

# *Onward*

*Concert Band*

*Ahmad Duncan*

# Onward

Ahmad Duncan (b. 2003)

Concert Band | 2025 | ca. 3:00 | Transposed Score

*Dedicated to Flat Rock Middle School Symphonic Band for Midfest 2025*

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## *Instrumentation*

|                      |               |                  |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Flute 1,2            | Trumpet 1,2   | Glockenspiel     |
| Oboe                 | Horn in F 1,2 | Marimba          |
| Bassoon 1,2          | Trombone 1,2  | Snare Drum       |
| Clarinet in Bb 1,2,3 | Euphonium     | Bass Drum        |
| Bass Clarinet        | Tuba          | Tambourine       |
| Alto Sax 1,2         |               | Crash Cymbal     |
| Tenor Sax            |               | Suspended Cymbal |
| Baritone Sax         |               |                  |

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## **Program Notes**

We all love the story of success. We, as humans, thrive on the feeling of succeeding on what we put our minds to. However, what we are not often told about this journey is the inevitable setbacks that may come our way. These setbacks may come at unexpected times and could discourage us from meeting our goals. However, what defines our journey towards achievement is not the setback itself but how we respond. This piece tells the story of overcoming setbacks starting with triumphant and confident opening bars moving to a happy and flowing theme. The music then transitions to a slightly sad and dark middle section that longs for returning to light. A second theme reveals itself which is more bold than the first that soars with the feeling of overcoming dark times. One of my biggest reminders to myself is that sometimes we have to take one step backwards to take two steps forward. With this piece I wish to give everyone the reminder that in the face of setbacks, we must learn to progress ONWARD.

# Onward

Ahmad Duncan

Triumphant and joyful;  $\text{♩} = 152$

Flute 1 2

Oboe

Bassoon 1 2

Clarinet 1 2

Clarinet 3

Bass Clarinet

Alto Saxophone 1 2

Tenor Saxophone

Baritone Saxophone

Trumpet in B $\flat$  1 2

Horn in F 1 2

Trombone 1 2

Euphonium

Tuba

Glockenspiel

Marimba

Snare Drum

Bass Drum

Tambourine

Crash Cymbal

Suspended Cymbal

2 3 4 5

**A**

Fl. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

**A**

Tpt in Bb 1 2

Hn in F 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

Euph.

Tba

**A**

Glock.

Mar.

Sn. Dr.

B. Dr.

Tamb.

Cr. Cym.

Sus. Cym.

6 7 8 9 10

## 3

Fl. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn. 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpt in B $\flat$  1 2

Hn in F 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

Euph.

Tba.

Glock.

Mar.

Sn. Dr.

B. Dr.

Tamb.

Cr. Cym.

Sus. Cym.

11 12 13 14 15

B

B

B

(5) (6) (7) (8)

*p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

This musical score is for a piece titled "Onward". It is arranged for a woodwind and brass ensemble with percussion. The score is divided into five measures, numbered 16 through 20 at the bottom. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Fl. 1 & 2:** Flutes 1 and 2. They play a melodic line in measures 16-18, then a sustained note in measures 19-20. Dynamics: *mf* in measure 19.
- Ob.:** Oboe. Similar to the flutes, playing a melodic line in measures 16-18 and a sustained note in measures 19-20. Dynamics: *mf* in measure 19.
- Bsn. 1 & 2:** Bassoons 1 and 2. They play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measures 16-18, then rest in measures 19-20.
- Cl. 1 & 2:** Clarinets 1 and 2. They play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measures 16-18, then a sustained note in measures 19-20.
- Cl. 3:** Clarinet 3. Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measures 16-18, then a sustained note in measures 19-20.
- B. Cl.:** Bass Clarinet. Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measures 16-18, then a sustained note in measures 19-20.
- A. Sax. 1 & 2:** Alto Saxophones 1 and 2. They play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measures 16-18, then a sustained note in measures 19-20.
- T. Sax.:** Tenor Saxophone. Rests in measures 16-18, then plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measures 19-20. Dynamics: *p* in measure 19.
- Bar. Sax.:** Baritone Saxophone. Rests in measures 16-18, then plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measures 19-20.
- Tpt in Bb 1 & 2:** Trumpets in Bb 1 and 2. Rests in all measures.
- Hn in F 1 & 2:** Horns in F 1 and 2. Play a melodic line in measures 16-18, then rest in measures 19-20.
- Tbn. 1 & 2:** Trombones 1 and 2. Rests in all measures.
- Euph.:** Euphonium. Rests in measures 16-18, then plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measures 19-20. Dynamics: *p* in measure 19.
- Tba:** Tuba. Rests in all measures.
- Glock.:** Glockenspiel. Plays a melodic line in measures 16-18, then rests in measures 19-20.
- Mar.:** Maracas. Play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measures 16-18, then rest in measures 19-20.
- Sn. Dr.:** Snare Drum. Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measures 16-18, then rests in measures 19-20. Dynamics: *(2)*, *(3)*, *(4)*, *(5)*, *(6)* in measures 16-20.
- B. Dr.:** Bass Drum. Rests in all measures.
- Tamb.:** Tambourine. Plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measures 16-18, then rests in measures 19-20.
- Cr. Cym.:** Crash Cymbal. Rests in all measures.
- Sus. Cym.:** Suspended Cymbal. Rests in all measures.

