# The Ringmaster 

By Jon Bubbett



The Ringmaster is a spirited, fun-loving march written in the circus style of those composed in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Its happy and carefree energy brings back memories of three-ring circuses, trapeze artists, clowns, elephants, tigers, and riders standing on horseback! As the Master of Ceremonies, the ringmaster was decked out in a bright red tailcoat trimmed in gold and a black top hat. Their job was to direct the audience's attention to the various rings where the acts took place, sometimes interact with the clowns, and build excitement for the next act. The Ringmaster reminds us of the frenetic energy of the circus, meant for "ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, children of all ages!"

The Ringmaster was written for and dedicated to the Rehobeth High School Band (Alabama) for their 2023 performance at the Alabama Music Educators Association Conference in Birmingham, AL. Their director, Marc McClendon, decided on a program using only Alabama composers, of which there are currently quite a few. Marc's father, Steve McClendon, was also a band director in Dothan, AL, for many years. His band played for AMEA in the early 2000s. Like father, like son, the traditions continue!

## NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The Ringmaster was written to be reminiscent of the circus marches of old but using a modern-day wind band format. As such, there are places where it should be whimsical and playful!

- Measure 8: Take care to bring out all the percussion 2 "effects." These add to the playful and zany aspects of the march and occur throughout the piece.
- Measure 16: The xylophone glissando should be played as loud as possible.
- Trio: Take care that the bass drum and cymbal accents are observed and given the proper dynamic weight.
- Measure 98: Trombones and euphoniums lead the last strain!


FULL SCORE
Circus march $d=136$


Picc.

Fls.

Ob.


Cls.


Hns. $\quad 12$



Picc.

Fls.

Ob.


Cls.



Picc.

Fls. $\quad$| $\mathbf{1}$ |
| :--- |

Ob.





MIt. Perc. 1

MIt. Perc. 2

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Timp.







Picc.

Fls. $\quad$| $\mathbf{1}$ |
| :--- |



Cls.





Picc.

Fls.


CIs.
B. Cl.

A. Saxes. ${ }_{2}^{1}$


Bar. Sax.
50

Tpts.





Picc.

Fls.

Ob.

Bsn.


Cls.

A. Saxes. ${ }_{2}^{1}$
T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.



62

Picc.


Cls.






Picc.

Fls.

Ob.


Cls.


MIt. Perc. 1





86
87
88
89


50921S
91
92
93

Picc.

Fls. $\quad \frac{1}{2}$

Ob.


Cls.
B. Cl.

A. Saxes. $\frac{1}{2}$
T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.




Mlt. Perc. 1

MIt. Perc. 2










