

Commissioned by and dedicated to the Northside Blodgett Middle School Band and the Corning Area Community Concert Band, Corning, NY, Mr. John Stranges, Director

Alliance

LARRY CLARK

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Conductor
- 3 1st C Flute
- 3 2nd C Flute
- 2 Oboe
- 3 1st B Clarinet
- 3 2nd B Clarinet
- 3 3rd B Clarinet
- 1 E Alto Clarinet
- 1 B Bass Clarinet
- 1 Bassoon
- 1 1st E♭ Alto Saxophone
- 1 2nd El Alto Saxophone
- 1 By Tenor Saxophone
- 1 El Baritone Saxophone
- 2 1st B Trumpet
- 2 2nd B Trumpet
- 2 3rd B Trumpet

- 2 1st Horn in F
- 2 2nd Horn in F
- 1st Trombone
- 2nd Trombone
- **Baritone**
- 2 Baritone T.C.
- Tuba
- Mallet Percussion (Xylophone, Bells, Chimes)
- Timpani
- Percussion I

(Snare Drum, Bass Drum)

Percussion II

(Crash Cymbals, Concert Toms, Suspended

Cymbal, Wind Chimes, Triangle, Claves,

Gong)





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NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

ALLIANCE was commissioned and premiered by the Northside Blodgett Middle School Band and the Corning Area Community Concert Band directed by John Stranges. It was written as part of the Seventeenth Annual Combined Concert in Corning, New York, for these two fine ensembles and premiered on April 2, 1997 with the composer conducting. Each year the Northside Blodgett and the Corning Area Bands perform a concert of music by the commissioned composer. This year Larry Clark was selected for that honor. Over the seventeen-year history some of the most notable composers in the band medium have participated in this worthy event, which brings together many generations of band musicians working together.

The title of this work was derived from the fact that the Northside Blodgett Band and the Corning Area Community Band have worked together in an "ALLIANCE" each of the past seventeen years for this event.

The piece is in a standard overture form with two main themes. The harmonic material from the introduction is used throughout the composition. Also, the motivic material introduced at measure 27 is used at various times in the piece to connect sections together and it is also the second phrase of the slower B theme.

Special care should be given to balancing the harmonic structure throughout the piece. It is written to give the ensemble a rich, dark sound that should be balanced to the bottom instruments. The percussion should serve as a totally separate color to the wind forces. Emphasize the differences in color between the Snare Drum and the Concert Toms, especially in places where they play against each other. The slow middle section of the piece should be lush and expressively played. The tempo should be flexible so as to allow freedom of expression. When the slow theme returns at measure 96 it should be performed very majestically, but still with a lushness of sound. The melody is written in octaves at this point to give it greater depth and should sound similar to an orchestra when the Cello and Violins have the melody in octaves.

It has been my pleasure to have had the opportunity to compose this piece for the Northside Blodgett and Corning Area Bands. I hope that you and your students enjoy the piece and find it useful in your program.

Larry Clark Miami, Florida 1998



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