

*Conductor's Score*

*Revised 1/1/23*

# I Am the American Flag

*A Concert Work for Orchestra and Narrator*

*Commissioned by Lieutenant Colonel Alan Sierichs and  
the United States Air Force Band of Flight,  
Major R. Michael Mench, Commander*

by  
**James A. Beckel Jr.**

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## *Orchestration for "I Am the American Flag"*

**1 Piccolo**  
**2 Flutes**  
**2 Oboes**  
**1 English Horn** (*Optional*)  
**2 Bassoons**  
**2 B<sub>b</sub> Clarinets**  
**1 B<sub>b</sub> Bass Clarinet**  
**Narrator**

**4 Horns in F**  
**4 C Trumpets** (*4th Trp. Optional*)  
**3 Trombones**  
**Tuba**  
**Timpani**  
**4 Percussion** (*4th Perc. Optional*)  
**Full String Section**  
**Optional Harp**

### *About the Work*

**"I Am the American Flag"** was commissioned by Lieutenant Colonel Alan Sierichs and the United States Air Force Band of Flight, Major R. Michael Mench, Commander.

This work is written for band and narrator. The narrative for this work includes words from Franklin Delano Roosevelt including excerpts from President Roosevelt's first Inaugural address on March 4th, 1933, and his address before the Inter-America Conference for the Maintenance of Peace in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on Dec. 1, 1936. Words of the "I Am the American Flag" poem that begin and end this narrative were borrowed in part from a speech delivered by Franklin K. Lane, then Secretary of the Interior, before more than 1,000 employees of the Department of the Interior on Flag Day, June 14, 1914.

I should comment on my articulation markings to clarify any questions that you might have. There is always some question in music regarding the ends of slurs. Should the last note of a slur be shown, i.e. shortened? If I want the last note of slur passage clipped or shortened I will mark it with a staccato articulation. Slur endings without the staccato should not be shortened. When I want a long phrase over several slurs, I will add a dotted slur over the longer passage to indicate the continuous connection of those notes under the dotted slur. As an example of this, look at letter E in the Trumpet 1 solo. Regarding various accents, the > marking means accented but not short. There are several places in this work where I have added the term Marcato Sostenuto to indicate specifically that I want the notes accented but totally sustained. By contrast, when I use the ^ marking, the notes are to be short and heavily accented. For me, the tenuto marking is an indication of length not accent, although there are places where the tenuto marking is meant to indicate a slight weight to the beginning of the note. When I want no added emphasis to the note, just length, I have marked the passage as Molto legato. I have at times also added the dotted slur line over tenuto markings to indicate a phrase that is connected and sung. An example of where the tenuto marking indicates a subtle, light weight attack to the beginning of the note is measure 2. I know that much of this is obvious, but I wanted to address this issue so that there is no misunderstanding of my articulation markings.

The percussion instruments required to perform this work include the following: snare drum, bass drum, crash cymbals, suspended cymbal, mark tree, small triangle, gong, xylophone, bells, vibraphone, and timpani. It is my preference that the bass drum be a large drum with a drumhead that is not too tight. The bass drum should have a deep, low sound. Also, the gong should be a large, very low, dark sounding gong. The snare drum should be crisp, not a piccolo snare, but a drum that has great clarity to it.

## ***Text to "I Am the American Flag"***

### **Opening Speech to "I Am the American Flag"**

I am the American Flag. I am what you make me, nothing more, nothing less. I am the banner of hope and freedom for generation after generation. I am life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I am the best of times and the worst of times. I was still there at Fort McHenry after bombs burst in air. Born amid the first flames of America's fight for freedom, I am a symbol of a country that has grown from thirteen colonies to a nation of fifty sovereign states.

I am government of the people, by the people, for the people. I am old glory; I am the flag of the United States of America.

