

# Música de Navidad 1

8 Late Elementary Christmas Piano Arrangements  
in Latin American Styles

Wynn-Anne Rossi



Latin America, including Central and South America, has produced some of the most captivating music in history! Perhaps it is because this music is a rich blend of many cultures. Africans, Europeans, and indigenous people have come together creating unique musical styles that use rhythmic syncopations, colorful harmonies, and mesmerizing melodies.

In the *Música de Navidad* series, students experience the rhythms, styles, and musical characteristics of Latin American

music while exploring the holiday traditions of this part of the world. Each piece begins with a short rhythm exercise that prepares students for the rhythm patterns featured in the piece. Brief descriptions of Latin American Christmas traditions help to spark the imagination of the performers. Through the arrangements in Book 1, students at the late elementary level will celebrate *Music of Christmas—Música de Navidad*.

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# Cascabel

## “Jingle Bells”

“Jingle Bells” is a beloved carol that refers to the bells of a horse-driven sleigh. In South America, however, snow is difficult to find in December because it is midsummer in the southern hemisphere!

### Rhythm Workshop

Tap rhythm 3x daily.

Mm. 7-10

The rhythm workshop diagram shows two staves. The top staff is labeled 'RH' and the bottom 'LH'. Both are in 4/4 time. The RH part consists of a sequence of notes: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, followed by a dotted quarter note G4, a dotted quarter note F4, a dotted quarter note E4, and a dotted quarter note D4. The LH part consists of a sequence of notes: a quarter note D3, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, followed by a dotted quarter note G2, a dotted quarter note F2, a dotted quarter note E2, and a dotted quarter note D2.

James Pierpont  
 Arr. Wynn-Anne Rossi

Playful, with energy! (♩ = 112)

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The piece is in 4/4 time. The right hand (RH) starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The first measure has a treble clef and contains a dotted quarter note G4, a dotted quarter note A4, a dotted quarter note B4, and a dotted quarter note C5. The second measure has a whole rest. The third measure has a dotted quarter note G4, a dotted quarter note F4, a dotted quarter note E4, and a dotted quarter note D4. The fourth measure has a whole rest. The left hand (LH) starts with a bass clef. The first measure has a quarter note D3, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, and a quarter note A2. The second measure has a quarter note G2, a quarter note F2, a quarter note E2, and a quarter note D2. The third measure has a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note G2. The fourth measure has a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note G2, and a quarter note F2.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. The piece is in 4/4 time. The right hand (RH) starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The first measure has a treble clef and contains a dotted quarter note G4, a dotted quarter note A4, a dotted quarter note B4, and a dotted quarter note C5. The second measure has a dotted quarter note G4, a dotted quarter note F4, a dotted quarter note E4, and a dotted quarter note D4. The third measure has a dotted quarter note G4, a dotted quarter note F4, a dotted quarter note E4, and a dotted quarter note D4. The fourth measure has a dotted quarter note G4, a dotted quarter note F4, a dotted quarter note E4, and a dotted quarter note D4. The left hand (LH) starts with a bass clef. The first measure has a quarter note D3, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, and a quarter note A2. The second measure has a quarter note G2, a quarter note F2, a quarter note E2, and a quarter note D2. The third measure has a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note G2. The fourth measure has a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note G2, and a quarter note F2.

Musical notation for measures 9-10. The piece is in 4/4 time. The right hand (RH) starts with a treble clef. The first measure has a dotted quarter note G4, a dotted quarter note A4, a dotted quarter note B4, and a dotted quarter note C5. The second measure has a dotted quarter note G4, a dotted quarter note F4, a dotted quarter note E4, and a dotted quarter note D4. The third measure has a dotted quarter note G4, a dotted quarter note F4, a dotted quarter note E4, and a dotted quarter note D4. The fourth measure has a dotted quarter note G4, a dotted quarter note F4, a dotted quarter note E4, and a dotted quarter note D4. The left hand (LH) starts with a bass clef. The first measure has a quarter note D3, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, and a quarter note A2. The second measure has a quarter note G2, a quarter note F2, a quarter note E2, and a quarter note D2. The third measure has a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note G2. The fourth measure has a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note G2, and a quarter note F2.

# ¡Regocijad! Jesús nació

## “Joy to the World”

In America, firecrackers are linked with the Fourth of July or New Year’s Eve. However, in El Salvador the whistling sound of ignited fireworks is a pleasant reminder that it is Christmas.

### Rhythm Workshop

Tap rhythm 3x daily.

Mm. 5-8

RH  
6/4  
LH

Lowell Mason  
Arr. Wynn-Anne Rossi

Cheerfully, with motion (♩ = 120)

5  
mf

3

2  
1  
5

6

3  
1  
5  
f