# Growing Ranks

March for Beginning Band

Performance Time: Approx. 2"

Clay Westman
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www.pentoloux.com
info@pentoloux.com

# **Instrumentation:**

### **Soprano Part 1:**

Piccolo, Flute, Oboe

#### Soprano Part 2:

Bb Clarinet, Bb Trumpet

#### **Alto Part:**

Eb Alto Sax, Horn in F

#### **Tenor Part:**

Bb Tenor Sax, Trombone, Euphonium

#### **Bass Part:**

Bassoon, Bb Bass Clarinet, Eb Baritone Sax, Tuba, Bass

#### **Percussion:**

Timpani

Glockenspiel

Percussion 1 (2 Players): Snare Drum, Bass Drum Percussion 2 (1+ Players): Crash Cymbals, Triangle

#### **About the Piece:**

Growing Ranks is a short march written in response to a call for "adaptable" music for early band. Using only the first five notes of the Bb Major Scale and simple rhythms no more complicated than doubled eighth notes in the winds, it gives beginning musicians a chance to learn about the traditional Sousa March form. A simple strain with the familiar Oom-Pah in the lower voices is contrasted with a legato, chorale-like Trio section with the Alto and Tenor voices taking the melody. After a small interjection that repeats the opening phrase, the first strain comes back in full force to round out the piece.

# **About the Composer:**

Clay Westman (b.1993) grew up in the concert band and percussion ensemble worlds and combines his love for music with his other passion: gaming. He finds inspiration in the stories and settings of both video and tabletop games and seeks to channel those worlds through his music. Clay has a Bachelor's in Music Composition from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and currently lives in Durham, North Carolina with his wife and their three cats.

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