

Piedmont Fanfare

by W. Robert Johnson

Program Notes:

Piedmont Fanfare was written in memory of my late grandfather, Bill L. Mays. He was a naval officer on board the USS Piedmont, a Dixie class destroyer tender commissioned during World War II. There are several opportunities for young musicians to learn music terms, such as *subito* and *forte-piano*. This piece also offers some teaching concepts for a young band:

Motivic Development: Draw the student's attention to how this rhythmic motive is used and developed throughout the piece:



Dynamics: Students should understand that *subito-piano* means "suddenly soft"

Articulation: Insist that the students interpret the staccatos, slurs, and accents correctly, and that they listen to each other to match style.

Suspensions: Lead a discussion on what suspensions are (ex. mm.9); make sure the students understand the difference between dissonance and consonance.

ABA form: The students should understand what *Ternary* form is and how it relates to this piece. You may also use "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" as an excellent example of this concept.



W. Robert Johnson was born in East Prairie, Missouri. He received a BME from Arkansas State University. During this time, he studied tuba with Dr. William Holmes and Dr. Ed Owen, violin with Mrs. Rebecca Markowski, and conducting with Dr. Neale Bartee.

Mr. Johnson is currently the Director of Bands at Jackson County Public Schools, where he is in charge of band instruction for grades 7-12. He is also the conductor of the Jonesboro Suzuki Institute Youth Orchestra. He lives in Jonesboro, Arkansas, and is currently studying for a Master of Music degree in conducting at Arkansas State University.