

# Hang Glider

For String Orchestra, Grade 4  
by Kevin Sluder

## Instrumentation

1 - Full Score  
8 - Violin 1  
8 - Violin 2  
3 - Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)  
5 - Viola  
5 - Cello  
5 - Bass\*  
2 - Optional Drum Set\*

## Note from the Editor:

This grade 4 piece is a unique programmatic work where syncopated ties and descending lines emulate the feeling of letting the wind take your sails where it may. Optional Drumset adds to the excitement. \*An optional Cello 2 part (alternate to bass), as well as a free drum playback track are available as free downloads on [randallstandridge.com](http://randallstandridge.com)

- Katie O'Hara LaBrie

**Full Set - \$70.00**

**Extra Conductor Score - \$15.00**

**Extra Part - \$5.00**



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# Hang Glider

By Kevin Sluder, Grade 4

## Program Notes:

Running down a hill into the wind, a large sailcloth at your back, you begin to wonder if you're doing it right. Suddenly, a gust catches your hang glider and the ground is pulled from beneath you. Other than the gentle sounds of the wind, the world becomes surprisingly quiet.

*Hang Glider* is all about the freedom of sailing through the sky, climbing and falling with the wind. The exhilaration of the sights, along with the danger (but it's best not to think about that part), cause your heart to race.

This exploration of syncopation and soaring melodies will take you on a ride that you won't soon forget.

## About this Piece:

There is so much harmonic and rhythmic color in *Hang Glider*. Syncopations run wild throughout, with soaring melodies and an excursion into the parallel minor key.

This piece can be played with or without drumset, though the drums will definitely add another layer of rhythmic depth.



## About the Composer:

Kevin Sluder is a Texas string orchestra director in the DFW area and has been teaching in the public school system since 2007. His middle school program in Frisco, TX was named the 2024 and 2025 TMEA JH/MS Full Honor Orchestra.

Born and raised in Mansfield, TX, Mr. Sluder obtained his bachelor's degree in music education from the University of North Texas in Denton. A bass player by trade, he also has experience in percussion and guitar, with a deep love of rhythm.

Outside of the classroom, Mr. Sluder spends a great deal of time composing and arranging music. He also runs two podcasts. *Rite of String*, co-hosted with Matthew Moreno, focuses on string education. *SluderMusic* is a showcase of Mr. Sluder's published pieces. In addition to his work in the "classical" world, he has written and recorded several rock/electronic albums that are available on most streaming services.

Mr. Sluder currently resides in McKinney, TX with his wife (and fellow Orchestra director), Bethany Hardwick. In his limited spare time, he enjoys taking naps, camping, and playing video games.

# Hang Glider

Score  
Grade 4  
Duration 3:45

Kevin Sluder

Soaring ♩ = 120

The musical score is for the piece "Hang Glider" by Kevin Sluder, Grade 4, with a duration of 3:45. The tempo is marked "Soaring" at 120 beats per minute. The score is in 4/4 time and the key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The first system (measures 1-4) features Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass (Cello 2) playing a melodic line with a dynamic of *p* (piano). The Drum Set (optional) plays a consistent hi-hat pattern with a dynamic of *p*. The second system (measures 5-8) features Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, and Double Bass (Cello 2) playing the melodic line with a dynamic of *mp* (mezzo-piano). The Drum Set continues with the hi-hat pattern, and the Kick Drum (D.S.) plays a pattern with a dynamic of *mp*. A box containing the number "5" is placed above the first measure of the second system. Measure numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 are indicated below the respective measures.

Hang Glider - Score

Musical score for measures 9-13. The score includes staves for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Drums (D. S.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 9-12 feature a consistent rhythmic pattern with accents (V) and a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 13 includes a 'div.' (divisi) instruction for the strings and a 'Cr. Cym. Snare' instruction for the drums.

Musical score for measures 14-17. The score includes staves for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Drums (D. S.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 14 starts with a dynamic marking of *mf*. Measure 15 is marked with a box containing the number 15 and includes a 'pizz.' (pizzicato) instruction for the double bass and a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 16 includes a dynamic marking of *mf* and a 'Rim Cym.' (Rim Cymbal) instruction for the drums. Measure 17 includes a dynamic marking of *mf* and a 'Snare Cross Stick' instruction for the drums.



Musical score for measures 26-29. The score is for a string ensemble consisting of Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Double Bass (D. S.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 26-29 show a melodic line in Vln. 1 and Vla. with accents and breath marks, and a rhythmic accompaniment in Vln. 2, Vc., D.B., and D. S. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid on the score.

Musical score for measures 30-34. The score continues with the same instruments as the previous system. Measures 30-34 show a melodic line in Vln. 1 and Vla. with accents and breath marks, and a rhythmic accompaniment in Vln. 2, Vc., D.B., and D. S. A large 'Preview Only' watermark is overlaid on the score. Dynamic markings include *p* (piano) in measures 31 and 34. The D. S. part includes a section with 'arco' markings and a section with 'p' marking.

35

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

D. S.

35 36 37 38

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 35 through 38. It features six staves: Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Double Bass/Drum Set (D. S.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. A large bracket spans across measures 35 and 36. Vln. 1 has a *pp* dynamic marking. Vln. 2 and Vla. have a *p* dynamic marking. Vc. and D.B. have a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking and a *p* dynamic marking. The D. S. staff shows a rhythmic pattern with '+' and 'o' symbols above the notes. Measure numbers 35, 36, 37, and 38 are printed below their respective staves.