### **Second Speech to "I Am the American Flag"**

I was there when brother fought against brother, North against South, for the freedom of all men. My fluttering folds flew over the rubble of the World Trade Center after 9/11. I have been here through good times and bad. I was there when times were good during the Roaring 20's. I was there when no brother could spare a dime and a new President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, addressed a nation in despair.----- "This is preeminently the time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly...This great nation will endure as it has endured will revive and will prosper. So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself. Practices of the unscrupulous moneychangers stand indicted in the court of public opinion, rejected by the hearts and minds of men. The moneychangers have fled from their high seats in the temple of our civilization. We may now restore that temple to the ancient truths. Happiness lies not in the mere possession of money; it lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of creative effort. Our constitutional system has proved itself the most superbly enduring political mechanism the world has ever produced. It has met every stress of foreign wars and bitter internal strife. We do not distrust the future of essential democracy. Democracy is not a static thing. It is an everlasting march."

### Third Speech to "I Am the American Flag"

I was there in 1936 when the clouds of conflict were gathering before World War II, and President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt prepared a nation for war when he said the following words: "I am profoundly convinced that people everywhere in the civilized world wish to live in peace one with another. And still leaders and governments resort to war. Truly, if the genius of mankind that have invented the weapons of death cannot discover the means of preserving peace, civilization as we know it lives in an evil day." (slight pause)

My colors flew high above the deck of the USS Arizona on the morning Japan attacked Pearl Harbor.

### Fourth Speech to "I Am the American Flag"

I was planted in the Sea of Tranquility on the surface of the moon when Neil Armstrong took one giant leap for mankind. My colors flew at half-mast in the dark moments of the 1960's when President John F. Kennedy and his brother Robert fell at the hands of brutal assassins. Martin Luther King, as well, did not get to see his promised land, but his dream lives on as I watched this country elect its first African-American President.

I am the American Flag. I am what you make me, nothing less, nothing more. I am your belief in yourself, your dream of what a people can become. I am all that you hope to be. I am song and fear, struggle and panic, and enabling hope. I am the day's work of the weakest man and the largest dream of the most daring. I am more than you believe me to be and I am all that you believe I can be. I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself. My stars and stripes are your dreams and your labors. They are bright with cheer, brilliant with courage, firm with faith, because you have made them so; for you are the makers of the flag, and it is well that you glory in the making.

I Am The American Flag!

# Conductor's Score

# I Am the American Flag

Revised 5/20/23

Duration: 9 minutes

## A Concert Work for Orchestra and Narrator

Commissioned by Lieutenant Colonel Alan Sierichs and  
the United States Air Force Band of Flight,  
Major R. Michael Mench, Commander

James A. Beckel Jr.

### Andante con nobilita $\text{♩} = \text{circa } 60$

The musical score consists of two staves of music. The top staff includes parts for Flute 1 & 2, Piccolo, Oboe 1 & 2, Optional English Horn, Bassoon 1 & 2, Clarinet in B♭ 1 & 2, Bass Clarinet, Horn in F 1 & 2, Horn in F 3 & 4, Trumpet 1 & 2 in C, Trumpet 3 & 4 in C (4th Trp. Optional), Trombone 1 & 2, Bass Trombone & Tuba, Timpani, Cymbals, Mallets, Snare Drum/Bass Drum, and Optional Harp. The bottom staff includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Bass. Both staves feature large, bold numbers (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) overlaid on the music, likely indicating performance steps or measures. The music includes dynamic markings like *f*, *mp*, *sostenuto*, *risoluto*, and *Let Ring*. Percussion instructions include *Sus. Cym. with soft mallets*, *Tam-tam*, *Glock.*, and *Bass Dr.*. The score is set against a background featuring a large, faint watermark reading "JAMES A. BECKEL JR."

### Andante con nobilita $\text{♩} = \text{circa } 60$

Fl. 1 &2      Picc.      Ob. 1 &2      Opt. Eng. Hn.

