

The Banks of the Delaware

by Stuart P. O'Neil

Complete Band Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
4 - Flute 1
6 - Flute 2 / Oboe
6 - Clarinet 1
6 - Clarinet 2
2 - Bass Clarinet
4 - Alto Saxophone
2 - Tenor Saxophone
1 - Baritone Saxophone
4 - Trumpet 1
4 - Trumpet 2

4 - French Horn
10 - Trombone /
Baritone / Bassoon
2 - Baritone T.C.
4 - Tuba
1 - Glockenspiel
1 - Timpani
3 - Percussion
Suspended Cymbal /
Triangle / Bass Drum

About the music –

A distinct blend of woodland and prairie, the northeast region of Kansas is among the most beautiful in the state, and the Delaware River is one of many meandering through its lush and rolling landscape. *The Banks of the Delaware* was commissioned by area junior high and middle school band directors to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Delaware Valley League. The piece is reminiscent of American folk music, and it was my goal to create something that would work with young ensembles of virtually any size. Since middle-level bands are often faced with less-than-ideal instrumentation, there is a great deal of doubling throughout:

- The horn doubles the alto saxophone part throughout. These players should strive to blend, although the horns should be slightly stronger with the altos matching their tone.
- The trombone, baritone, and bassoon all share the same part, a large portion of which doubles the bass line at the octave; the tenor saxophone also plays this part, although it occasionally doubles the alto saxophone/horn part. For the *divisi* passages, the director should assign parts so that both the upper and lower notes are covered, with slightly more weight on the lower part.
- The bass clarinet and baritone saxophone double the tuba part throughout the entire piece, although they occasionally play an octave higher when necessary.

The glockenspiel part is intentionally notated as a wind part; this is to help the player better understand the idea of melodic phrasing. The suspended cymbal and bass drum add color and heighten the drama of the piece. By themselves, the parts make little sense; make sure your players listen to how the parts fit with and support the melodic material to help with timing and balance. The cymbal should be relatively dark, and the bass drum should use little to no dampening.

While the piece is seemingly simple, constant attention must be paid throughout to tone, phrasing, balance, intonation, legato tonguing, and general musicality. Dynamic contrasts provide interest, but there should be no real surprises. Make sure the loud passages do not become too loud and that tone does not suffer.

Try introducing the F major scale to the ensemble several rehearsals prior to introducing the piece, and make sure the students become comfortable with the octave that best corresponds to the music. Then have the ensemble members figure out simple songs (*Hot Cross Buns*, *Yankee Doodle*) by rote. Emphasis on scale degrees 3 and 7 will help out down the road. Rhythms from the piece could be introduced to the ensemble prior to introducing the piece as well. Students should initially stay on the same pitch, with emphasis on sustained breathing and a smooth “doo” tongue. Once a good legato texture is achieved, move up and down the scale...ask the players to simply “move the fingers, don’t change the air stream.”

The following is a series of intonation problems inherent in various instruments:

- Flutes tend to play sharp in the upper register, flat in parts of the lower register. Encourage your players to make pitch adjustments by rolling the flute while playing.
- The clarinet throat tones (G, A-flat, A, B-flat right below the break) tend to be sharp and breathy. Have your students hold down the right-hand fingers (and maybe even some left-hand fingers as well) as this should help bring the pitch down into tune and darken the tone.
- The trumpet’s upper octave D and E tend to be flat; while not ideal, using the lower octave fingerings on these notes may alleviate the inherent flatness present in this partial.
- The alto saxophone’s 4th-line D tends to be sharp; the players will need to adjust the embouchure to drop the pitch. Since the altos play in unison with the horns throughout this piece, this note (concert F) should receive careful attention.

I would like to extend my thanks to my colleagues in the Delaware Valley League for giving me this opportunity to share my music with their students.

About the composer -

Stuart P. O'Neil (b. 1969) has taught vocal and instrumental music for Kansas public schools since 1993. He received a bachelor of music education degree from the University of Nebraska and a master of music theory degree from the University of Kansas. His compositions for choir, concert band, jazz band, orchestra, and various chamber ensembles have been performed by school, university, and community ensembles throughout the Midwest. In addition to his work as a teacher and composer, Mr. O'Neil also serves as an arranger, accompanist, adjudicator, and conductor. He currently lives in Lawrence, KS, with his family..



The Banks of the Delaware

for the Delaware Valley League Band Members & Directors

Full Score

Stuart P. O'Neil

Simple, with Grace ♩ = 84-88

The musical score is arranged in a standard concert band format with the following parts from top to bottom:

- Flute 1
- Flute 2/Oboe
- Clarinet 1 (marked *mf* and *one player*)
- Clarinet 2
- Alto Saxophone/F Horn
- Trumpet 1 (marked *mf* and *clar solo*)
- Trumpet 2
- Trombone/Baritone/Bassoon/Tenor Saxophone
- Tuba/Bass Clarinet/Baritone Saxophone
- Glockenspiel (marked *tune: F - B₇ - C - D*)
- Timpani (4)
- Percussion

The score is in 3/4 time and consists of four measures. A large watermark for TRN Music Publisher, Inc. is overlaid on the score, including the website <http://trnmusic.com>.

