

Defenders of the Shore

For String Orchestra, Grade 2
by Gavin Lendt

Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
8 - Violin 1
8 - Violin 2
3 - Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)
5 - Viola
5 - Cello
5 - Bass

Note from the Editor:

This adventurous grade 2 march will stretch students' understanding of dynamics through dramatic subito changes, while crisp quarter note - eighth note motives propel the piece forward.

- Katie O'Hara LaBrie

Full Set - \$60.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$5.00



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Defenders of the Shore

By Gavin Lendt, Grade 2

Program Notes:

Defenders of the Shore transports listeners into a realm of courage and vigilance, where steadfast guardians stand watch over coastlines and their communities. The title suggests an age-old clash between light and darkness, as well as a responsibility to protect the natural world. A bold rhythmic motif—one quarter note followed by two eighth notes—drives this march-like work and shapes its character. Through commanding melodies, vibrant textures, and dramatic shifts between tension and heroism, students will develop expressive phrasing, explore varied articulations, and strengthen ensemble precision as they bring this compelling piece to life.

Notes To the Conductor:

Defenders of the Shore is an anthem of courage, honor, and determination, telling the story of brave guardians standing watch over their homeland. Every part is important in creating the overall sound. Encourage students to listen carefully, play with purpose, and work together to create a strong, balanced ensemble.

Play the opening melody with clear, separated articulation to firmly establish the character of the piece. *Defenders...* thrives on bold dynamic contrast, so the softer the pianos and the fuller the fortes, the more powerful the music becomes. In quieter, more mysterious passages such as bars 42–53, use light, controlled bow strokes in the upper strings and a darker tone in the lower parts to create suspense and anticipation. Throughout the piece, maintain a steady beat while clearly shaping sudden dynamic changes, especially the subito pianos and fortes. At Bar 62, aim for a polished and disciplined character for three bars followed by an interruption of chaos at Bar 65. Near the end at Bar 97, use big exaggerated down bows for added impact. You may slow down the final three notes to give the ending more weight and decisiveness.

Play boldly

– Gavin Lendt



About the Composer:

Gavin Lendt is an award-winning composer, conductor, and horn player. Known mostly for his band works, he is also a recognized composer of music for orchestra, choir, solo instruments, and small ensembles, and writes music for YouTube and Twitch content creators. He has received several commissions throughout the United States, and his music has been performed all over the world. Most recently, his work "A Wind in Time" was selected as a winner of the 2021 Grand Mesa Music Composition Contest. In December of 2012, he premiered his large-scale work for orchestra and choir, "Living in the Light."

His music is known for incorporating rich harmonies and dramatic counterlines. Both students and teachers find his music accessible and enjoyable to play. Many high school bands have received superior ratings at contests performing his works.

Gavin studied composition at the University of Kansas with James Barnes and has had private instruction with luminary composers such as Stephen Melillo, John Mackey, Julie Giroux, Charles Rochester Young, and Gabriela Frank

An avid horn player, Gavin has performed with the Topeka Symphony, Kansas City Civic Orchestra, Hollywood Hills Orchestra, and the Lenexa Orchestra. Gavin is also the musical director and arranger for the Kansas City Horn Club, a nonprofit organization designed to share enthusiasm and increase interest for the horn. Gavin lives in Lenexa, Kansas, with his music educator wife, Stacy. Visit gavinlendt.com for more.

Defenders of the Shore

Score
Grade 2
Duration 2:20

Gavin Lendt
(ASCAP)

Vivace $\text{♩} = 92$

Musical score for measures 1-5. The score is for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola (Violin 3), Cello, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/2. The tempo is marked 'Vivace' with a quarter note equal to 92 beats per minute. The dynamic is marked 'mp' (mezzo-piano). The score includes various musical notations such as stems, beams, and accents. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid on the score.

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola (Violin 3)
Cello
Double Bass

1 2 3 4 5

Musical score for measures 6-10. The score is for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/2. The dynamic is marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The score includes various musical notations such as stems, beams, and accents. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid on the score.

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.

6 7 8 9 10

Musical score for measures 11-16. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 11-16 show a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the lower strings and violins, with some accents and slurs. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid on the score.