Bsn. 1 &2      B♭ Cl. 1 &2      B. Cl.      Hn. 1&2      Hn. 3&4      Tpt. 1 in C &2      Tpt. 3 in C & Opt.4      Tbn. 1 &2      Bass Trb. &Tuba      Timp.      Cym.      Mallets      Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.      Opt. Harp      Vln. 1      Vln. 2      Viola      Cello      Bass



Fl. 1 &2

Picc.

Ob. 1 &2

Opt. Eng. Hn.

Bsn. 1 &2

B<sup>b</sup> Cl. 1 &2

B. Cl.

Hn. 1&2 3&4

Tpt. 1 in C &2

Tpt. 3 in C & Opt.4

Tbn. 1 &2

Bass Trb.

Tuba

Timp.

Cym.

Mallets

Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.

Opt. Harp

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Viola

Cello

Bass

*Soli*

*non gliss.*

*Sus. Cym.*

*Xylophone*

*Sus. Cym. with soft mallets*

*mf delicato*

*(8va)*

*Snare Dr. Bass Dr.*

*\* (When using 3 percussionist omit bass dr. part here.)*

*div.*

poco ritard.

**B Adagio**  $\text{♩} = \text{circa } 52$

**34**

Narration

**Narration begins**

I am the American Flag. I am what you  
make me, nothing more, nothing less. I  
am the banner of hope and freedom for  
generation after generation.

**34**

poco ritard.

**B Adagio**  $\text{♩} = \text{circa } 52$ 

**34**

"I am life,"

Fl. 1 &2

Picc.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Opt. Eng. Hn.

Bsn. 1 &2

## Narration

I am life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I am the best of times and the worst of times. I was still there at Fort McHenry after bombs burst in air. Born amid the first flames of America's fight for freedom, I am a symbol of a country that has grown from

"thirteen colonies"

11

Fl. 1 &2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1  
Ob. 2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.  
Bsn. 1 &2

*p*      *mp*      *mf*      *f*  
*p*      *mp*      *mf*      *f*  
*p*      *mp*      *mf*      *f*  
*mf* \*(dotted line indicates phrase)      *p*      *mf*      *f*  
*\* (dotted line indicates phrase)*      *p*      *mf*      *f*

*mf*      *In absence of English Horn,  
play cue here*

Narration

thirteen colonies to a nation of fifty sovereign states. I am government of the people, by the people, for the people. I am old glory; I am the flag of the United States of America.

B Cl. 1 &2  
B. Cl.  
Hn. 1&2  
Hn. 3&4  
Tpt. 1 in C &2  
Tpt. 3 in C & Opt. 4  
Tbn. 1 &2  
Bass Trb. & Tuba  
Tim.      Small Triangle  
Cym.  
Mallets  
Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.  
Opt. Harp  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

*pp*      *mf*      *f*  
*pp*      *mf*      *f*  
*pp*      *f*      *a2*      *f*  
*mf*      *piu f*  
*mf*      *piu f*  
*ppp*      *a2*      *mf*  
*ppp*      *mf*      *dampen*  
*ppp*      *mf*      *f*  
*mf*      *Xylophone*  
*mf*      *f*  
*mf*      *non gliss.*  
*mf*      *piu f*  
*ppp*      *poco a poco cresc...*  
*div.*      *ppp*      *poco a poco cresc...*  
*div.*      *ppp*      *poco a poco cresc...*

*poco accel.*

12 *Narration ends*

↓ C **Poco piú mosso** ♩ = circa 56

C **Poco piú mosso** ♩ = circa 56

*poco a poco ritard.*

Fl. 1 &2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1 &2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.  
Bsn. 1 &2  
B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2  
B. Cl.  
Hn. 1&2  
Hn. 3&4  
Tpt. 1 in C  
2,3&Opt.4  
Tbn. 1 &2  
Bass Trb.  
&Tuba  
Timp.  
Cym.  
Mallets  
Sn. Dr.  
Bass Dr.  
Opt. Harp  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

Narration begins

D A tempo ( $\text{♩} = \text{circa } 52$ )

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Picc.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Opt. Eng. Hn.

