

## Learning Bank

### About Marches

A march is a style of music strongly influenced by a basic walking step. There are several types of marches, with the military march as the oldest and most common example. Military marches were originally written for bands in order to facilitate the movement of soldiers from one place to another, and march music intended to raise the morale of military troops, as well. The pulse was quick and steady, and the rhythm patterns were simple. Signals in the music, usually played by the percussion section, communicated instructions to everyone in the group.

Another popular type of march is the ceremonial march. Providing pageantry and color to special events, ceremonial march music provides dignity to official ceremonies, as well. Ceremonial marches are typically slower than military marches and are usually heard at graduations, weddings, and coronations.

Circus marches and funeral marches are also well known types of marches. Circus marches are most often the fastest of all marches while the funeral march is distinctly the slowest and most somber.

Marches and march-like music also occur in art music such as operas, symphonies, and solo sonatas. Composers such as Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Ludwig van Beethoven, and Franz Schubert included marches in their works.

John Philip Sousa (1854-1932) is the composer most often associated with marches. In fact, he is known as, "The March King." He composed 136 marches, best known for their toe-tapping rhythms and catchy melodies. One of his most famous marches is called, *The Stars and Stripes Forever*. English composer Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934) is well known for his ceremonial marches entitled, *Pomp and Circumstance*.

Marches are most often in ternary or ABA form. It begins with the main march melody and is followed by a contrasting trio or legato section. Some marches have more than one trio section. The trio section is more lyrical and often less percussive or rhythmic. After the trio section, the main march melody returns and comes to an uplifting and dynamic conclusion.

Study the following three assignments. Select your favorite and follow the instructions as provided.

1. Describe an event where you heard a march. Write about your surroundings, the march music you heard, and how the music contributed to the event.
2. March music is always performed in a parade. Draw a picture of a marching band and include other things you would see in a parade such as a float, horses, dancers, baton twirlers, etc.
3. Read about John Philip Sousa and prepare a one-page report about his life. If possible, listen to several of his marches as you gather your research.

*Dedicated to my husband, Sam...for his encouragement, love and support during the writing of this piece*

# March Jubilee

Full Conductor Score  
Approx. total time – 2:10

Kathy Cook

**Maestoso** ♩ = 88 - 96

Violins 1  
Violins 2  
Viola  
Cello  
String Bass

Vlns.  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass

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11 12 13 14 15 16

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

17 18 19 20 21 22

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

*mp*

*pizz.*

*mp*

*f*

*f*

23 24 25 26 arco 27 28

Vlns. 1 *mf*

Vlns. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Cello *mf*

Str. Bass *mp*

29 4 30 31 32 33 34 V

Vlns. 1 *f*

Vlns. 2 *mp*

Vla. *f mp*

Cello *f mf*

Str. Bass *mf*

35 36 V 37 38 V 39

1 Vlns.

2 Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

40 41 42 V 43 44 45

1 Vlns.

2 Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

46 47 48 49 50 V 51

1 Vlns.

2 Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

52 53 54 55 56 57

1 Vlns.

2 Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

pizz.