

Kjos String Orchestra
Grade 3½
Full Conductor Score
SO461F

Katie O'Hara LaBrie

The Lost Galaxy



Neil A. Kjos Music Company • *Publisher*



The Composer



Katie O'Hara LaBrie is an active conductor, composer, clinician, and cellist from Northern Virginia. An educator at heart, Mrs. LaBrie spent the first 15 years of her career teaching orchestra in Fairfax County, Virginia. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from St. Olaf College, where she studied under Steven Amundson, and a Master's of Music degree in Instrumental Conducting from George Mason University, where she studied with Anthony Maiello.

As a composer, Mrs. LaBrie's inspiration grows from many sources such as family and nature, but primarily draws from her experiences as a music educator. She enjoys creating new music with the goal of being educationally sound, pleasing to audiences, and above all, fun for the players. She is passionate about sharing music with others and teaching students how to practice with purpose. In fact, on the subject of home practice and becoming lifelong learners, she is co-creator of "the Big IDEA" method (Identify, Decide, Execute, Analyze).

Mrs. LaBrie's compositions have received many accolades including frequent selection as J.W. Pepper's Editors' Choice and Stanton's Sheet Music 5 Star Features List, as well as performance at the Midwest Clinic and American String Teachers Association Conference. In

2022 she was honored as one of Yamaha's "40 Under 40," for her action, courage, creativity, and commitment to growth in the music education field.

Mrs. LaBrie is the founding conductor of the Fairfax Chamber Players. She lives in Fairfax, Virginia with her husband Joe, who is a middle school band director, and their budding musician, Liam.

Note From Katie O'Hara LaBrie

I originally wrote *The Lost Galaxy* as a duet for trumpet and cello when I was in college – experimenting with meter fluidity and juxtaposing idiomatic writing for the two instruments. Expanding it further in this version for string orchestra in 2022 allowed me to play around with the programmatic elements of the piece and consider what a journey through the stars might entail.

From my point of view, the opening of the piece represents the vastness of space, highlighted by the open fifths arpeggiated in the upper strings and played in harmony by the lower strings. From there, we start our journey into space, pondering the unknown. We finally feel assured of what may lay ahead when the fugue begins. This fugue represents all sorts of astronomical elements colliding and spinning into view: asteroids, stars, planets, etc. Then the final reiteration of the opening melody, culminating in a triumphant D major chord tells us that perhaps, just perhaps, we have found what we were searching for!

Note From the Editor

Page 3 of the score features a general view and explanation of galaxies. It's also printed in the parts. *Galaxies* offers students to take a deeper look as they imagine going into space themselves. Consider including a discussion about what they envision via the programmatic nature of this music.

Instrumentation List (Set C)

- 8 – 1st Violin
- 8 – 2nd Violin
- 5 – Viola
- 5 – Cello
- 5 – String Bass
- 1 – Full Conductor Score

Additional scores and parts are available.

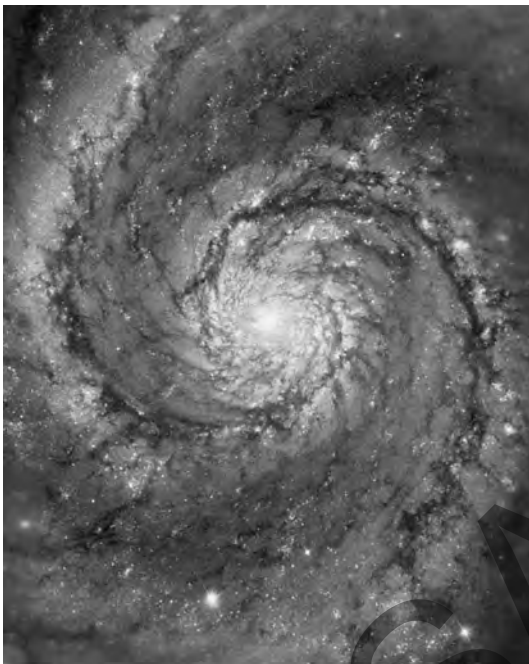
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Galaxies

According to NASA's SpacePlace website (spaceplace.nasa.gov), "a galaxy is a huge collection of gas, dust, and billions of stars and their solar systems, all held together by gravity." Astronomers know that there are at least ten thousand confirmed galaxies besides ours, the Milky Way. However, with current technology, it's likely that 100-200 billion galaxies exist throughout our universe. Galaxies are always growing and ever evolving.

