



Base-six

(A Senary Quest)

LAURA ESTES

Instrumentation

Full Score	1
Flute	8
Oboe (Opt. Flute 2)	2
B \flat Clarinet	8
Bass Clarinet	2
Alto Saxophone	5
Tenor Saxophone	2
Baritone Saxophone	2
B \flat Trumpet	8
Horn in F	4
Alternate Horn in F	2
Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon	6
Alternate Trombone	2
Baritone T.C.	2
Tuba	4
Timpani (G: C)	2
Mallets	2
Bells	
Percussion 1	2
Snare Drum, Bass Drum	
Percussion 2	4
Crash Cymbals, Tom-tom, Triangle, Suspended Cymbal	



ABOUT THE COMPOSER



Laura Estes taught middle and high school band for 36 years before retiring in 2018 from the Cobb County School System (GA). Upon retirement she began composing, and her first piece *Kvetchers (Surprises in Controversial Time)* was accepted for publication in Excelcia's 2020 catalog. In addition to her music being performed at The Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Estes' concert works have been selected for the J.W. Pepper Editor's Choice List as well as being named Five Star Features from Stanton's Sheet Music. With her composition *Walking on Air*, Estes was named the winner of the 2021 Women Band Directors International (WBDI) Composition Competition.

Throughout Estes' career, her bands consistently earned Superior ratings at performance evaluations, and she was awarded the National Band Association's Citation of Excellence as her middle and high school bands were selected to perform at clinics in the Southeast.

A South Florida native, Estes earned her Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from The Florida State University and her Master's Degree in Music Education from Georgia State University. In addition to composing, Estes continues to serve as an adjudicator, guest conductor, clinician, and mentor. Estes and her husband Gil reside in Marietta, GA, and have 5 amazing children: Adrienne, April, Eric, Daniel, and Michelle.

BASE-SIX (A SENARY QUEST)

Fun Fact: There is an actual counting system that uses the number 6 as its base. Combining a play on the word "basics" while using only the first 6 notes of the Concert B \flat scale in this piece, the title of this composition could only be *Base-six!*

Developed by the ancient Sumerians in the 3rd millennium BCE, the counting system known as "base-6" was passed down through the ages. Even though it only uses 6 digits (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5), base-6 is still utilized by a small number of cultures throughout the world. Vestiges of base-6 are all around us – we still divide a minute by 60 seconds and an hour by 60 minutes. Even the 360-degree circle and the 12-month calendar have their roots in this ancient senary counting system.

Base-six was written as a fun piece for young band students approaching their initial set of concerts as new musicians. Creatively using only 6 notes, this piece is accessible in the beginning band year of instruction and beyond. Students will shine when it is their turn to play the melody, and the percussionists will especially enjoy the use of "toys" to make the music special.

I hope your students enjoy playing *Base-six* as much as I enjoyed writing it.

DEDICATION

First concerts are some of the most fun and memorable for everyone. In a matter of months, students go from not knowing how to put an instrument together to performing recognizable music together in an ensemble. With much love, *Base-six* is dedicated to all my former beginning band students from near and far.

THANK YOU

Being able to hear a piece live and receive instant feedback during the compositional process is a special treat. My heartfelt thanks go to the students of the Simpson Middle School 7th Grade Band (Cobb County, GA) and directors Robbin Lowery and Valerie Page for providing this valuable opportunity.



excelciamusic.com/laura-estes



[excelciamusicpublishing](https://www.youtube.com/excelciamusicpublishing)

Recordings are available on all major streaming services.

Base-six

A Senary Quest

LAURA ESTES
(ASCAP)

Moderato ♩ = 112

The score is for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Flute
- Oboe (Opt. Flute 2)
- B \flat Clarinet
- Bass Clarinet
- Alto Saxophone
- Tenor Saxophone
- Baritone Saxophone
- B \flat Trumpet
- Horn in F
- Alternate Horn in F
- Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon
- Alternate Trombone
- Tuba
- Timpani (G: C)
- Mallets (Bells)
- Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum)
- Percussion 2 (Crash Cymbals, Tom-tom, Triangle, Suspended Cymbal)

The score is in 4/4 time, marked Moderato with a tempo of 112 beats per minute. The key signature has two flats (B \flat major or D \flat minor). The music features a prominent melody in the woodwinds and brass, supported by a rhythmic accompaniment from the percussion section. A large watermark 'Excelcia Music Publishing' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

8 Allegro ♩ = 128

Fl.
Ob.
B \flat Cl.
B. Cl.
A. Sax.
T. Sax.
B. Sax.
B \flat Tpt.
Hn.
Alt. Hn.
Tbn./Euph./Bsn.
Alt. Tbn.
Tuba
Timp.
Mal.
Perc.
Perc.

8 Allegro ♩ = 128

f
f
f
mf
mf
mf
f
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
f
mf
f
mf
mf

7

8

9

10

11

12

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

B♭ Tpt.