Narration

I was there when brother fought against brother, North against South, for the freedom of all men. My fluttering folds flew over the rubble of the World Trade Center after 9/11. I have been here through good times and bad. I was there when times were good

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Hn. 1&2

Opt. Harp

*1st Hn. Solo*

\*(dotted line indicates phrase)

D A tempo ( $\text{♩} = \text{circa } 52$ )

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Viola

Cello

Bass

Musical score for Flute 1, Flute 2, Piccolo, Oboe 1 & 2, Opt. Eng. Hn., and Bassoon 1 & 2. The score shows measures 1-2 with dynamic markings ppp, p, and mp.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Picc.

Ob. 1 & 2

Opt. Eng. Hn.

Bsn. 1 & 2

## Narration

during the Roaring 20's. I was there when no brother could spare a dime and a new President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, addressed a nation in despair.-----

FDR Speech begins here:

**E**

Fl. 1 &2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1 &2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.

Bsn. 1 &2

B♭ Cl. 1 &2  
B. Cl.

Narration

"This is preeminently the time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly... This great nation will endure as it has endured, will revive and will prosper. So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear

Hn. 1&2  
Hn. 3&4  
Tpt. 1 in C &2  
espressivo  
Tpt. 3 in C & Opt.4  
Timpani  
Mallets  
Opt. Harp  
**E**  
\*(Play natural harmonic, pitch sounds where written)  
(both div. notes played as harmonics)

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

Fl. 1 &2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1 &2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.  
Bsn. 1 &2  
Bb Cl. 1 &2  
B. Cl.

**Measure 49:** Flute 1 (pp), Picc. (p), Ob. 1 (p), Opt. Eng. Hn. (p), Bassoon 1 (p dolce), Bb Clarinet 1 (p), Bass Clarinet (p). Measures 50-51: Various dynamics (mf, pp, mp) with slurs and grace notes. Measure 52: Dynamics (mp, pp) with slurs and grace notes.

Narration

- is fear itself. Practices of the unscrupulous money changers stand indicted in the court of public opinion, rejected by the hearts and minds of men. The money changers have fled from their high seats in the temple of our civilization.

Hn. 1&2  
Hn. 3&4  
Tpt. 1 in C &2  
Tpt. 3 in C & Opt. 4  
Tbn. 1 &2  
Bass Trb. & Tuba  
Opt. Harp  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

**Measure 49:** Horn 1 (mf dolce), Horn 3 (p), Trumpet 1 (p), Trumpet 3 (p), Trombone 1 (p), Bass Trombone (p), Opt. Harp (p). Measures 50-51: Various dynamics (mf, pp, mp) with slurs and grace notes. Measure 52: Dynamics (mp, pp) with slurs and grace notes.

"possession of money;"

## Narration

We may now restore that temple to the ancient truths. Happiness lies not  
in the mere possession of money;

Fl. 1 &2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1 &2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.  
Bsn. 1  
Bsn. 2  
B. Cl. 1 &2  
B. Cl.

*In absence of English Horn,  
play cue here*

*Solo* *mp dolce* *p*

*p*

*p*

*mf*

*mf dolce*

Narration

it lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of creative effort. Our constitutional system has proved itself the most

Hn. 1&2  
Hn. 3&4  
Tpt. 1 in C  
2,3&Opt.4  
Tbn. 1 &2  
Bass Trb.  
&Tuba  
Opt. Harp  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

*Solo* *3rd Hn. Solo*

*mf dolce*

*mf*

*mp*

*V*

*(dotted line indicates phrase)*

*mp*

*V*

*V*

*V*

*V*

*Tutti Arco*

*mp*

*Pizz.*

*mf*

Fl. 1 &2

Picc.

Ob. 1 &2

Opt. Eng. Hn.