Musical score for measures 17-22. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 17-22 show a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the lower strings and violins, with some accents and slurs. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid on the score. Dynamics include *f* and *p sub.*

25

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

f *p* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *pizz.* *mf*

opt. -2

4

23 24 25 26 27 28

33

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Play

-0

29 30 31 32 33 34

Musical score for measures 35-39. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page. The notation includes various note values, rests, and dynamic markings. Measure numbers 35, 36, 37, 38, and 39 are printed below the staves.

Musical score for measures 40-45. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page. The notation includes various note values, rests, and dynamic markings. Measure numbers 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, and 45 are printed below the staves. A circled measure number '42' is present above the Vln. 1 staff. Dynamic markings include *f*, *p sub.*, *arco*, and *mf*.

46

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

p *sub.* *mp*

46 47 48 49 50

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 46 through 50. It features five staves: Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 46 is marked with a box containing the number 46. Dynamics include *p* (piano) and *sub.* (sustained) for measures 46-49, and *mp* (mezzo-piano) for measures 49-50. There are fermatas over measures 48 and 49. A large, diagonal watermark reading "Preview Only" is overlaid across the score.

54

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

f

51 52 53 54 55

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 51 through 55. It features the same five staves as the previous block. Measure 54 is marked with a box containing the number 54. Dynamics include *f* (forte) for measures 53-55. There are fermatas over measures 53 and 54. A large, diagonal watermark reading "Preview Only" is overlaid across the score.

Musical score for measures 56-60. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into five measures. Measures 56 and 57 show a steady eighth-note pattern in the strings. Measures 58 and 59 feature a dynamic shift from *p sub.* to *f*, with a crescendo hairpin. Measure 60 continues the *f* dynamic. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid on the score.

62

Musical score for measures 61-66. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 61 and 62 show a steady eighth-note pattern in the strings. Measures 63 and 64 feature a dynamic shift from *p sub.* to *f*, with a crescendo hairpin. Measures 65 and 66 continue the *f* dynamic. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid on the score.

70

Musical score for measures 67-71. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 67 includes a 'div.' marking above the first violin and a 'V' marking above the second violin. Measure 68 has a '4' marking above the first violin. Measure 69 has an 'L2' marking above the first violin. Dynamics include *f* (forte) for measures 67-69, *mp* (mezzo-piano) for measures 70-71, and *pizz.* (pizzicato) for the double bass in measure 70. A 'Cello' marking is present in measure 70. An 'opt. -2' marking is present in measure 71. A box containing the number '70' is located at the top right of the first system.

Musical score for measures 72-77. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 72 has a '4' marking above the second violin. Measure 73 has a 'Play' marking above the viola. Measure 74 has a '-2' marking above the cello. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) for measures 72-77. A 'pizz.' marking is present in measure 72. A 'Cello' marking is present in measure 73. A 'V' marking is present in measure 74. A '4' marking is present in measure 75. A '2' marking is present in measure 76. A '4' marking is present in measure 77.

78

Vln. 1 *mp* *mf*

Vln. 2 *mp* *mf*

Vla. *mp* *mf*

Vc. *mp* *mf*

D.B. *mp* *mf*

78 79 80 81 82 83

86

Vln. 1 *f* *div.*

Vln. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

D.B. *f* *sim.*

84 85 86 87 88

Musical score for measures 89-93. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes dynamic markings of *ff* (fortissimo) starting at measure 92. Performance instructions include hairpins and accents. Specific markings include *-H4* and *-4* above notes in measures 90 and 91. A large watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Musical score for measures 94-99. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes dynamic markings of *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *fp* (fortissimo piano). Performance instructions include hairpins, accents, and breath marks (V). Specific markings include *L2* above a note in measure 99. A large watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

100

Musical score for measures 100-104. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) for measures 100-101 and *f* (forte) for measures 102-104. The music features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the lower strings and violas, with the violins playing a melodic line. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid on the score.

Vln. 1
mp *f*

Vln. 2
mp *f*

Vla.
mp *f*

Vc.
mp *f*

D.B.
mp *f*

100 101 102 103 104

Musical score for measures 105-109. The score is for five instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked *ff* (fortissimo) for measures 107-109. The music continues with the eighth-note accompaniment and melodic lines. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid on the score.

Vln. 1
ff

Vln. 2
ff

Vla.
ff

Vc.
ff

D.B.
ff

105 106 107 108 109