**Highlights From** 

# THE WIZARD OF OZ

Featuring Ding Dong! The Witch Is Dead, If I Only Had a Brain, We're Off to See the Wizard, and Somewhere Over the Rainbow

Music by HAROLD ARLEN Lyrics by E.Y. HARBURG

Arranged by CARRIE LANE GRUSEL

## INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Conductor Score
- 8 Violin 1
- 8 Violin 2
- 5 Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)
- 5 Viola
- 5 Violoncello
- 5 Double Bass
  - Piano (opt.)





#### THE ARRANGER

Carrie Lane Gruselle coaches chamber music for young musicians at the Lawrence Community Music School in Appleton, Wisconsin. She is a past president of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American String Teachers Association and former lead teacher for the Lawrence University String Project, a teacher training program for college students. She is co-author of the method series *Measures of Success® for Strings* as well as *Superior Strings in Sixteen Weeks*. Her arrangements and compositions are studied and performed regularly worldwide.

Carrie is retired from teaching strings for the Appleton Area School District She previously taught with Northeast Wisconsin Talent Education, a Suzuki

emphasis school in Green Bay. Her performing experience includes the Green Bay Symphony and the Fox Valley Symphony.

She holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from UW-Eau Claire and a Masters of Music Education with Suzuki Emphasis from UW-Stevens Point.

#### ABOUT THE MUSIC

Selected tunes from Harold Arlen's memorable score from the iconic 1939 MGM film *The Wizard of Oz* are set in this arrangement for progressing string orchestras. Students are asked to perform a wide variety of bowing styles and articulations including the triumphant accents of *Ding Dong! The Witch Is Dead*, the crisp, hooked bows of *If I Only Had a Brain*, the rollicking *We're Off to See the Wizard*, and the lush and legato bow strokes in *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*. The phrase "follow the yellow brick road" is also used briefly in transitional material, though audiences will need to pay attention to catch it!

#### PERFORMANCE NOTES

Regarding the dotted eighth-sixteenth note patterns in *IFI Only Had a Brain*: as teachers, we strive for accuracy in the subdivision of four sixteenth notes; however, in this instance, the composer's intent was to have the pair of notes relax or "swing" a little more. For those not familiar with the tune, a viewing of the Scarecrow singing in Munchkinland would set the example.

A note about the glissando in measure 52 in the cello and viola: this can be used as a pre-shifting exercise. The hand should move to the indicated position with the indicated finger and settle on the pitch that matches open G. As they pull a down bow, the hand will slide back until the C string is open. Finger pressure should be enough to hear the sliding pitches but without undue tension.

Key centers are D, C, and G with plenty of chromatics and altered tones (with ample fingerings indicated). Shifting is required only in the bass.

-Carrie Lane Gruselle

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