The score is written in 4/4 time. The key signature is one flat (Bb). The dynamics range from *p* (piano) to *mf* (mezzo-forte).

Fl. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpt in B $\flat$  1 2

Hn in F 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

Euph.

Tba

Glock.

Mar.

Sn. Dr.

B. Dr.

Tamb.

Cr. Cym.

Sus. Cym.

21

22

23

24

25

This musical score is for a piece titled "Onward". It is arranged for a large orchestra and a full percussion section. The score is written for measures 26 through 30. The orchestration includes:

- Flutes (Fl. 1, 2):** Playing a melodic line with some rests.
- Oboe (Ob.):** Playing a melodic line with some rests.
- Bassoon (Bsn. 1, 2):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Clarinets (Cl. 1, 2, 3):** Playing various melodic and harmonic parts.
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Alto Saxophone (A. Sax. 1, 2):** Playing a melodic line with some rests.
- Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Baritone Saxophone (Bar. Sax.):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Trumpets in Bb (Tpt in Bb. 1, 2):** Playing a melodic line with some rests.
- Horn in F (Hn in F. 1, 2):** Playing a melodic line with some rests.
- Trombones (Tbn. 1, 2):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Euphonium (Euph.):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Tuba (Tba):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Glockenspiel (Glock.):** Playing a melodic line with some rests.
- Mariage (Mar.):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Snare Drum (Sn. Dr.):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, with specific markings (4), (5), (6), (7), and (8) above the staff.
- Bass Drum (B. Dr.):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Tam-tam (Tamb.):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Cymbals (Cr. Cym.):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Suspended Cymbal (Sus. Cym.):** Playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

The score is written in 2/4 time. The key signature is one flat (Bb). The percussion section includes a variety of drums and cymbals, with specific markings for the snare drum. The overall texture is dense and rhythmic, with many instruments playing eighth notes.

26 27 28 29 30

**D**

Fl. 1 2

Ob.

Bsn. 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. 1 2

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

**D**

Tpt in Bb 1 2

Hr in F 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

Euph.

Tba

**D**

Glock.

Mar.

Sn. Dr.

B. Dr.

Tamb.

Cr. Cym.

Sus. Cym.

*f*

31 32 33 34 35

**E Sad but hopeful**

Fl. 1 2 *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Bsn. 1 2 *f* *p*

Cl. 1 2 *ff*

Cl. 3 *ff*

B. Cl. *ff* *p*

A. Sax. 1 2 *ff* *mf*

T. Sax. *f* *p*

Bar. Sax. *ff* *p*

**E Sad but hopeful**

Tpt in Bb 1 2 *ff*

Hn in F 1 2 *ff* *mf*

Tbn. 1 2 *ff*

Euph. *f*

Tba. *ff*

**E Sad but hopeful**

Glock. *p*

Mar. *ff*

Sn. Dr. *ff* *p*

B. Dr.

Tamb. *p*

Cr. Cym. *ff*

Sus. Cym.

36 37 38 39 40

Musical score for measures 41 through 45, titled "Onward". The score is arranged in three systems of staves. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Fl. 1 & 2:** Flute 1 and 2, both in B-flat major, are silent throughout the measures.
- Ob.:** Oboe, in B-flat major, is silent throughout the measures.
- Bsn 1 & 2:** Bassoon 1 and 2, both in B-flat major, play a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.
- Cl. 1 & 2:** Clarinet 1 and 2, both in B-flat major, are silent throughout the measures.
- Cl. 3:** Clarinet 3, in B-flat major, is silent throughout the measures.
- B. Cl.:** Bass Clarinet, in B-flat major, plays a sustained note.
- A. Sax. 1 & 2:** Alto Saxophone 1 and 2, both in E-flat major, play a melodic line with a first ending bracket.
- T. Sax.:** Tenor Saxophone, in E-flat major, plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.
- Bar. Sax.:** Baritone Saxophone, in E-flat major, plays a sustained note.
- Tpt in Bb 1 & 2:** Trumpet in B-flat major 1 and 2, both in B-flat major, are silent throughout the measures.
- Hn in F 1 & 2:** Horn in F major 1 and 2, both in F major, play a melodic line with a first ending bracket.
- Tbn. 1 & 2:** Trombone 1 and 2, both in B-flat major, are silent throughout the measures.
- Euph.:** Euphonium, in B-flat major, is silent throughout the measures.
- Tba:** Tuba, in B-flat major, is silent throughout the measures.
- Glock.:** Glockenspiel, in B-flat major, plays a melodic line with a first ending bracket.
- Mar.:** Maracas, in B-flat major, are silent throughout the measures.
- Sn. Dr.:** Snare Drum, in B-flat major, is silent throughout the measures.
- B. Dr.:** Bass Drum, in B-flat major, is silent throughout the measures.
- Tamb.:** Tambourine, in B-flat major, plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.
- Cr. Cym.:** Crash Cymbal, in B-flat major, is silent throughout the measures.
- Sus. Cym.:** Suspended Cymbal, in B-flat major, is silent throughout the measures.

The measures are numbered 41, 42, 43, 44, and 45 at the bottom of the page.