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Narration

superbly enduring political mechanism the world has ever produced. It has met every stress of foreign wars

Hn. 1&2 3&4

Tpt. 1 in C 2,3&Opt.4

Tbn. 1 2, & Bass Trb.

Tuba

Timp.

Mallets

Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.

Opt. Harp

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Viola

Cello

Bass

**G**

\*(dotted line indicates phrase)

Fl. 1 a2

Picc.

Ob. 1 &2

Opt. Eng. Hn.

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B. Cl.

and bitter internal strife. We do not distrust the future of essential democracy. Democracy is not a static thing. It is an everlasting march."

[Narration ends]

Narration

Hn. 1&2 3&4

Tpt. 1 in C 2,3&Opt.4

Tbn. 1, & Bass Trb.

Tuba

Timpani

Mallets

Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.

Opt. Harp

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Viola

Cello

Bass

**G**

(3rd Hn. cols 1st Hn.)

a2

a1 mf

a3

a1 mf

a2

a1 pp

pp

f

Glock.

\* (When using 3 percussionist omit glock. part here.)

Snare Dr.

Bass Dr.

non gliss.

div.

**H**

Fl. 1 &2      \*  
Fl. 1 &2      *piu f*      molto legato      \*(dotted line indicates phrase)

Picc.      \*  
Picc.      molto legato

Ob. 1 &2      \*  
Ob. 1 &2      *piu f*      molto legato

Opt. Eng. Hn.      \*  
Opt. Eng. Hn.      *f*      molto legato

Bsn. 1 &2      \*  
Bsn. 1 &2      *f*      molto legato      a2

B♭ Cl. 1 &2      \*  
B♭ Cl. 1 &2      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

B. Cl.      \*  
B. Cl.      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Hn. 1&2      \*  
Hn. 1&2      *1st Hn. Solo*      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Hn. 2 3&4      \*  
Hn. 2 3&4      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Tpt. 1 in C      \*  
Tpt. 1 in C      *a3*      molto legato      ff

Trp. 2 in C 3&Opt.4      \*  
Trp. 2 in C 3&Opt.4      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Tbn. 1 &2      \*  
Tbn. 1 &2      *a2*      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Bass Trb.      \*  
Bass Trb.      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Tuba      \*  
Tuba      *piu f*      ff

Tim.      \*  
Tim.      *Piatti*      ff

Cym.      \*  
Cym.      *Glock.*      *fff*      ff

Mallets      \*  
Mallets      *piu f*      ff

Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.      \*  
Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.      *Snare Dr. Bass Dr.*      *piu f*      ff

Opt. Harp      \*  
Opt. Harp      *ff*

Vln. 1      \*  
Vln. 1      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Vln. 2      \*  
Vln. 2      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Viola      \*  
Viola      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Cello      \*  
Cello      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Bass      \*  
Bass      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

\*(dotted line indicates phrase)

\*(When using 3 percussionist omit glock. part here.)

**H**

Vln. 1      \*  
Vln. 1      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Vln. 2      \*  
Vln. 2      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Viola      \*  
Viola      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Cello      \*  
Cello      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

Bass      \*  
Bass      *piu f*      molto legato      ff

V      V      V      V      V      V

div.

Narration begins

Fl. 1 &2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1 &2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.  
Bsn. 1 &2

*I* \*  
\*(dotted line indicates phrase)

Narration

Narration begins  
I was there in 1936 when the clouds of conflict were gathering  
before World War II, and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt  
prepared a nation for war when he said the following words:

B♭ Cl. 1 &2  
B. Cl.  
Hn. 1&2  
Hn. 3&4  
Trp. 1  
Trp. 2 in C  
3 & Opt. 4  
Tbn. 1 &2  
Bass Trb. & Tuba  
Timpani  
Cym.  
Mallets  
Sn. Dr.  
Bass Dr.  
Opt. Harp  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

*I* \*  
\*(dotted line indicates phrase)

