Dakota Cavanaugh

Dr. Frank Tracz

Advanced Instrumental Conducting

2/20/18

Concert Program Development Project

**Concert #1 - Literature**

* *Prairie Dances*
  + David Holsinger
* *Salvation is Created*
  + Paul Tchesnekov
* *The Roosters Lay Eggs in Kansas*
  + John Phillip Sousa
* *Simple Gifts: Four Shaker Songs*
  + Frank Ticheli
* *El Capitan*
  + John Phillip Sousa

**Concert #1 – Reasoning**

* Prairie Dances provides a doorway into compound meter and counting alternating sub-groups of 2 or 3. High energy, great for an opener.
* Salvation is Created has a lot of call and response between the melody and the accompaniment. It is a great work for practicing listening across the ensemble for a unified sound, as well as refining accuracy of entrances and releases.
* Roosters Lay Eggs in Kansas is a fun piece for students, and is actually somewhat of a standard from the repertoire. This was Sousa’s closer for a lot of concerts and was somewhat of a joke, but still has a reputation none the less. Quality rep. that gets the students having fun is always great.
* Simple Gifts: Four Shaker Songs- Ticheli is one of the most popular living composers for wind band, and his works are widely known as standards for the wind band repertoire. This setting of some shaker folk songs has a great diversity of styles, and takes some well-known melodies and warps them into a composition that is both exciting to play, and accessible to the average high school. This is a great introduction to multi-movement works, and has a lot to offer in terms of teaching wind ensemble pedagogy.
* El Capitan- This piece is pulled straight from one of Sousa’s most successful operettas. It is a very straight-forward march that is approachable for most high school level wind bands. This serves as a great gateway to introducing students to John Phillip Sousa (the king of marches) and the basic components of a march (intro, 1st strain, 2nd strain, trio, dogfight, etc.). Marches are stylistically very different from most genres of music; that being said, this march is exemplary of basically all stylistic generalizations about marches. It is a great example to teach the style of light, and clear articulations, broad dynamic changes, and thematically unique, contrasting sections that a piece of music can have.
* These pieces as a concert set provide stylistic changes, differences in key, different tempos, different colors, and broad dynamic contrasts. It would be an interesting concert for the audience, as well as an educational set for the students.

**Concert #2 – Literature**

* *1812 Overture*
  + Peter Tchaikovsky Arr. Mark Williams
* *Elegy for a Young American*
  + Ronald Lo Presti
* *Blue Bells of Scottland* 
  + Arthur Pryor
* *Carmen Suite*
  + Georges Bizet Arr. Bullock
* *Barnum and Bailey’s Favorites*
  + Karl King

**Concert #2 – Reasoning**

* 1812 Overture is a crowd pleaser that almost everyone knows. This makes it a great opener.
* Elegy for a Young American is a standard of the repertoire, and works great with teaching balance and blend between soloists and other small sections of instruments.
* Blue Bells of Scottland is a classic trombone solo that has wind band accompaniment. This piece is a great opportunity for the students to hear a quality low brass sound as you would have a pro come in to play the solo for this tune.
* This arrangement of Carmen is a great way to introduce students into opera music. This transcription for wind band is very engaging for both the students and the audience. The tune is rhythmical, tuneful, and characteristic of the gypsy lifestyle as portrayed in Carmen. Inspired by the folk songs of Spain, Bizet’s opera transfers to a band work very successfully and gives a great opportunity to explore different musical styles.
* Written by a Euphonium player, Barnum and Bailey’s Favorite is a piece that has soaring and incredible counter-melodies and harmonic lines. This piece is a great work to teach students about listening for different moving lines and also balancing the most important parts at any given time.
* These pieces as a concert set provide stylistic changes, differences in key, different tempos, different colors, and broad dynamic contrasts. It would be an interesting concert for the audience, as well as an educational set for the students.

