks such as accents and slurs. Fingering numbers are provided for many notes to guide the performer.