*sul ponticello*

*ppp No Vib.*  
*sul ponticello*  
*ppp No Vib.*  
*sul ponticello*  
*V*  
*pp No Vib.*  
*V sul ponticello*  
*pp No Vib.*

*FDR Speech begins here:*

Fl. 1 &2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1 &2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.  
Bsn. 1 &2

*mp*      *mp*      *mp*      *p*      *mp*  
*mp*      *mp*      *mp*      *p*      *mp*  
*mp*      *mp*      *mp*      *p*      *mp*

*mf cantabile*      *mp*      *mf*

*(dotted line indicates phrase)*

Narration

"I am profoundly convinced that people everywhere in the civilized world wish to live in peace one with another. And still leaders and governments resort to war. Truly, if the genius of mankind that have invented the weapons of death cannot discover the"

B♭ Cl. 1 &2  
B. Cl.  
Hn. 1&2  
Hn. 3&4  
Tpt. 1 in C  
Trp. 2 in C 3&Opt.4  
Tbn. 1  
Cym.  
Mallets  
Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.  
Opt. Harp  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

*mf*      *p*      *mp*      *p*      *mp*  
*mf*      *p*      *mp*      *p*      *mp*  
*mf*      *p*      *mp*      *p*      *mp*  
*mf*      *p*      *pp*      *p*      *delicato*  
*mf*      *p*      *pp*      *p*      *delicato*  
*mf*      *p*      *pp*      *p*      *delicato*

*2nd trp.*      *Solo with celi and 1st bsn.*      *cantabile*      *mp*      *mf*  
*Mark Tree*      *Let Ring*      *Glock.*      *Snare Dr. Bass Dr.*      *(When using 3 percusionist omit bass dr. part here.)*      *mp*      *delicato*

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

*natural*      *(dotted line indicates phrase)*      *Soli with 1st trb. and bsn. 1*      *mf*      *mf*

*mf*      *cantabile*      *mp*      *mf*

*pp*

## "Pearl Harbor"

"Pearl Harbor"

J

Fl. 1 & 2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1 & 2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.

*p delicato*    > *pp*, < *f*

> *pp* < *f*

> *pp* < *f*

> *pp* < *f*

*mf*

*fp*

*fp*

## Narration

means of preserving peace, civilization as we know it lives in an evil day. My colors flew high above the deck of the USS Arizona on the morning Japan attacked Pearl Harbor"

**[Narration ends]**

\*Conduct in 4  
(Eighth note becomes the new quarter note tempo at letter K)

accel.



Fl. 1 &2      piu f      a2 b A

Picc.      piu f

Ob. 1 &2      piu f      a2 b A

Opt. Eng. Hn.      piu f

Bsn. 1 &2      ff == mf      ff

B♭ Cl. 1 &2      ff == mf      ff

B. Cl.      ff == mf      ff

Hn. 1 &2 3&4      ff      ff

Tpt. 1 in C 2,3&Opt.4      ff

Tbn. 1      ff

Tbn. 2 3, & Tuba      ff == mf      ff

Tim.      ff      dampen

Cym.      \* (When using 3 percussionist sus. cym. & Tam-tam played by one person)      dampen

Mallets      Xylophone      f Tam-tam      loco      ff

Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.      piu f      Snare Dr. Bass Dr.      ff \*      \* (When using 3 percussionist omit bass dr. part here.)      dampen

Opt. Harp

Vln. 1      piu f      ff

Vln. 2      piu f      ff

Viola      piu f      ff

Cello      ff == mf      ff

Bass      ff == mf      ff

\*Conduct in 4  
(Eighth note becomes the new quarter note tempo at letter K)

accel.