**Concert #3 – Literature**

* *Overture for Winds*
  + Charles Carter
* *Irish Tune from County Derry*
  + Percy Grainger
* *Ob-La-Di Ob-La-Da*
  + Paul McCartney and John Lennon
* *Arlington (Where Giants Lie Sleeping)*
  + Paul Murtha
* *The Aviators*
  + John Phillip Sousa

**Concert #3 – Reasoning**

* Overture for Winds is a great opener. It forces the ensemble to execute tempo, dynamic, and articulation changes without giving them away ahead of time. This teaches students to finish phrases and complete musical ideas without giving up on them halfway through.
* Irish Tune from County Derry This tune has stood the test of time for a number of reasons: colorful sonorities, straightforward accessibility, and a memorable climax. This piece has a very broad appeal from both a programming standpoint, as well as playability by both young and experienced ensembles. This piece of music is suited well to the wind band and provides an emotional experience for anyone involved in playing or listening to it.
* Ob-La-Di Ob-La-Da is a tune originally written by The Beatles, so this version set for wind band is a great bridge between the classic rock and roll era and the wind band movement. Teaching students to understand and appreciate different musical styles is important, and this tune helps provide to that variety of literature.
* Arlington (Where Giants Lie Sleeping) is a commissioned work that was composed as a memorial to the service men and women that are buried at Arlington National Cemetery. It is a great tune with patriotic ideals, and is based on some melodies that are easy to recognize such as “My Country Tis of Thee”. It is a beautiful work that is sure to draw emotions out of even the drabbest ensembles.
* The Aviators is a classic Sousa march, and is perfectly suitable as a standard for the wind band rep. Teaching style and articulation are huge points of doing marches, and this one is no different! It has the typical march form and is great for closing out a concert.
* These pieces as a concert set provide stylistic changes, differences in key, different tempos, different colors, and broad dynamic contrasts. It would be an interesting concert for the audience, as well as an educational set for the students.

**Concert #4 – Literature**

* *Overture to a New Millenium*
  + *Ed Huckeby*
* *The Seal Lullaby*
  + Eric Whitacre
* *Motown Revue*
  + Paul Murtha
* *American Riversongs*
  + Pierre LaPlante
* *March of the Belgian Parachutists*
  + *Pieter Leemans Arr. James Swearingen*

**Concert #4 – Reasoning**

* Huckeby’s work has a great use of exciting rhythms, bold harmonies, and wide-spread mixed-meter. It provides a good, musically interesting opener for the band.
* Whitacre’s works for band all provide an experience of complex harmonies, with intervals like major 2nds coming into play more. Younger students are not as accustomed to hearing these close, slightly more dissonant harmonies. This piece is a great opportunity to work with your ensemble on intonation as well as entrances and releases.
* Motown revue is a fun piece including songs the students may know such as ABC by the Jackson Five. It provides an insight into a different musical era and gives a great, fun, upbeat kind of novelty/pops tune.
* American Riversongs is a tribute to tunes that originated from an era when water was the lifeline of society. It has great references to pieces the student might know (Shenandoah) and provides a quality wind ensemble style of experience. It is a multi-movement work that allows you to work with your band on a multitude of different concepts ranging from style to dynamics to phrasing or melodic accompaniment.
* March of the Belgian Parachutists is a classic march from the wind band repertoire and provides an authentic experience for students to try out playing a non-John Phillip Sousa march.

**Concert #5 - Literature**

* *Into the Clouds!*
  + *Richard Saucedo*
* *Sheltering Sky*
  + John Mackey
* *Guardians of the Galaxy*
  + Arr. Michael Brown
* *The Tempest*
  + Robert W. Smith
* *March Diabolique*
  + Brian Balmages

**Concert #5 – Reasoning**

* Into the Clouds is a short but flashy way to open a concert, and you can never go wrong with Richard Saucedo.
* John Mackey is a name that any kid in band should at least hear of before graduating high school, and this particular tune is gorgeous. It is a very emotional piece for band.
* Guardians of the Galaxy is a fairly recent superhero movie, and is this collection of pieces from its soundtrack is sure to be a student and audience favorite alike.
* The Tempest is a great example of Robert W. Smith writing quality literature for the younger wind band. This is a great contest piece that if played correctly, can make a young band sound experienced beyond their years.
* March Diabolique is one of my personal favorites from the wind band rep. In my opinion this tune is a must play for young ensembles.