

BEGINNING STRING ORCHESTRA

BARTÓK SUITE

BÉLA BARTÓK Arranged by LARRY CLARK

INSTRUMENTATION

- I Conductor
- 10 Violin I
- 5 Violin II (Viola T.C.)
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass
- I Piano

PROGRAM NOTES

The great Hungarian composer Béla Bartók wrote music that is directly tied to his heritage and the native folk song material he brought to the music world. The following four movements for beginning string orchestra are taken from Bartók's famous "For Children" collection of short pieces for piano. Every young string musician now has the opportunity to experience the startlingly original music of this pioneering composer.

Each movement was selected for its appeal and its adaptability to the string orchestra. It was my intention to bring these delightful little pieces to your students with as few alterations from the original as possible. For example, each movement is the original key. A few additional notes and techniques may need to be illustrated in order to perform this work, but the majority of the technical demands should be within the reach of students who have completed the first book of any standard string method.

I have carefully labeled fingerings for notes that are "out of the norm" at this level, and even with the addition of these notes, the piece should be playable in first position. Bowings are marked only as a guide; I think it is very important for you the teacher to have the flexibility to use bowings that work best for your students. The cello part throughout most of the work is written divisi, with the bottom part a double of the bass, should you need assistance with the bass line. If your bass section is solid, this enhancement can be disregarded, except when the bass is tacet.

It has been my pleasure to have the opportunity to write this arrangement, and I hope you find it enjoyable and useful in your program.

Larry Clark

Please note: Our band and orchestra music is now being collated by an automatic high-speed system. The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order. We hope this will not present any difficulty for you in distributing the parts. Thank you for your understanding.





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