

# Northern Lights

For Concert Band, Grade 3

By Matt Neufeld

## Instrumentation

- 1 - Full Score
- 2 - Piccolo
- 3 - Flute 1
- 3 - Flute 2
- 2 - Oboe
- 2 - Bassoon
- 3 - Bb Clarinet 1
- 3 - Bb Clarinet 2
- 3 - Bb Clarinet 3
- 2 - Bb Bass Clarinet
- 4 - Eb Alto Saxophone
- 2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone
- 2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone
- 4 - Bb Trumpet 1
- 4 - Bb Trumpet 2
- 4 - F Horn 1
- 3 - Trombone 1
- 3 - Trombone 2
- 4 - Euphonium B.C.
- 2 - Euphonium T.C.
- 4 - Tuba
- 2 - Bells
- 2 - Xylophone/Vibraphone
- 2 - Chimes
- 2 - Timpani
- 2 - Percussion 1: Snare Drum/Hi-Hat/Bass Drum
- 2 - Percussion 2: Ride Cymbal/Tam-Tam/Sleigh Bells/Tambourine
- 2 - Percussion 3: Toms/Crash Cymbal

**Full Set - \$75.00**

**Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00**

**Extra Part - \$4.00**



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## Program Notes

One of the best parts about living on the Canadian Prairies is the sky. The vast expanse of blue in the day, and the tapestry of stars at night is an essential part of the Prairie identity - only people from the Prairies really understand what this open sky means to them.

A spectacular part of this sky is the appearance of the Aurora Borealis, also known as the Northern Lights, in the nighttime sky. These dancing, twisting, shimmering, mischievous tendrils of light appear seemingly at random, but captivate all who see them, spellbound for a few precious minutes until the Northern Lights fade into oblivion.

"Northern Lights" depicts the shifting, shimmering aura of the Aurora Borealis, and evokes images of wildlife frolicking under the Northern Lights at nighttime. As I wrote this piece, I envisioned a pack of wolves running under the Arctic night sky, swiftly speeding over the frozen tundra, stars, and the Northern Lights dancing in the sky above.

This piece was commissioned by the Henry G. Izatt Middle School Band and Band Parents' Association, under the direction of my good friend Dave Pelletier, who I am eternally grateful for supporting my music through the years!



## About the Composer

A graduate of the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada, Matt Neufeld (b. 1985) does his best to compose, teach, and perform music for as many people as he can convince or coerce.

Matt spends most of his days working with middle and high school band students at Ecole Van Wallegem and Oak Park High School in Winnipeg.

In his spare time, Matt enjoys competitive board gaming, playing his wife's favorite songs on the piano in ways that does NOT endear him to her, and having his three children try to beat him at Mario Kart.

Commissioned by the Henry G. Izatt Middle School Band and  
HGI Band Parents' Association, Winnipeg, Manitoba - David Pelletier, Director.

FULL SCORE  
GRADE 3  
DURATION 3:25

# Northern Lights

MATT NEUFELD  
(SOCAN)

**Allegro** ♩ = 152

The score is for a 3/4 time piece in B-flat major. It features the following parts:

- Piccolo (opt.)
- Flute 1
- Flute 2
- Oboe (opt.)
- Bassoon (opt.)
- B. Clarinet 1
- B. Clarinet 2
- B. Clarinet 3
- B. Bass Clarinet
- E. Alto Saxophone
- B. Tenor Saxophone
- E. Baritone Saxophone
- B. Trumpet 1
- B. Trumpet 2
- F Horn
- Trombone 1
- Trombone 2
- Euphonium
- Tuba
- Bells
- Xylophone/Vibraphone (Hard mallets, *mf*)
- Chimes
- Timpani (Tune G, A, B, E; solo - medium mallets, *mp*)
- Percussion 1 (Snare Drum/Bass Drum, *mp*)

Dynamic markings include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). Performance instructions for the percussion section include: "Hard mallets If possible, use two players on xylophone and vibraphone. If only one player, use vibraphone." and "solo - medium mallets".



15

Picc. Fl. 1 Fl. 2 Ob. Bsn. B. Cl. 1 B. Cl. 2 B. Cl. 3 B. Cl. A. Sx. T. Sx. B. Sx. B. Tpt. 1 B. Tpt. 2 Hn. Tbn. 1 Tbn. 2 Euph. Tuba Bls. Xyl./Vib. Chm. Timp. Perc. 1

Chimes cue

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*solo*





Picc. *f*  
 Fl. 1 *f*  
 Fl. 2 *f*  
 Ob. *f*  
 Bsn. *f* *mf* Solo (opt.)  
 B. Cl. 1 *f* *mf*  
 B. Cl. 2 *f* *mp*  
 B. Cl. 3 *f* *mp*  
 B. Cl. *f* *mf*  
 A. Sx. *f* *mp* div.  
 T. Sx. *f* *mf*  
 B. Sx. *f* *mf*  
 B. Tpt. 1 *f* To cup mute  
 B. Tpt. 2 *f* To cup mute  
 Hn. *f* Div. *mp*  
 Tbn. 1 *f* *mf*  
 Tbn. 2 *f* *mf*  
 Euph. *f* *mf*  
 Tuba *f* *mf*  
 Bls. *f*  
 Mrb. *f*  
 Chm. *f*  
 Timp. *f* *p* solo *mf*  
 Perc. 1 *f* SD to brushes *mf*



40

Picc. *mp*

Fl. 1 *mp*

Fl. 2 *mp*

Ob.

Bsn. *All mp*

B. Cl. 1 *mp*

B. Cl. 2 *mp*

B. Cl. 3 *mp*

B. Cl. *mp tutti*

A. Sx. *mp Play*

T. Sx. *Tbn. cues mp*

B. Sx. *mp*

B. Tpt. 1

B. Tpt. 2

Hn. *tutti mp*

Tbn. 1 *mp*

Tbn. 2 *mp*

Euph. *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Bells

Mrb.

Chm.

Timp.

Perc. 1 *Brushes pp*

48

Opt. solo  
*mf*

Opt. solo  
*mf*

Opt. solo  
*mf*

B. Sax cues

B. Cl. Cues

*mp*  
Tambourine - lightly

Musical score for Northern Lights, page 10, measures 54-57. The score includes parts for Piccolo, Flutes 1 and 2, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinets 1, 2, and 3, Saxophones A, T, and B, Trumpets 1 and 2, Horns, Trombones 1 and 2, Euphonium, Tuba, Baritone, Xylophone/Vibraphone, Chimes, Timpani, and Percussion 1. The music is in 3/4 time and features various dynamics like *mf* and *tutti*. Specific performance instructions include "Tuba cues", "div.", "open", and "Play".

Full Miniscore on request.  
 Vollständige Miniscore auf Anfrage.