

**Aussie Band**  
**The Concert Curriculum for Band**

**The Young Master's Concert**

Brian Hogg, Brian West and Ralph Hultgren

This is the concert you can play when your students are half way through book 1 of their band method. It is written to be method book inclusive, as far as possible, and to allow the band to play a full concert that also displays the various aspects of the band's sections and tonal make up.

**Rehearsal suggestions**

This concert collection is constructed to allow the elementary band to progress from "The Debut Concert" to this mid year performance. The rehearsal suggestions are for the aid of all conductors but especially written with the first year conductor in mind.

- Security of time and pulse are paramount. Ensure all rhythmic notation is understood. Be prepared to have the ensemble clap or 'sizzle' rhythms. Engagement in 'making' rhythm will aid in their eventual security in this domain.
- Introduce the band to the forms that are used – round, march and so forth. Give them the beginning of awareness here. Use the musical terms and signs as a point of reference here too as they often describe the style and intent of each work.
- Endeavour to form the correct style in each work. Give them examples to listen to – like the free promotional recording of these pieces.
- Work on phrasing. No phrase marks are given but insist on phrasing that defines the musical line right from the beginning of rehearsal. Show them how to be musical.
- Strive to find the right sound of the band. Listen, conductor and band, to the lower voices to aid with balance. Use those lower sounds to generate the colour and layer the middle and upper sounds on top of them
- Work on clarity at all times. Display precision in your beat and demand it from them. Don't talk too much about it if you are not able to show them – find a way to develop those skills more if needs be.
- As noted in "The Debut Concert", ensure you have a considered and consistent rehearsal plan. Be flexible but not inconsistent. Be careful with the pacing of the sessions too. It's not just about how quickly you get through everything but how you change your pace to teach, question and reinforce.

Once again Brian Hogg, Brian West and I wish you the very best as you continue your journey with Aussie Band. The next instalment is on the way!

Ralph Hultgren  
Editor  
AUSSIE BAND

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