The Banks of the Delaware -2-

Fl 1

Fl 2/Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

A Sx/Hn

Trp 1

Trp 2

Low Br/WW

Bass

Glock

Timp

Perc

mp

mp

a2

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

lv throughout

mp

sus cym/soft mallets

mp

bass drum (lv throughout)

mp

+ ten sax

- ten sax

+ ten sax

5 6 7 8 9 10

The Banks of the Delaware -3-

14

Fl 1

Fl 2/Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

ASx/Hn

Trp 1

Trp 2

Low Br/WW

Bass

Glock

Timp

Perc

mf

a2

change F to G

11 12 13 14 15 16

The Banks of the Delaware -4-

Fl 1

Fl 2/Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

A Sx/Hn

Trp 1

Trp 2

Low Br/WW

Bass

Glock

Timp

Perc

+ ten sax

- ten sax

- ten sax

ten sax

change G back to F

17 18 19 20 21 22

http://trmmusic.com

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TRM

The Banks of the Delaware -5-

24

Fl 1 *mf*

Fl 2/Ob *mf*

Cl 1 *mf*

Cl 2 *mf*

A Sax/Hn *mf* + ten sax

Trp 1 *mf*

Trp 2 *mf*

Low Br/WW *mf* - ten sax

Bass *mf*

Glock *mf*

Timp *mf*

Perc *mf*

23 24 25 26 27 28

The Banks of the Delaware -6-

32

Fl 1

Fl 2/Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

A Sax/Hn

Trp 1

Trp 2

Low Br/WW

Bass

Glock

Timp

Perc

- ten sax

+ ten sax

+ ten sax

- ten sax

29 30 31 32 33 34

The Banks of the Delaware -7-

The image displays a page of a musical score for the piece "The Banks of the Delaware -7-". The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves. The instruments listed on the left are: Fl 1, Fl 2/Ob, Cl 1, Cl 2, ASx/Hn, Trp 1, Trp 2, Low Br/WW, Bass, Glock, Timp, and Perc. The music is written in a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a common time signature. The score spans measures 35 to 40. A large, semi-transparent watermark for "TRM MUSIC PUBLISHER, INC." is overlaid across the center of the page, with the URL "http://trmmusic.com" visible below it. The watermark also includes a stylized logo of a red and grey musical instrument.

Fl 1

Fl 2/Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

ASx/Hn

Trp 1 *clar 1*

Trp 2

Low Br/WW

Bass

Glock

Timp

Perc

35 36 37 38 39 40

The Banks of the Delaware -8-

41 45

Fl 1

Fl 2/Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

A Sax/Hn

Trp 1

Trp 2

Low Br/WW

Bass

Glock

Timp

Perc

mp

mp

mp

dim

dim

- ten sax

+ ten sax

- ten sax

mp

change B, to A / F to G

to triangle

tri *mp*

41 42 43 44 45 46

The Banks of the Delaware -9-

Fl 1 *poco cresc*

Fl 2/Ob *poco cresc*

Cl 1 *poco cresc*

Cl 2 *poco cresc*

ASx/Hn *mf* + ten sax ten sax

Trp 1 *mf*

Trp 2 *mf*

Low Br/WW *mf* + ten sax

Bass *mf*

Glock

Timp *mf* change A back to B₃ / G back to F

Perc *mf* back to bass drum bd

47

48

49

50

51

52

The Banks of the Delaware -10-

55

a tempo
one player

Musical score for 'The Banks of the Delaware' featuring various instruments including Flutes, Clarinets, Saxophones, Trumpets, Trombones, Bass, Glockenspiel, and Percussion. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f*, *cresc et rit*, and *ff*, and tempo markings like *a tempo* and *to tri*. A watermark for 'ATRN MUSIC PUBLISHER, INC.' and the URL 'http://atrnmusic.com' are visible across the score.

53

54

55

56

57

58

The Banks of the Delaware -11-

59 63

Fl 1

Fl 2/Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

A Sax/Hn

Trp 1

Trp 2

Low Br/WW

Bass

Glock

Timp

Perc

mp *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

back to bd

59 60 61 62 63 64

The Banks of the Delaware -12-

69

a2

mf

mf

+ ten sax

opt one player

bring out

ten sax

mf

mf

mf

65 66 67 68 69 70

The Banks of the Delaware -13-

This musical score page, numbered 13, covers measures 71 through 76. It features a variety of instruments: Flute 1 (Fl 1), Flute 2/Oboe (Fl 2/Ob), Clarinet 1 (Cl 1), Clarinet 2 (Cl 2), Alto Saxophone/Horn (A Sax/Hn), Trumpet 1 (Trp 1), Trumpet 2 (Trp 2), Low Trombone/Wall Horn (Low Br/WW), Bass, Glockenspiel (Glock), and Percussion (Perc). The score includes melodic lines with slurs and ties, as well as rhythmic patterns. Performance markings such as *rall* and *ten sax* are present. A large red watermark for 'JRM MUSIC PUBLISHER, INC.' and the website 'http://jrmusic.com' is overlaid on the score.

71 72 73 74 75 76