

PRESENTS ON PARADE!

A HOLIDAY MINI-MUSICAL FOR UNISON AND 2-PART VOICES

By Sally K. Albrecht, Jay Althouse,
Andy Beck, and Brian Fisher

Recording Orchestrated by Tim Hayden

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See back cover for audio track numbers.

Performance time: approximately 20 minutes.

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Limited to one school/organization. NOT FOR RESALE.

STAGING SUGGESTIONS

- 1. PRESENTS ON PARADE! (OPENING):** The Kids gather around an imaginary TV at Marty's house. They sing along with the opening of the televised parade, perhaps marching around the family room as their excitement builds. Invite the entire cast to sing from offstage, as if heard on the TV.
- 2. FUN, FUN, FUN:** The Kids imagine how incredible it would be to win the contest and march in the parade. Keep the staging conversational in nature. Consider adding secret handshakes between friends each time they sing "fun, fun, fun." The very short solos may be sung or spoken, and could optionally be performed by the entire group.
- 3. OVER THE RIVER:** This is a travel song. The Kids exit Marty's house and work their way around the performance area en route to their final destination, Toyland. By the end of the song, the Kids are back in center stage. The Clerks greet them there, holding the Toyland banner.
- 4. TOYLAND:** The opening slow section is performed by the Clerks as the Kids look on in awe and anticipation. When the song changes to the jazz swing feel, the Clerks begin to dance with prop toys (which may be passed in from offstage or carried on by even more Clerks). Keep the toy routine simple and symmetrical. Beginning in measure 59, the Clerks may discard the toys and begin to invite the Kids into the routine. The Clerks and Kids waltz/dance together beginning at measure 75. Partners bow "farewell" to each other as the song ritards, and all settle into a beautiful tableau for the final phrase at measure 91.
- 5. MARCH:** No singing (or talking) during this song; everything is pantomimed. One by one, the Kids march under the Toyland banner, hoping to be the 100th customer. Clerks 1 and 2 are in charge of the competition, counting entries as they go. Though there are a few disappointments along the way, the Kids are elated when Ronnie wins (on the very last note of the song). Specific instructions are printed above the music in the score.
- 6. DECK THE HALL:** The Clerks help dress the Kids as holiday packages, grabbing costume pieces from just off stage.
- 7. PRESENTS ON PARADE! (FINALE):** Additional students dressed as presents enter from the back and/or sides of the auditorium, marching through the aisles, waving to the audience as they go. The Kids and Clerks join in.

EXTEND YOUR PARADE (optional)

After the finale, repeat the music from song #5 and/or repeat song #2 (singing only the words "Fun, fun, fun" each time). Perhaps every child in your program or school would enjoy marching! These additional parade songs may continue in exactly the same fashion as song #7, or might offer variations such as: older kids in red and green packages, kindergarteners as blue and gold gifts with pennants in hand, the school dance team performing ribbon wand choreography, other students wearing white and tossing confetti snow, a group of teachers dressed as Santa Clauses/Elves and passing out candy canes. Be creative and inclusive!

PRESENTS FOR CHARITY

Consider collecting toys, clothing, games, and stuffed animals for homeless children or for a local children's charity as admission. Collect these special presents at admission, or invite your audience members to join the final parade—dropping off their donated gifts in a designated collection area.

ABOUT THE WRITERS

SALLY K. ALBRECHT is a popular choral composer, conductor, and clinician, especially known for her work with choral movement. A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Sally received a B.A. degree from Rollins College (FL) with a double major in Music and Theater. From there she moved to the University of Miami, where she received both an M.A. in Drama and an M.M. in Accompanying. She taught in the music departments at Oakland University (MI) and Jersey City State College (NJ). For 24 years, she was the Director of School Choral, Vocal, and Elementary Publications for Alfred Music.

An annual recipient of the ASCAP Special Music Award since 1987, Sally has hundreds of chorals, songbooks, musicals, and movement DVDs in print. She has conducted honor choir events across the country, including festivals at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, and The Kennedy Center.

JAY ALTHOUSE received a B.S. degree in Music Education and an M.Ed. degree in Music from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, from which he received the school's Distinguished Alumni award in 2004. As a composer of choral music, Mr. Althouse has over 600 works in print for choirs of all levels. He is a writer member of ASCAP and is a regular recipient of the ASCAP Special Award for his compositions in the area of standard music.

Jay has also co-written several songbooks, musicals, and cantatas with his wife, Sally K. Albrecht, and also compiled and arranged a number of highly regarded vocal solo collections, including *Folk Songs for Solo Singers, Volumes 1 and 2*. He is the co-writer of two best-selling Alfred books, *The Complete Choral Warm-Up Book* and *Accent on Composers*. Most recently, he completed three reproducible texts for the music classroom: *Ready to Read Music*, *60 Music Quizzes*, and *One-Page Composer Bios*. All are available from Alfred Music.

ANDY BECK is the Director of Choral Publications at Alfred Music. A prolific composer and arranger, he has over 450 popular choral works, vocal resources, and children's musicals currently in print, including the highly regarded method books *Sing at First Sight: Foundations in Choral Sight-Singing* and *Vocalize! 45 Vocal Warm-Ups That Teach Technique*.

Mr. Beck is in demand as a guest conductor, choreographer, adjudicator, and clinician for music educators and students throughout the United States and beyond. In recent years, he has been a commissioned composer and/or guest conductor for honor choirs across the country.

BRIAN FISHER is a native of Pennsylvania, where he received a bachelor's degree in Quantitative Business Analysis from Penn State University. After several years as a bank auditor, he attended the State University of New York and became a teacher. Throughout his life, he has been active in music and theatre as an educator, director, and performer. Brian currently lives in North Carolina, where he teaches middle school.

