



BEN BLESSING

Pioneer Trailblazer's Fanfare
for Beginning Band

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Grade Level: 1

Instrumentation

Flute / Oboe

Clarinet in B \flat 1, 2 (2nd doubles Horn in F)

Alto Saxophone in E \flat

Tenor Saxophone in B \flat (doubles Horn in F)

Trumpet in B \flat

Horn in F

Trombone / Euphonium / Low Reeds

Tuba

String Bass

Mallets

Timpani

Percussion 1 (2 players): Bass Drum, Snare Drum

Percussion 2: Crash Cymbal, Triangle, Woodblock (High & Low)

Transposed Score

Duration: ca. 1 1/2 minutes

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Program Note

The majestic Pioneer Mountains of central Idaho stand as a testament to the indomitable spirit of those who dared to carve trails through their rugged terrain. "Pioneer Trailblazer's Fanfare" is a musical tribute to the dedicated crews who braved harsh conditions and formidable challenges to build pathways that connected communities and opened new frontiers. This work honors their resilience, ingenuity, and the enduring legacy of their efforts.

The piece opens with bold, energetic brass motifs that capture the determination of the trailblazers as they tackled the formidable wilderness. Melodic lines interweave with bright percussion accents, evoking the sounds of tools ringing out against stone and the rhythm of progress. A reflective middle section paints a picture of the serene landscapes these crews cherished and protected as they worked.

As the music builds to its triumphant conclusion, the ensemble celebrates the unity and perseverance that defined the trailblazers' spirit. The uplifting final measures remind us of the profound impact their labor had on shaping the region and connecting its people. Through "Pioneer Trailblazer's Fanfare," the band invites listeners to honor these unsung heroes and the trails that continue to inspire exploration and adventure.

About the Composer

Ben Blessing, (1984) hails from Nampa, ID. A former Marine and current member of the 25th Army Band in Boise ID, he is a long-serving member of the Idaho Army National Guard. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Composition from Northwest Nazarene University and a Master's in Music Education from the American Band College. He has studied with Dr. Walden Hughes, Dr. Eric Alexander, SFC Sara Corry, and Adam Schoenberg. In demand as a composer and conductor, his works have been received with enthusiasm from many audiences. A number of his works have been recognized by the American Band College on their Top 100 List, and his original work "Standhope Peak" is the winner of the 2022 NFMC Armed Forces Composition Competition. Mr. Blessing enjoys writing music for concert band, orchestra, and electronic avenues as well. In his off time, he enjoys writing music, running ultramarathons, and spending quality time with his wife, children, and dogs. He is the Race Director for the Standhope Ultra Challenge and the band director for the Baker School District in Baker City, Oregon.



Full Score Pioneer Trailblazer's Fanfare

Moderato $\text{♩} = 108$

Ben Blessing (ASCAP)

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts from top to bottom:

- Flute
- Oboe
- Bassoon
- Clarinet 1 in Bb
- Clarinet 2 in Bb
- Bass Clarinet in Bb
- Alto Saxophone
- Tenor Saxophone in Bb
- Baritone Saxophone
- Bb Trumpet
- Horn in F
- Trombone/Euphonium
- Tuba
- String Bass
- Glockenspiel
- Timpani (Tune: F, A, C, D)
- Percussion 1 (S.D., B.D.)
- Percussion 2 (Crash Cymbals, Ch.)

The score is in common time (C) and features a variety of dynamics including *f* (forte), *fp* (fortissimo piano), and *p* (piano). The music is marked with accents and slurs. A large, semi-transparent watermark for 'Tender Toes Publications' is overlaid diagonally across the score, featuring a cartoon footprint logo.

Pioneer Trailblazer's Fanfare-Full Score

Fl. 1 *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Bsn. *mp*

Cl. 1 in Bb *mp*

Cl. 2 in Bb *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

Alto Sax. *mp*

T. Sax. in Bb *mp*

Bari. Sax. *mp*

Tpt. *mp*

Hn. in F *mp*

Tbn./Euph. *mp*

Tba. *mp*

S. Bass *mp*

Glock.

Timp. *p* *f* Ch.

Perc. 1 *p* *f* snare off snare on

Perc. 2 *p* Triangle

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COMPOSER

Pioneer Trailblazer's Fanfare-Full Score

41

Fl. 1

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1 in Bb

Cl. 2 in Bb

B. Cl.

Alto Sax.

T. Sax. in Bb

Bari. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn. in F

Tbn./Euph.

Tba.

S. Bass

Glock.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Ch.

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COMPOSER