

Compose and Arrange a Piece for the High School Band to Perform

ELO Title: *Compose and Arrange a Piece for the High School Band to Perform.*

School: Newmarket Jr. Sr. High School

Essential Question: How do musicians generate ideas, make creative decisions, and decide when creative work is ready to share?

Area(s) of Study: Music

Amount of credit earned: .5 Music Elective

Competencies:

Short description	Full text of competency
Use sound to represent ideas.	Describe and demonstrate multiple ways in which sounds and musical ideas can be used to represent extended sonic experiences or abstract ideas.
Use sound to make a statement.	Assemble and organize multiple sounds or extended musical ideas to create initial expressive statements of selected extended sonic experiences or abstract ideas.
Create the score for high school band	Analyze and demonstrate the development of sounds and extended musical ideas in drafts of music within a complex variety of moderately complex or complex forms.
Prepare the band to perform the piece.	Share music through the use of notation, solo or group performance, or technology, and demonstrate and explain how the elements of music, compositional techniques and processes have been employed to realize expressive intent.

Student Activities (up to 10):

1. Learn to use Sibelius Music Notation software
2. Break chords into individual notes and assign these to various instruments based on that instruments range.
 - a. Some instruments wouldn't be able to hit certain notes in those chords so adjustments would need to be made.
3. Assign melodies to various instruments based on range and musicians' skill level.
 - a. Assigning melodies to specific instruments. For example: flutes were used in a specific way because the soft timbre of the instrument complimented the melody.
4. Arrange into a final score.
5. Create practice tracks for musicians to practice at home.
6. Assist musicians with their parts
7. Assist band instructor during band and make adjustments to the score as needed.
8. Perform the final arrangement.

Community Partner:

Band Director/Music Teacher

Community Partner responsibilities in this ELO:

- Assessing student progress throughout the process
- Ensure that deadlines are being met
- Assist student with making connections between the written work and the real world application of the music.
- Work with the school band to prepare for the performance

Assessment:

Student was assessed through a journal/hours tracker. Each time the student sat down to work, he recorded his start and end time as well as a short description of what he did during that time. He checked in frequently (2-5 times per week) with the band director/advising teacher to discuss progress and review the score.

Once the piece was arranged, additional assessment was ongoing as the band worked through the piece. A section, for example, may have been beyond the skill level of a certain player and the student would have to make adjustments without sacrificing his vision. Because the student does not play all band instruments, it was not initially clear that he wasn't allowing time for certain players to breathe and so, he had to divide the parts between the musicians in that section.

Aside from the final performance, the student presented his learning experience to the ELO team using a Google Slides presentation.

Connection to student's measurable postsecondary goals (for students with IEPs): N/A

Comments and suggestions for other schools implementing a similar ELO:

This ELO was an Advanced Study ELO. For this ELO, the student had already composed the piece, using MIDI, and recording other live instruments in Garageband. It was helpful for him to have that as a starting point.

He is going to do this again next year, but will likely be starting from scratch and the plan is for him to, in addition to composing the piece, actually conduct the band during the performance.

Willing to be contacted by another school interested in developing something similar to this?

No

Yes. If yes, please list contact information: 603-292-7676 or

levasseurr@newmarket.k12.nh.us

Supporting material included. List and briefly describe:

The following link is to the video performance of the piece as well as a video sample of the score captured from Sibelius. The second link is to the ELO Design Plan.

[Product Samples](#)

[ELO Design Plan](#)

Photos or student work submitted:

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