



## **About the Composer**

Kevin Sluder is an orchestra director in Frisco, TX. Since 2007, he has taught at both the middle and high school levels.

In addition to writing for string orchestra, Mr. Sluder enjoys songwriting, recording his own music, getting lost in video games, and co-hosting the string education podcast Rite of String.

## **Program Notes**

In the 21st Century, flying on commercial aircraft has become instrumental it our modern way of life, but in the late 1800's, the idea of humanking leaving the late to of the ground beneath our feet was no more than a dream.

The history of flight is an amazing journey of human inger dity and determination, spanning from the Wright brothers' groundbealing achievements in 1903 to the beginnings of the Space Race in the 1950s. Only 66 years passed between the world's first flight and the first step on the near. Imagine where we could be 66 years from now!

*Dream of Flight* is not only a ped to the achievements of air and space craft developers, but also represents humanity stascination with "eaching for the stars" and beyond.

## Conductor's Note

This piece allows young students to produce a mature sound while still working to master the one-octave D major scale. The tempo is intended to be a brisk, but flowing, cut-time.

Every section gets a chance at the melody. Have your students listen for who has it at which measures. The members of the orchestra should aim to raise and lower their dynamic level in members like this to ensure the most important voices are heard. One spot that might be less obvious to the students: the 1st violin 8th notes in measure 16 are intended to be the dominant sound and then flow right into the 2nd violin/viola melody at measure 17, quickly swapping roles from melody to harmony.

In *bream of Flight*, the cello often plays an inner-harmony role, accompanying the melodic lines in the upper strings. This allows for the root of the chord to be performed solely by the bass players, providing a solid foundation for the orchestra to build upon. For groups with a low number of bassists, a "bass on cello" part has been included.

I hope you and your students enjoy *Dream of Flight*!

Kevin Sluder









