

# Fundamentals for Beginning Bands

A UNIQUE NEW WAY OF LEARNING THE BASICS

by **Gerald Sebesky**

## NOTE TO THE INSTRUCTOR

This book is written for the beginning student with limited musical experience. It provides supplementary material to reinforce what has been presented during regular lessons, in addition to introducing material which may have been overlooked.

This is accomplished through a variety of musical novelties including contests, games, puzzles etc. which enable students to gain more from their study of music and add to the enjoyment of their learning experience.

FUNDAMENTALS FOR BEGINNING BANDS has been designed for use by the entire band, but is equally valuable when used by smaller groups with any combination of instruments.

Gerald Sebesky

NOTE: Although band instruments are generally tuned to the standard Concert Bb, beginning students sometimes find this to be a difficult pitch to match. Therefore, tuning to Concert F is considered more applicable.

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## INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor	E♭ Baritone Saxophone
C Flute	B♭ Cornet
B♭ Clarinet	Horn in F
E♭ Alto Clarinet	Horn in E♭
B♭ Bass Clarinet	Trombone
Oboe (Bells)	Baritone B.C.
Bassoon	Baritone T.C.
E♭ Alto Saxophone	Tuba
B♭ Tenor Saxophone	Percussion



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# TUNE-UP

Before playing together, each instrument should be adjusted to the same pitch. When matching your note to another instrument, be careful, because some instruments will have another name for the same sounding note. Here is a list of instruments and the note that must be played if your band director asks everyone to tune to concert F. [Chart appears in part books.] You can tune your instrument by adjusting the tuning slide (brass) or mouthpiece (woodwinds). If your instrument sounds higher than the tuning note, pull out slightly. If it sounds lower, push in.

(Flute sounds  $8^{va}$  throughout book.)

(Low brass & low woodwinds sound  $8^{vb}$  throughout book.)

# BUILDING CHORDS

When three or more different tones are played at the same time, you have a chord.

Drums: When a longer note appears in drum music, such as a whole-note (●) or a half-note (♩), a drummer strikes only the beginning of the note and counts out the remaining beats. (Drummers can only sustain a note by playing a roll.)

Part I (Chord) (Chord)

Part II

Part III

Cym.

S.D.

B.D.

(Chord) (Chord) (Chord) (Chord)

# FIRST DUETS

A duet is a song played by two people. One person plays the melody while the other plays the harmony. When two people play exactly the same note together it is called a unison.

## HOT CROSS BUNS

Part I Melody

Part II Harmony

Part I S.D.

Part II S.D. Cym.

The musical score for 'HOT CROSS BUNS' is written for four parts. The top two parts are for a melody and harmony, both in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The bottom two parts are for a snare drum (S.D.) and a cymbal (Cym.), both in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, while the harmony provides a steady accompaniment. The drum parts feature a rhythmic pattern of eighth and quarter notes, with the cymbal adding accents.

## HYMN BY BEETHOVEN

Part I Melody

Part II Harmony

Part I Tri.

Part II S.D.

The musical score for 'HYMN BY BEETHOVEN' is written for four parts. The top two parts are for a melody and harmony, both in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The bottom two parts are for a triangle (Tri.) and a snare drum (S.D.), both in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The melody is a simple, repetitive eighth-note pattern. The harmony provides a steady accompaniment. The triangle and snare drum parts feature a rhythmic pattern of eighth and quarter notes, with the triangle adding accents.

## KUM BA YA

Part I Melody

Part II Harmony

Part I S.D.

Part II Cym.

Tri.

S.D.

The musical score for 'KUM BA YA' is written for four parts. The top two parts are for a melody and harmony, both in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The bottom two parts are for a snare drum (S.D.) and a cymbal (Cym.), both in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, while the harmony provides a steady accompaniment. The drum parts feature a rhythmic pattern of eighth and quarter notes, with the cymbal adding accents. A triangle (Tri.) is also indicated in the bottom right section of the score.