K

**Allegro** ( $\downarrow$  = circa 120)

Fl. 1 &2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1 &2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.  
Bsn. 1 &2  
B♭ Cl. 1 &2  
B. Cl.  
Hn. 1&2 3&4  
Tpt. 1 in C 2,3&Opt.4  
Tbn. 1 &2  
Bass Trb. &Tuba  
Timp.  
Cym.  
Mallets  
Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.  
Opt. Harp  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass





Fl. 1 &2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1 &2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.  
Bsn. 1 &2  
B♭ Cl. 1 &2  
B. Cl.  
Hn. 1&2 3&4  
Tpt. 1 in C 2,3,& opt.4  
Tbn. 1  
Tbn. 2 3, & Tuba  
Timp.  
Cym.  
Mallets  
Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.  
Opt. Harp  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

**M**  
(Cresc. thru the entire bar here)  
**5**

2nd Oboe Soli with Cl. 2  
poco **f** **mp** **mf**

2nd Cl. Soli with Oboe 2  
poco **f** **mp**

**fff**  
**fff**  
**fff**

Let Ring  
**5**

Piatti  
**dampen**

Xylophone  
Snare Dr. Bass Dr.  
\* (When using 3 percussionist omit bass dr. part here.)  
**ff**

**sul ponticello**  
div.  
**ppp**  
**sul ponticello** div. **ppp**

**106**      **107**      **108**      **109**      **110**

(♩=♩)

*poco a poco ritard.*

Fl. 1 &2

Picc.

Ob. 1 &2

Opt. Eng. Hn.

Bsn. 1 &2

B♭ Cl. 1 &2

B. Cl.

Hn. 1&2 3&4

Tpt. 1 in C 2,3&Opt.4

Tbn. 1 &2

Bass Trb. &Tuba

Tim.

Cym.

Mallets

Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.

Opt. Harp

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Viola

Cello

Bass

(♩=♩)

*poco a poco ritard.*

*(dotted line indicates phrase)*

*sul ponticello*

*div.*

*ppp*

*p dolce*

*Narration begins*

**N Adagio** = circa 52

Fl. 1 &2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1 &2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.  
Bsn. 1 &2

*mf* *p* *Solo* *espressivo* *mf* *espressivo*  
*mf* \*  
*mf* *p* *p* *tranquillo*  
*mf* *p* *p* *tranquillo*

*Solo* \*  
\*(dotted line indicates phrase)

Narration

*Narration begins*

I was planted in the Sea of Tranquility on the surface of the moon when Neil Armstrong took one giant leap for mankind.

B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2  
B. Cl.  
Hn. 1&2  
Hn. 3&4  
Trp. 2 in C &3  
Bass Trb. &Tuba  
Cym.  
Mallets  
Opt. Harp

*mf* *p* *mf* *espressivo*  
*mf* *p* *p* *tranquillo*  
*mf* *p* *pp*  
*senza* *pp*  
*senza* *pp*  
*pp*  
*St. Mute*  
*p* *tranquillo*

*Mark Tree* *mp*  
*Let Ring*  
*Glock.*  
*Let Ring*

**N Adagio** = circa 52

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

*sul tasto* *div.* *natural*  
*p* *tranquillo* *mf* *espressivo*  
*sul tasto* *div.* *p* *sul tasto*  
*p* *tranquillo* *p*  
*mf* *p* *pp* *mf*

"My colors flew"

33

Fl. 1 &2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1 &2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.  
Bsn. 1 &2

Narration

My colors flew at half-mast in the dark moments of the 1960's when President John F. Kennedy and his brother Robert fell at the hands of brutal assassins.

B♭ Cl. 1  
B♭ Cl. 2  
B. Cl.  
Hn. 1&2  
Hn. 3&4  
Trp. 2 in C &3  
Bass Trb. &Tuba  
Cym.  
Mallets  
Opt. Harp  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

119

120

121

## "Martin Luther King,"

Fl. 1 &2

Picc.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Opt. Eng. Hn.

Bsn. 1 &2

## Narration

Martin Luther King, as well, did not get to see his promised land, but his dream lives on as I watched this country elect its first African- American President.

