

SPIRIT OF NOEL

KATIE O'HARA LABRIE

INSTRUMENTATION

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



Please note: Our band and orchestra music is collated by an automatic high-speed system. The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order.



THE COMPOSER

Katie O'Hara LaBrie is a composer, conductor, clinician, and cellist from Northern Virginia. An educator at heart, Mrs. LaBrie spent the first 15 years of her career teaching orchestra in Fairfax County, Virginia. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from St. Olaf College, where she studied under Steven Amundson, and a Master of Music in Instrumental Conducting from George Mason University, where she studied with Anthony Maiello.

As a composer, Mrs. LaBrie's inspiration grows from many sources such as family and nature, but primarily draws from her experiences as a music educator. Her compositions have received many accolades including frequent selection as J.W. Pepper Editors' Choice, as well as performances at the Midwest Clinic and

American String Teachers Association Conference. In 2022, she was honored as one of Yamaha's "40 Under 40," for her action, courage, creativity, and commitment to growth in the music education field.

Mrs. LaBrie is the founding conductor of the Fairfax Chamber Players, co-creator of "the Big IDEA" practice method, and co-author of *Getting in Gear: Fundamental Warm-Ups for String Orchestra*. She lives in Fairfax, VA with her husband Joe, who is a middle school band director, and their budding musician, Liam.

ABOUT THE MUSIC

In my household, the Christmas season starts in October. Yes, you heard me right—October. It all started some years ago when my cousins and I had a Monday off from school and work, and we decided to do brunch. We gathered in our Christmas pajamas, made homemade cinnamon rolls, drank hot cocoa, and watched the movie *Elf*. And there you have it: the start of the holiday season. This tradition has lived on, and even though our lives have changed, our families have grown, and some of us have moved away, we always keep up the tradition every year, wherever we are.

Traditions are a huge part of any holiday and help keep the spirit alive. It's in that vein that I created *Spirit of Noel*. It's bright and cheery, with nods to "The First Noel" and other carols such as "Good King Wenceslas" and "In the Bleak Midwinter." The reflective middle section invites listeners to reminisce on cherished traditions, while the energetic opening and closing will keep you in that joyous holiday spirit all season long.

NOTE TO THE DIRECTOR

This piece can be a great teaching tool for discussing the amount and speed of the bow. Students should use full bow during the half note passages as well as throughout the "broadly" section. In addition, they should explore how bow amount and speed affect dynamics during the crescendi and decrescendi. Encourage violin and viola players to use their 4th finger when possible to help with tone and as a way to promote good left hand posture.

—Katie O'Hara LaBrie

SPIRIT OF NOEL

KATIE O'HARA LABRIE
(ASCAP)

Joyous (♩ = 120)

Violin 1
Violin 2 (Viola T.C.)
Viola
Violoncello
Double Bass
Piano

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vcl.
D.B.
Pno.

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vcl.
D.B.
Pno.

bring out

II½

11 12 13 14 15

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vcl.
D.B.
Pno.

19

p
mp
mp
mf
mf
mp

16 17 18 19 20

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

mf *ff* *mf* *ff* *ff* *ff*

21 22 23 24 25

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

mp *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *cresc.* *mp* *cresc.* *mp* *cresc.*

26 27 28 29 30

31

Vln. 1 *f* broadly

Vln. 2 *f* broadly

Vla. *f* broadly

Vcl. *f* broadly

D.B. *f* broadly

Pno. *f*

31 32 33 34 35

39

Vln. 1 *mp* *f*

Vln. 2 *mp* *f*

Vla. *mp* *f*

Vcl. *mp* *f*

D.B. *mp* *f*

Pno. *mp* *f*

36 37 38 39 40

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

41 42 43 44 45

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

46 47 48 49 50

bring out

bring out

-4

-4

-1

V 4

II½

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

51 52 53 54

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D.B.

Pno.

55 56 57 58

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff