



**Commissioned by the people of Carthage, Texas for the EIGHTH GRADE Band,  
Brent Cannon, Director. In Memory of Abra Collier and Steven Walker, and  
in honor of their fellow band classmates.**

# River Songs

**(Deep River, Shall We Gather at the River)**

*Arranged by DOUGLAS E. WAGNER (ASCAP)*

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**INSTRUMENTATION**

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|--------------------------------|---|
| 1 Conductor                    | 4 Trombone                                  |
| 8 Flute                        | 2 Baritone                                  |
| 2 Oboe                         | 2 Baritone Treble Clef                      |
| 2 Bassoon                      | 4 Tuba                                      |
| 4 1st B $\flat$ Clarinet       | 2 Mallet Percussion<br>(Chimes, Bells)      |
| 4 2nd B $\flat$ Clarinet       | 1 Timpani<br>(Tune: B $\flat$ , E $\flat$ ) |
| 2 B $\flat$ Bass Clarinet      | 2 Percussion I<br>(Snare Drum, Bass Drum)   |
| 5 E $\flat$ Alto Saxophone     | 2 Percussion II<br>(Suspended Cymbal)       |
| 2 B $\flat$ Tenor Saxophone    |   |
| 2 E $\flat$ Baritone Saxophone |   |
| 4 1st B $\flat$ Trumpet        |   |
| 4 2nd B $\flat$ Trumpet        |   |
| 4 Horn in F                    |   |
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**PROGRAM NOTES**

*River Songs* was commissioned to commemorate the lives of two band members (one African-American and one white), who died within the span of a few years.

Two appropriate tunes were chosen to reflect each culture: the traditional Spiritual "Deep River," and Robert Lowry's beloved "Shall We Gather at the River."

The work begins with an expansive introduction and leads into the eighth note *river motif*, over which "Deep River" is first heard. After a brief passage of original material, the woodwinds introduce "Shall We Gather at the River" soaring above "Deep River" in the upper woodwinds, as witness to our common bonds in this life and beyond.

Commissioned by the people of Carthage, Texas, for the Eighth Grade Band, Brent Cannon, Director,  
in memory of Abra Collier and Steve Walker, and in honor of their fellow band classmates.

# RIVER SONGS

CONDUCTOR

Freely, with expression ♩ = 84

Arranged by DOUGLAS E. WAGNER (ASCAP)

The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system includes:

- Flute
- Oboe
- 1 B♭ Clarinets
- 2 B♭ Clarinets
- B♭ Bass Clarinet
- Bassoon
- E♭ Alto Saxophone
- B♭ Tenor Saxophone
- E♭ Baritone Saxophone

The second system includes:

- 1 B♭ Trumpets
- 2 B♭ Trumpets
- Horn in F
- Trombone
- Baritone
- Tuba
- Mallet Percussion (Chimes, Bells)
- Timpani
- Suspended Cymbal
- Snare Drum
- Bass Drum

The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B♭ and E♭). It features dynamic markings of *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte), and includes performance directions such as *rit.* (ritardando) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The piece is marked 'Freely, with expression' with a tempo of ♩ = 84. The score is divided into five measures, numbered 1 through 5 at the bottom.