# Young String Ensemble Series

#### INSTRUMENTATION

- Full Score
- 8 Violin 1
- 8 Violin 2
- 4 Violin 3
- 4 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 2 Double Bass
- 1 Piano

## **Popcorn Party**

by Loreta Fin

**Duration: 2:45** 

Level: 1

#### **Program and Rehearsal Notes**

This delightful work uses pizzicato throughout. Bows can be put down if desired, giving the ensemble the opportunity to talk about where the right-hand finger should be placed along the fingerboard for the best, ringing pizzicato sound. It also allows for discussion on what part of the plucking finger is used and that the left-hand fingers need to be firm in order to achieve a resonant tone. It starts just like popcorn cooking – 1 "pop" gradually increases in frequency and through the sections of the ensemble. In measures 8/9 and 53/54 the players should play at different tempi to imitate the final haphazardness of the popping corn until the conductor indicates the Cesura (//). Melody is shared around the ensemble. The piano is helpful for keeping pulse regular, but not essential. It should be played staccato throughout, to imitate the pizzicato in the strings. Let the Popcorn Party begin! Dedicated to Santiago (Sanchito's Samba, ©2016) Aurelia (Cradle Song ©2018) and Luca (Lullaby for Luca ©2022)

**Loreta Fin** was Director of Strings at Somerville House School for Girls in Brisbane, Australia for 35 years. She conducted the String Orchestras at the school at primary, middle and secondary levels. All of these ensembles received Platinum Awards in competitions over the years. Loreta has presented at National and International conferences. She has conducted the String Orchestras at both the Queensland State Honours and Australian Honours Ensemble Programs over several years. From 2000 to 2004, Loreta was Queensland State President of Austa (Australian Strings Association) and served as the National President from 2005 to 2007. She is also a Federal Examiner with the Australian Music Examinations Board and an advisor on several music education boards.

Loreta studied at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and has performed regularly as a freelance musician in chamber music and orchestral concerts, as well as in musical theatre. She has been Principal Violist with the Queensland Pops Orchestra for over 30 years. Well known as an experienced educator and adjudicator, Loreta has also written over 100 publications for young string orchestras, which are frequently selected as set works for competitions and festivals. Loreta's aim is to bring an appreciation and enjoyment of music to as many young string players as possible, while teaching valuable rhythmic and technical skills in an enjoyable way. She has received State and National Awards in recognition of her service to AUSTA and the String and Music Communities of Australia.

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# Popcorn Party for Santiago, Aurelia and Luca











