

March 159 (CLIX)

The Composer

Dan Adams is currently Band and Orchestra director at Wooster High School and Instrumental Music Coordinator for the Wooster City Schools in Wooster, Ohio. He received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from The Ohio State University and a Master of Music in Band Conducting from Northwestern University where he studied with John Paynter. Adams is active as an adjudicator, brass musician, and conductor. Memberships include the Ohio Music Education Association, ASCAP, College Band Directors National Association, and American Federation of Musicians Local 159.

Performance Concerns

This is an up-tempo march requiring a light “march style”. Unmarked quarter notes should have light separation and eighth notes should bounce. Additionally, give appropriate shape to the long flowing lines in the trio.

The beginning of the trio is inspired by the Roman numeral for 159: CLIX (or clicks). If you have good finger snappers in the ensemble, that is the preferred performance method. Otherwise, clapping lightly with three fingers in the palm will work just fine. The key is to balance out all of the various rhythmic figures, accents included.

Program Notes

Dedicated to the American Federation of Musicians Local 159, **March 159 (CLIX)** is inspired by the Musician Union’s local number, 159 in two distinct ways. First, the intervals of unison (**1**), 5th (**5**) and 9th (**9**) provide much of the melodic content in the piece. Secondly, the Roman numeral CLIX, or 159, provides the inspiration for the important “clicks” that are performed at the beginning of the march’s trio section as well as the snare drummer’s “rim clicks” utilized in the first strain. The result is a bright, happy march intended to reflect the joy this organization has brought the composer over many years of association.