THE JOURNEY BEGINS

for concert band

CAIT NISHIMURA

2024

Duration: 3:00 Difficulty: Grade 2.5

Instrumentation

Flute 1, 2 Timpani
Oboe Chimes
Bassoon Glockenspiel

Clarinet 1, 2, 3

Bass Clarinet

Percussion 1 (marimba, vibraphone, suspended cymbal)

Percussion 2 (suspended cymbal, hi hat, snare drum)

Percussion 3 (bass drum, triangle, tambourine, shaker)

Tenor Saxophone Baritone Saxophone Trumpet 1, 2, 3 Horn 1, 2

Horn 1, 2 Trombone 1, 2

Euphonium (Bb treble part available)

Tuba

The Journey Begins was commissioned by the Central Oklahoma Directors Association for the 2024 7th Grade Honor Band. The idea for this piece came to me on a nature walk while reflecting on the magical fact that the biggest trees grow from the tiniest seeds, and that those trees grow together to form an entire forest. I saw this as a metaphor for each of our musical journeys as individuals, and how we come together to form beautiful, supportive communities.

Whether you're heading out on a trail, playing in your first honour band, starting a new job, relationship, instrument, or at a new school, the energy and wonder of the beginning of a journey is like nothing else. This piece captures the excitement, anticipation, enthusiasm, and even moments of hesitation that come with the start of a new adventure. With syncopated rhythms, long lyrical phrases, and melodic features throughout the ensemble, this piece provides musical challenges to empower everyone in the band.



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