

# FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD

African-American Folk Song  
Arranged by Carrie Lane Gruselle

## INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Viola	5
Cello	5
String Bass	5

## FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD

During the Civil War era, the song “Follow the Drinking Gourd” was shared among slaves as a means to facilitate their escape to the North. The text of the song contained hidden messages about how the slaves could find their freedom. The Drinking Gourd represented the Big Dipper, which pointed them to the next step of their journey—ultimately leading to the next Underground Railroad.

This arrangement requires minimal shifting for the first violin, cello and bass, while the second violin and viola remain in first position throughout. Varying rhythms, bowings and articulations are featured components in this energetic adaptation of an African-American folk song.



# Follow the Drinking Gourd

CONDUCTOR SCORE

Duration - 2:30

African American Folk Song

Arr. by Carrie Lane Gruselle

**Allegro** (♩ = 126)

Violins I: *pp*, *div.*, *pizz.*, *p*, *arco*

Violins II: *pizz.*, *p*, *div.*, *arco*, *pp*

Viola: *p*, *arco*

Cello: *pizz.*, *p*

String Bass: *pizz.*, *p*

Measures 1-4 are shown. Measure 1 has a *pp* dynamic and a *div.* marking. Measure 2 has a *pizz.* marking. Measure 3 has a *pizz.* marking. Measure 4 has an *arco* marking.

Violins I: *mp*

Violins II: *p*

Viola: *p*

Cello: *p*

Str. Bass: *p*

Measures 5-9 are shown. Measure 5 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 6 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 7 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 8 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 9 has a *mp* dynamic.

Copyright © 2003 by Highland/Etling Publishing,

a division of Alfred Music

All rights reserved. Produced in USA.

www.alfred.com

10 11 12 13 14

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

*mp* *p* *mp* *p*

arco *mp* pizz. *p*

arco *mp* pizz. *p*

15 16 17 18 19

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

*mp* *p* *mp* *p*

arco *mp* pizz. *p*

arco *mp* pizz. *p*

20

Vlns. I *mp*

Vlns. II *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Cello *mf* arco

Str. Bass *mp* arco

28

Vlns. I *f*

Vlns. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

I  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass

30 31 32 33 34

*mf* *f*

I  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass

35 36 37 38

*p* *mp*

39 40 41 42 43 4

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

*p* *mp* *mp* *mp*

44 45 46 47 48

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

*p* *mp* *mf* *mf*

*pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *arco*

52

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

49 50 51 53

*mf* *ff* *ff* *ff*

*div.*

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

54 55 56 57 58

*f* *ff* *f* *ff* *ff*

59 60 61 *meno mosso* 62 63

Vlns. I *p* *mp*

Vlns. II *p* *mp*

Vla. *p* *mp*

Cello *p* *mp*

Str. Bass *p*

64 65 66 67 68 *rit.* 69

Vlns. I *f* *p*

Vlns. II *f* *mp* *p*

Vla. *f* *mp* *p*

Cello *f* *p*

Str. Bass *mp* *f* *p*