39

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

D. S.

39 40 41 42

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 39 through 42. It features the same six staves as the previous system. The key signature remains one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and D.B. all have a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic marking. The D. S. staff continues with the same rhythmic pattern as in the previous system. Measure numbers 39, 40, 41, and 42 are printed below their respective staves.

46

Musical score for measures 43-46. The score is for a string quartet and percussion. The instruments are Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Drums/Snare (D. S.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf*, *p*, *mp*, and *pp*. There are also performance instructions like *arco* and *div.*. A box containing the number 46 is located at the top right of the first system. A large watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

Musical score for measures 47-51. The score continues from the previous page for the same instruments: Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Drums/Snare (D. S.). The key signature and time signature remain the same. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp*, *pp*, and *mf*. There are also performance instructions like *-1* and *+*. A large watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

Hang Glider - Score

54

Score for measures 52-55. Instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., D. S. (Drum Set). Dynamics: *mp*, *f*, *ff*. Performance markings: *arco*, *div.*, *Floor Tom*.

Score for measures 56-59. Instruments: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., D. S. (Drum Set). Dynamics: *ff*.

60

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

D. S.

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

60 61 62 63 64 65

69

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

D. S.

*mp* *f* *pp*

*mp* *f* *pp*

*mp* *f* *pp*

*mp* *f* *pp*

*mp* *f* *pp*

*mp* *f* *p*

2nd pos.

66 67 68 69 70

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

D. S.

*p* *mp*

*mp*

71 72 73 74

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

D. S.

*p* *pp* *p*

*pp* *p*

*pp* *p*

*pp* *p*

75 76 77 78

Hang Glider - Score

Musical score for measures 79-82. The score includes staves for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Double Snare (D. S.).

- Vln. 1:** Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 79-82 feature a melodic line with slurs and accents. A box containing the number "81" is placed above the staff at the start of measure 81.
- Vln. 2:** Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measure 79 starts with a *pp* dynamic. Measure 80 has a *mp* dynamic and a "4" above the staff.
- Vla.:** Alto clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 79-82 feature a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.
- Vc.:** Bass clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 79-82 feature a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.
- D.B.:** Bass clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 79-82 feature a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.
- D. S.:** Drum set notation. Measure 79 starts with a *pp* dynamic. Measure 80 includes a "bell" instruction. Measures 81-82 feature a pattern of snare and cymbal hits.

Measure numbers 79, 80, 81, and 82 are indicated below the staves.

Musical score for measures 83-87. The score includes staves for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Double Snare (D. S.).

- Vln. 1:** Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 83-87 feature a melodic line with slurs and accents. A  $\frac{2}{4}$  time signature change is indicated above the staff at the start of measure 86.
- Vln. 2:** Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 83-87 feature a melodic line with slurs and accents. A  $\frac{2}{4}$  time signature change is indicated above the staff at the start of measure 86.
- Vla.:** Alto clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 83-87 feature a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.
- Vc.:** Bass clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 83-87 feature a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.
- D.B.:** Bass clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 83-87 feature a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.
- D. S.:** Drum set notation. Measures 83-87 feature a pattern of snare and cymbal hits.

Measure numbers 83, 84, 85, 86, and 87 are indicated below the staves.

88

Musical score for measures 88-90. The score is for a 4/4 time signature in the key of D major. It features six staves: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and D. S. (Double Bass). Vln. 1 starts with a fermata on a whole note, then plays a triplet of eighth notes. Vln. 2 plays a continuous eighth-note pattern. Vla. has a fermata on a whole note. Vc. and D.B. have a fermata on a whole note. D. S. plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Dynamics include *mf* and *mf* non div. Measure numbers 88, 89, and 90 are indicated at the bottom.

92

Musical score for measures 91-93. The score continues from the previous page. Vln. 1 and 2 play eighth-note patterns. Vla. has a fermata on a whole note. Vc. and D.B. play eighth-note patterns. D. S. plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Dynamics include *mf* and *mp*. Measure numbers 91, 92, and 93 are indicated at the bottom.

Violin 1 (Vln. 1) and Violin 2 (Vln. 2) parts feature melodic lines with slurs and accents. The Viola (Vla.) part consists of sustained chords. The Violoncello (Vc.) part includes fingerings such as -1 and 3. The Double Bass (D.B.) and Double Bass Solo (D. S.) parts provide harmonic support with rhythmic patterns.

94 95 96

Violin 1 (Vln. 1) and Violin 2 (Vln. 2) parts continue with melodic development. The Viola (Vla.) part features a dynamic marking of *mp*. The Violoncello (Vc.) part includes a dynamic marking of *mp* and a fingering of -4. The Double Bass (D.B.) part includes a dynamic marking of *mp*. The Double Bass Solo (D. S.) part continues with rhythmic accompaniment.

97 98 99

100

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

D. S.

*f*

div.

100 101 102

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

D. S.

*ff*

103 104 105

Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Double Bass (D.S.) parts for measures 106-109. The score includes dynamic markings such as *ff* and performance instructions like *non div.* and *div.*. A large watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid on the page.

Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Double Bass (D.S.) parts for measures 110-114. The score includes dynamic markings such as *sempre ff*, *sfzp*, and *ff*, along with performance instructions like *div.* and *non div.*. A large watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid on the page.