

Michigan Music Conference
Grand Rapids, Michigan
January 21, 3:00 p.m.

STANDARD ORCHESTRA REPERTOIRE THAT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA CAN PLAY

Kevin Miller
assisted by members of the
Eastern Michigan University Symphony Orchestra

- A. Parameters
 - 1. Full Orchestra only
 - 2. Music *not* on the MSBOA Basic Music List
 - 3. Public Domain (mostly)
 - 4. Beethoven and beyond
 - 5. Original works

- B. Selecting Music
 - 1. Lists
 - 2. Littrel, David and Laura Reed Racin, Ed. *Teaching Music Through Performance in Orchestra*. Volumes 1-3. Chicago: GIA Publications, 2001.
 - 3. Publisher catalogs and websites
 - 4. Online forums
 - 5. Examine scores
 - a. Instrumentation
 - b. Keys
 - c. Clefs and transpositions
 - d. Texture
 - e. Ranges

- C. Modifications (if necessary)
 - 1. Purchase or re-write parts in modern keys and clefs.
 - 2. Simplify technically difficult parts for weaker, younger players.
 - 3. Make cuts, if necessary.
 - 4. Substitute if necessary
 - a. Oboe: violin, soprano sax or muted trumpet
 - b. Bassoon: bass clarinet, trombone, euphonium, cello, or tenor sax.
 - c. Horn: euphonium, trombone, alto sax, tenor sax.
 - d. Trombone: euphonium.
 - e. Harp or celeste: electronic keyboard

D. Standard Orchestral Repertoire not on the MSBOA Basic Music List

<u>Composer</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Beethoven	Symphony No. 4, mvt. 3	5	Bb major.
Beethoven	Symphony No. 6, mvts. 4, 5	5	Dramatic.
Beethoven	Symphony No. 8, mvts. 1, 2	4	F major & Bb major. Counting challenges in mvt. 2. (2/4 – 4/8)
Berlioz	Dance of the (Wood)Sprites	4-5	Great woodwind feature
Berlioz	Ballet of the Sylphs	4	First violins & harps do all the work
Bizet	L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2	4	Very popular. High violin parts can be simplified.
Brahms	Variations of a Theme of Haydn	5-6	Cut out harder variations. Finale is glorious.
Brahms	Hungarian Dances	4	Quite playable and fun to work on rubato
Brahms	Symphony No. 1, mvt. 3	5-6	Ab major and B major. Tricky ensemble passages.
Brahms	Symphony No. 4, mvt. 4	6	Definitely a stretch.
Chabrier	Joyeuse Marche	5	A fun march.
Chadwick	Jubilee	5	Similar to Dvorak <i>Carnival Overture</i> .
Chadwick	Hobgolin	5	Good for a Halloween Concert
Debussy	Clouds, from <i>Nocturnes</i>	5	Accessible introduction to Debussy
Dvorak	Slavonic Dances Op. 46, Nos. 1, 4, 8	4-5	Good ensemble builders
Dvorak	Symphony No. 7, mvt. 2	5	Oboe and English Horn solos.
Dvorak	Symphony No. 8, mvts. 1-3	5	Mvt. 4 is already on MSBOA list.
Faure	Pavanne	4	Woodwind feature, especially flute.
Faure	Dolly Suite	4	Very playable.
Faure	Pelleas and Melisande Suite	5	More demanding than “Dolly” but appeals to the imagination.
Frank	Symphony (mvt. 1)	5-6	Challenging on many levels, but possible.
Ives	Variations on America	5	Very colorful. Publisher: Merion.
Kabalevsky	Colas Breugnon Overture	5	Very rhythmic. Lots of fun. (Back in copyright, unfortunately)
Liadov	Enchanted Lake	5	Transparent. Needs harp.
Liszt	Les Preludes	5	Lots of arpeggios in strings, which can be simplified.
Liszt	Hungarian Rhapsody, No. 2	5	Cutable if necessary.
Mendelssohn	Symphony No. 4, mvt. 2	4	The challenges are musical, not technical
Mendelssohn	Symphony No. 5, mvt. 4		The fugue insures everyone has lots to do.
Menotti	Intro, March, Shepherd's Dance from <i>Amahl and Night Visitors</i>	4-5	A great piece for two good oboes. Lucks Rental.
Prokofiev	Peter and the Wolf	5	As long as you have good key solo players, it's doable. (Back in copyright, unfortunately)
Rimsky-Korsakov	Capriccio Espagnol	5	Need good clarinet, English horn, brass, and concertmaster
Saint-Saens	Symphony No. 3 (“Organ”)	5-6	Needs piano as well as organ. Cutable.
Schubert	Symphony No. 5	5	Good for chamber size group
Schumann	Symphony No. 4	5	Much doubling, but string and WW parts don't lie well.
Sibelius	Pelleas and Melisande Suite	4-5	Similar in difficulty to Faure's
Sowerby	From The Northland, mvts. 2, 3	5	Michigan connection
Suppe	Poet & Peasant Overture	5	Need harp, solo cellist and good violin I section
Tchaikovsky	Nutcracker Suite (portions of)	5	The overture and “Waltz of the Flowers” are harder than they look.
Tchaikovsky	Sleeping Beauty Suite	5	The Waltz is especially fun.
Tchaikovsky	Polonaise fr. <i>Eugene Onegin</i>	5	Need strong violin I section.
Tchaikovsky	Symphony No. 5, mvt. 4	5-6	Done fairly often but not on MSBOA list

Wagner	Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral	4	Use the Watson-Campbell adaptation.
Verdi	Prelude to <i>La Traviata</i>	4	Used in <i>Pretty Woman</i> .