

# Literature for the Young Band

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Choosing music for young instrumentalists is a vital part of a teacher's mission. The literature students perform should be appropriate for their playing level. For second and third players, appropriate music strikes a balance between familiar and unfamiliar elements. In other words, challenge the players while giving them music that can be performed successfully by them.

As students begin to learn new meters, keys and rhythmic patterns, a good teacher will look for pieces that address these. Be careful not to try to introduce too many things at once, though.

Another feature of music for young bands is the orchestration of the music. In the easiest pieces, parts do not divide much, and some sections have the same material as others. As players mature, they will be able to play with more rhythmic independence, so the director may look for pieces with more divided parts.

The list which follows gives some pieces which I feel are good music on the Grades I and II lists from the Prescribed Music List of the University Interscholastic League. The Prescribed Music List (PML) is the listing of pieces that may be used for U.I.L. Concert Contest. (It also has the pieces acceptable for use at U.I.L. Solo and Ensemble Contest. U.I.L.)

There are many great pieces that are not on the U.I.L. list, but I am limiting this list to music from the PML, as that is what I am most often asked by teachers of young players to identify.

## Grade 1

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Billings/Osterling | Chester                                     |
| Broege             | Dreams and Fancies (2 mvts.)                |
| Broege             | Theme and Variations                        |
| Broege             | Train Heading West and Other Outdoor Scenes |
| Curnow             | Korean Folk Rhapsody                        |
| Edmondson          | Amazing Grace                               |
| Erickson           | Air for Band                                |
| Frackenpohl        | Prelude and March                           |
| Margolis           | Prelude and March                           |
| Margolis           | Soldier's Procession and Sword Dance        |
| Margolis           | The Stars Asleep, The Break of Day          |
| McBeth             | Canto                                       |

McGinty  
Nowak  
Sheldon  
Susato/Curnow  
Wagner  
Warlock/Longfield  
Williams

Sea Song Trilogy  
Spring Song  
Pevensey Castle  
Renaissance Suite (mvts. 1 & 2 or 1 & 3)  
Brother James' Air  
Capriol Suite (2 mvts.)  
Tunbridge Meadows

U.I.L. Grade 2

Allen  
Arbeau/Margolis  
Barker  
Barnes  
Boysen  
Broege  
Broege  
Broege  
De Haan  
Del Borgo  
Erickson  
Fibich/Spinney  
Forsblad  
Gordon/Allen  
Grundman  
Himes  
Himes  
Himes  
Jutras  
Osborne  
Sheldon  
Sheldon  
Smith  
Spinney  
Stuart  
Susato/Curnow  
Susato/Margolis  
Ticheli  
Vaughan Williams/Stout  
Wagner  
Warlock/Longfield  
Williams

Bosnian Folk Songs  
Belle Qui Tiens Ma Vie  
Irish Interlude  
Yorkshire Ballad  
Tricycle  
American Verses  
Dreams and Fancies  
Sinfonia VI (mvt. 4 plus on other mvt.)  
Contrasto Grosso (mvt. 1 or 3)  
Two British Folk Songs  
Balladair  
Poem  
Baroque Celebration  
They Led My Lord Away  
The Black Knight  
Caprice  
Creed  
Kenya Contrasts  
Three Folk Miniatures (mvts. 1 & 3)  
The Piper and the Captain  
Crest of Nobility  
West Highlands Sojourn (play two contrasting mvts.)  
The Gathering of the Yeomen  
The Battle of Jericho  
A Hymn for Band  
Renaissance Suite  
The Battle Pavane  
Portrait of a Clown  
Linden Lea  
Slane  
Capriol Suite  
Greenwillow Portrait