Hn.

Alt. Hn.

Tbn./Euph./Bsn.

Alt. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Mal.

Perc.

Perc.

13 14 15 16 17 18 T-tom

18

18

22

Fl. *mp* legato

Ob. *mf* *mp* legato

B \flat Cl. *mp* legato

B. Cl. *mf* legato

A. Sax. *mf* *mp* legato

T. Sax. *mf* *mp* legato

B. Sax. *mf* legato

B \flat Tpt. *mf*

Hn. *mf* *mp* legato

Alt. Hn. *mf* *mp* legato

Tbn./Euph./Bsn. *mf* legato

Alt. Tbn. *mf* legato

Tuba *mf* legato

Timp. *mp*

Mal. *mp*

Perc. *mp* Triangle

mp

19

20

21

22

23

24

Fl. *mf* *f*

Ob. *mf* *f*

B \flat Cl. *mf* *f*

B. Cl. *mf* *f*

A. Sax. *mf* *f*

T. Sax. *mf* *f*

B. Sax. *mf* *f*

B \flat Tpt. *mf* *f*

Hn. *mf* *f*

Alt. Hn. *mf* *f*

Tbn./Euph./Bsn. *mf* *f*

Alt. Tbn. *mf*

Tuba *mf* *f*

Timp. *mf* *f*

Mal. *mf* *f*

Perc. *mp* *mf* *f*

Perc. *mf* *mp* *f*

Suspended Cymbal: yarn mallets L.V.

Cr. Cym.

The image displays a full orchestral score for the piece "Base-sixase-six". The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves for each instrument. The instruments listed on the left are: Fl., Ob., B♭ Cl., B. Cl., A. Sax., T. Sax., B. Sax., B♭ Tpt., Hn., Alt. Hn., Tbn./Euph./Bsn., Alt. Tbn., Tuba, Timp., Mal., Perc., and T-tom. The score spans measures 31 to 36. A large, semi-transparent watermark "Excelcia Music Publishing" is overlaid diagonally across the center of the page. Dynamic markings such as *sfz* and *Solo* are present in the Percussion and T-tom parts. The percussion part includes a T-tom staff starting in measure 34.

31

32

33

34

35

36

38

Fl. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

B♭ Cl. *ff*

B. Cl. *ff* *mp*

A. Sax. *ff* *mp*

T. Sax. *ff* *mp*

B. Sax. *ff* *mp*

38

B♭ Tpt. *ff* *mp*

Hn. *ff* *mp*

Alt. Hn. *ff* *mp*

Tbn./Euph./Bsn. *ff* *mp*

Alt. Tbn. *ff* *mp*

Tuba *ff* *mp*

Timp. *ff* *mp*

Mal. *ff*

Perc. *sfz* *ff* Sus. Cym.: stick *mp*

Perc. *sfz* *ff* *mp*

37 38 39 40 41 42 43

46

Fl. *mp* *f* *mf*

Ob. *mp* *f* *mf*

B \flat Cl. *mp* *f*

B. Cl. *f*

A. Sax. *f*

T. Sax. *f*

B. Sax. *f*

46

B \flat Tpt. *f* *mf*

Hn. *f*

Alt. Hn. *f*

Tbn./Euph./Bsn. *f*

Alt. Tbn. *f*

Tuba *f*

Timp. *f*

Mal. *mp* *f*

Perc. *mp* *f* *sfz* *sfz*

Perc. *f* T-tom *sfz*

Cr. Cym. *f*

44 45 46 47 48 49

50

Fl. *f* *ff*

Ob. *f* *ff*

B \flat Cl. *f* *ff*

B. Cl. *f* *ff*

A. Sax. *f* *ff*

T. Sax. *f* *ff*

B. Sax. *f* *ff*

50

B \flat Tpt. *f* *ff*

Hn. *f* *ff*

Alt. Hn. *f* *ff*

Tbn./Euph./Bsn. *f* *ff*

Alt. Tbn. *f* *ff*

Tuba *f* *ff*

Timp. *f* *f* *ff*

Mal. *f* *ff*

Perc. *f* *ff*
Cr. Cym.

f *ff*

50 51 52 53 54 55

58

Fl.
mf
ff

Ob.
mf
ff

B \flat Cl.
mf
ff

B. Cl.
mf
f
ff

A. Sax.
mf
ff

T. Sax.
mf
ff

B. Sax.
mf
f
ff

B \flat Tpt.
mf
ff

Hn.
mf
ff

Alt. Hn.
mf
ff

Tbn./
Euph./
Bsn.
mf
f
ff

Alt. Tbn.
mf
f
ff

Tuba
mf
f
ff

Timp.
mf
f
ff

Mal.
mf
ff

Perc.
mf
ff sfz sfz

Perc.
mf
ff sfz sfz

ch. ch.