ABOUT THE RECORDING

Presents on Parade! was recorded by Tim Hayden at Ned's Place Studio in Nashville, TN. The project was mixed by Kent Heckman at Red Rock Recording in Saylorsburg, PA.

MARTY: Come on, everybody. It's starting!

(Kids gather around the TV at Marty's house for the opening of the Toyland Christmas parade. They sing along as they watch. The rest of the cast sings from offstage.)

I. PRESENTS ON PARADE! (OPENING)

(All)

Arranged, with new Words, by
SALLY K. ALBRECHT

"Parade of the Wooden Soldiers"
Music by **LEON JESSEL**

March, in two (♩ = ca. 84)

PIANO

The piano introduction is in 2/4 time, marked 'f' (forte). The right hand plays a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the left hand plays a simple bass line of half notes. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

4 PART I *mf* 5

Do you feel that beat? Do you hear those feet? Do you

PART II *mf*

Do you feel that beat? Do you hear those feet? Do you

Measures 4-6 of the song. The vocal parts (PART I and PART II) enter with the lyrics 'Do you feel that beat? Do you hear those feet? Do you'. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and a steady bass line.

7

see the pres - ents march - ing down the street? Wel - come one and all, mov - ing

see the pres - ents march - ing down the street? Wel - come one and all, mov - ing

Measures 7-9 of the song. The vocal parts continue with the lyrics 'see the presents marching down the street? Welcome one and all, moving'. The piano accompaniment continues with harmonic support.

3. OVER THE RIVER

Arranged, with new Words, by
SALLY K. ALBRECHT

(Kids)

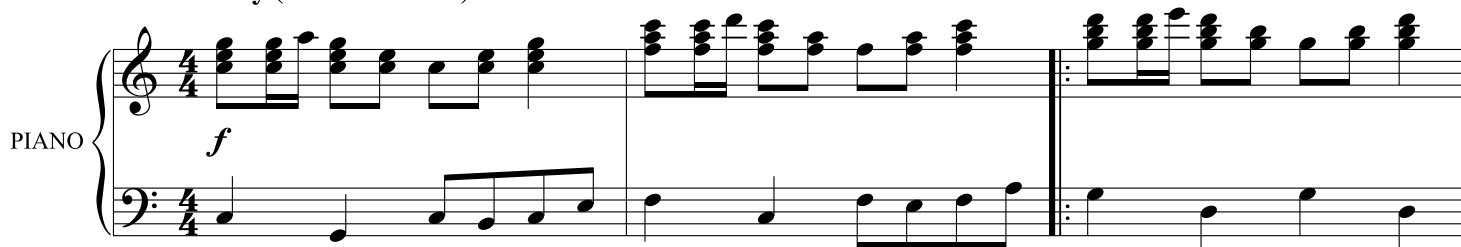
Traditional

RONNIE: (over intro) Let's sing as we go!

(Kids skip and run around performance space as they sing, ending up center stage in front of Toyland.)

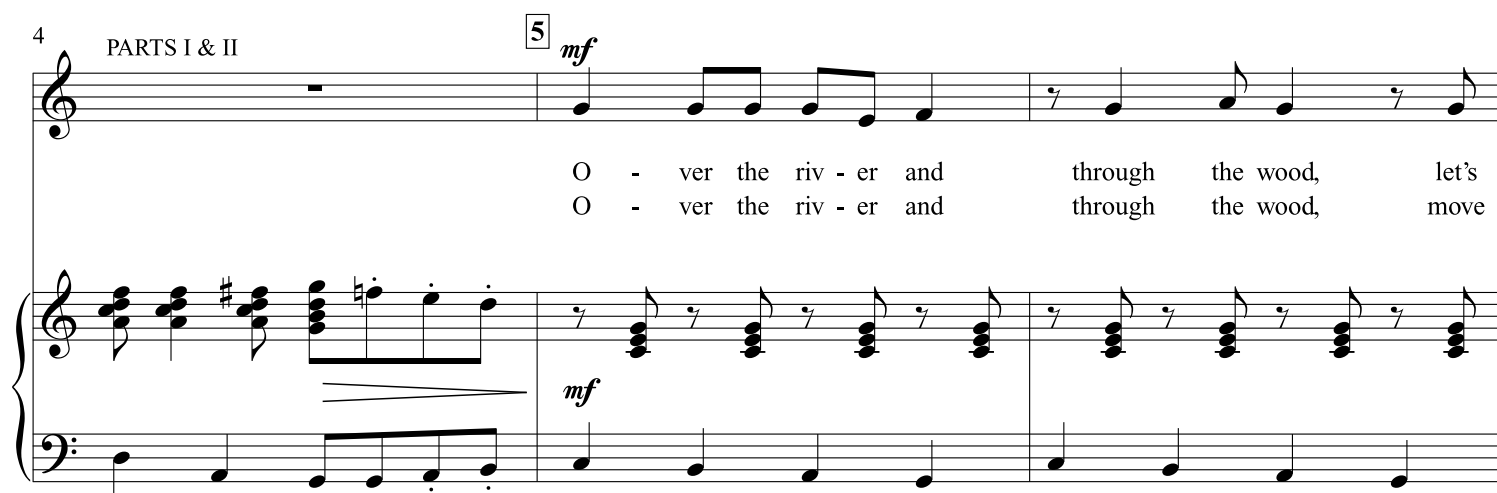
Briskly (♩ = ca. 108-112)

PIANO



4 PARTS I & II

5 *mf*



O - ver the riv - er and through the wood, let's
O - ver the riv - er and through the wood, move

7



go to the Toy - land store. We might make some noise when
quick - ly, with - out de - lay. There's no time to spare, we