

Alfred's Premier Piano Express

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FOREWORD

Alfred's *Premier Piano Express* Christmas Book 3 includes familiar Christmas pieces that reinforce concepts included in the All-In-One Accelerated Course, Book 3 of *Premier Piano Express*. The music continues the strong pedagogical focus of the course while providing the enjoyment of playing familiar music during the Christmas season.

Christmas Book 3 is not correlated page by page with *Premier Piano Express*, Book 3. Pieces are arranged in progressive order of difficulty with the easiest pieces first, though it is not necessary to progress straight through the book.

Allowing students to study music they enjoy during the Christmas season is highly motivating. Consequently, reading and rhythm skills often improve greatly when studying holiday music. The authors hope that the music in Christmas Book 3 brings hours of enjoyment to this festive season. Merry Christmas!

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Jingle Bells

Although **Jingle Bells** was written while James S. Pierpont lived in Boston, he eventually moved to Savannah, Georgia. While living in Savannah, he served as music director at a Unitarian church where his brother was the pastor. Today, there is a commemorative plaque in honor of Jingle Bells near the church.

James S. Pierpont

Cheerfully

mf Dash - ing through the snow, in a one-horse o - pen sleigh,

o'er the fields we go, laugh - ing all the way.

Bells on bob - tail ring, mak - ing spir - its bright, what

fun it is to ride and sing a sleigh - ing song to - night. *f* Oh!

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Traditionally, **We Wish You a Merry Christmas** is the last song carolers sing before moving to the next house. Although the origin of this music is uncertain, this English carol was most likely sung by minstrels in medieval times. Minstrels were musicians who played and sang for public entertainment, much like today's carolers.

Traditional English Carol

Merrily

5

wish you a Mer-ry Christ-mas, we wish you a Mer-ry Christ-mas, we

9

wish you a Mer-ry Christ-mas, and a Hap-py New Year! Good

13

tid-ings to you wher-ev-er you are, *f* good