"I am the American Flag."

35

**O**

Fl. 1 &2

Picc.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Opt. Eng. Hn.

Bsn. 1 &2

**Narration**

I am the American Flag. I am what you make me, nothing less, nothing more. I am your belief in yourself, your dream of what a people can become. I am all that you hope to be. I am song and fear, struggle and panic , and enabling hope.

B♭ Cl. 1 &2

B. Cl.

Hn. 1&2 3&4

3rd Hn. cols Hn. 1

cantabile religioso molto legato

alla choral

Tpt. 1 in C 2,3&Opt.4

cantabile religioso molto legato

alla choral

Tbn. 1 &2

cantabile religioso molto legato

Bass Trb. &Tuba

pp

(Tuba remains pp)

Timp.

Cym.

Mallets

Glock.

Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.

pp

Tam-tam

Opt. Harp

**O**

Vln. 1

div.

Vln. 2

Viola

Cello

Bass

pp

\*(dotted line indicates legato phrase)

*"I am the day's work"*

Fl. 1 &2  
Picc.  
Ob. 1 &2  
Opt. Eng. Hn.  
Bsn. 1 &2

**Narration**

I am the day's work of the weakest man and the largest dream of the most daring.  
I am more than you believe me to be and I am all that you believe I can be.  
I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of

B♭ Cl. 1 &2  
B. Cl.  
Hn. 1&2  
Hn. 3&4  
Tpt. 1 in C  
Trp. 2 in C 3&Opt.4  
Tbn. 1 &2  
Bass Trb. & Tuba  
Timp.  
Cym.  
Mallets  
Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.  
Opt. Harp  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

**Narration**

I am the day's work of the weakest man and the largest dream of the most daring.  
I am more than you believe me to be and I am all that you believe I can be.  
I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of

"color,"

Musical score for Flute 1 & 2, Piccolo, Oboe 1 & 2, Opt. Eng. Hn., and Bassoon 1 & 2. The score shows five staves. The first three staves (Flute 1 & 2, Piccolo, Oboe 1 & 2) have treble clefs, while the last two (Opt. Eng. Hn. and Bassoon 1 & 2) have bass clefs. The key signature is common time. The music consists of measures 6 through 10. Measure 6 starts with a dynamic *p*. Measures 7-8 show a transition with dynamics *mf*, *pp*, and *poco f*. Measures 9-10 conclude with dynamics *pp*.

## Narration

color, a symbol of yourself. My stars and stripes are your dreams and your  
    labors. They are bright with cheer, brilliant with courage, firm with faith,

*"I Am The American Flag!"*

**P**

Fl. 1      Soli with Oboe 2  
Fl. 2      Soli with Picc.  
Picc.      Soli with Fl. 2  
Ob. 1 & 2      Soli with Fl. 1  
Opt. Eng. Hn.  
Bsn. 1 & 2

because you have made them so; for  
you are the makers of the flag, and it  
is well that you glory in the making.

*I Am The American Flag!*Narration

B♭ Cl. 1 & 2  
B. Cl.  
Hn. 1 & 2 3 & 4  
Tpt. 1 in C  
Trp. 2 in C 3 & Opt. 4  
Tbn. 1 2, 3, & Tuba  
Timpani  
Mallets  
Sn. Dr. Bass Dr.  
Opt. Harp

*Solo*      *2nd Trp.*      *Solo*      *3rd Trp.*  
*poco f*      *poco f*      *poco f*      *a3 Trbs.*      *mf*

*(When using 3 percussionist omit glock. part here.)*      *\* Glock.*  
*mf*      *mf*      *mf*      *mf*      *mf*

*3*      *3*      *3*      *3*      *3*

*f*      *f*      *f*      *f*      *f*

**P**

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

*on the string*  
*f*  
*on the string*  
*f*  
*on the string*  
*f*  
*on the string*  
*f*

Narration ends

*poco ritard.*

Jim Beckel Music