Galaxies are usually placed into four categories, based on their shape: spiral, elliptical, barred spiral, and irregular. Spiral galaxies look like pinwheels. The Milky Way, which has over 100 thousand million stars including our sun, is an example of a spiral galaxy. The Whirlpool Galaxy, shown here, is also a spiral galaxy. It has curved arms extending from a center disk. Billions of stars, maybe even trillions of stars fill these arms. You will find older stars in the center whereas newer stars form from the significant amount of dust and gas in the arms. Next is a photo taken by the Hubble telescope of an elliptical galaxy called the Sombrero Galaxy.



Whirlpool Galaxy (spiral galaxy)



Sombrero Galaxy (elliptical)

It seems that there are many, many galaxies out there that haven't been discovered yet. I imagine becoming a scientist or astronomer climbing into a rocket, traveling faster than the speed of light to unexplored regions of the universe. What if you found a lost galaxy? If so, what can you discover and learn all about it? What's its shape? How many stars do you think it has? Does it include solar systems like ours? Does it have planets that can sustain life? What makes it similar or different? Is there a distinctive aspect to your galaxy that makes it unusual? Name your galaxy and draw a picture of it so that you can share your discovery when you arrive back to Earth. Prepare a newsworthy story to share about your journey to finding this lost galaxy.

11 12 non div. 13 14 15 16

Vlns. 1 2

Vla. 4 div.

Cello

Str. Bass

f

17 18 div. 19 20

Vlns. 1 2

Vla. *f*

Cello *f* div.

Str. Bass *f*

21 22 23 24

Vlns. 1 *mf*

Vlns. 2 *mf* *mp*

Vla. *mf* *mp*

Cello *mf* *mp*

Str. Bass *mf* *mp*

25

26 27 4 28 29

Vlins. 1 *mf* div.

Vlins. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Cello *mf* 4

Str. Bass *mf*

f

30 31 32 33 a tempo 34

Vlins. 1 *dim.* *div.* *mp*

Vlins. 2 *dim.* *mp*

Vla. *dim.* *mp*

Cello *dim.* *mp*

Str. Bass *dim.* *mp*

molto rit.

35 36 37 38 39 40

Vlins. 1 *mf* *f* *ff* (V)

Vlins. 2 *mf* *f* *ff* (V)

Vla. *mf* *f* *ff* (V)

Cello *mf* *f* *ff* (V)

Str. Bass *mf* *f* *ff* (V)

rit.

41 a tempo

Vlns. 1
Vlns. 2
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass

f

45 46 47 **48**

Vlns. 1
Vlns. 2
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass

f

(V)

49 50 51 52 4

Vlns. 1
Vlns. 2
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass

f

(V)

53 54 55 56

Vlns. 1 *mf* *mp*

Vlns. 2 *mf* *mp*

Vla. *mf* *mp*

Cello *mp*

Str. Bass *mp*

57 58 59 60

Vlns. 1 *mf* *f*

Vlns. 2 *mf* *f*

Vla. *mf* *f*

Cello *mf* *f*

Str. Bass *mf* *f*

61 62 63

Vlns. 1 *ff* *f*

Vlns. 2 *ff* *f*

Vla. *ff* *f*

Cello *ff* *f*

Str. Bass *ff* *f*

64 65 66 67

Vlns. 1 *f* *mf*

Vlns. 2 *f* *mf*

Vla. *ff pesante*

Cello *ff pesante*

Str. Bass *ff pesante*

68 69 70 71

Vlns. 1 *f*

Vlns. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello

Str. Bass

72 73 74

Vlns. 1 *mf* *f*

Vlns. 2 *mf* *f*

Vla. *mf* *f*

Cello *mf* *f*

Str. Bass *mf* *f*

1 Vlns. 1 *mf* *mf*

2 Vlns. 2 *mf* *mf*

Vla. *mf* *mf*

Cello *mf* *mf*

Str. Bass *mf* *mf*

75 76 77

78 79 80 81 82 div.

1 Vlns. 1 *f*

2 Vlns. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

83 84 85 rit. 86 87 (V)

1 Vlns. 1 *ff* (V)

2 Vlns. 2 *ff* (V)

Vla. *ff* (V)

Cello U.H. *ff* (V)

Str. Bass U.H. *ff* (V)

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