

THE FOUNTAINHEAD is unique. It is designed to work across a **MUSIC PROGRAM**.

Let's say that in your program or **district**, you have a 9th grade band (*or a middle school band*), a concert band, and a wind ensemble, or symphonic band made up of your finest players. Here is an example of the **26** minute design:

- 1: **Integrity's First Stand**: 9th Grade Band.
- 2: **Form & Function**: Concert Group.
- 3: **Where Beauty Has No Chance**: Wind Symphony.
- 4: **From Quarry to Quest**: Wind Symphony.
- 5: **Dynamiting Cortlandt**: Percussion Ensemble.
- 6: **Monument to the Spirit of Man**: Combined!

The "**younger**" pieces are rhythmically energized and **seem** to be more difficult. Great weight has been given to the learning experience. (*There's more on how to approach the younger groups in the score.*) The Upper Group is left with the harrowing, demanding task of taking those long, full, languid moments, and making them beautiful. The Chinese say, "**In clear water, little fish have no place to hide.**" In those moments where **hiding** is not possible, I have called upon the fine Musician. To make **A Monument to the Spirit of Man...** truly a **MONUMENT!**, will take great love and energy, great giving and care.

Other Options:

1. Each movement may be rendered as a separate work.
2. A 3-movement work may be taken from the whole.
3. One ensemble may play the entire work.
4. All 3 groups, or 2, or 4... can be on stage for the entire piece. You can add the groups in at dramatic moments to intensify the climaxes. Each group can await the appropriate time, joining **gloriously** in the finale!
5. The first movement is rendered at the Middle School's Spring Concert. An invitation is made at that concert to attend the high school's spring concert in which parents and students can hear the rest of the work.

There are many ways to utilize **THE FOUNTAINHEAD** to generate interest across the grade levels, and literally create a **BRIDGE** between groups, unify the town's Music department, and more. I hope you see this as I do. It is the beginning of a process called **STORMQuest**, but more on that later.

THE FOUNTAINHEAD is unique in that it offers many creative ways of unifying your Music program! Beyond all of this, **THE FOUNTAINHEAD** is a tribute to the eternal wellspring of Man's creativity. And now to the task ahead! Godspeed.

STORMDirector Defined!

For those who have met me, you know how much I detest the idea of a following. I respect the Individual above all else, hence pieces like **THE FOUNTAINHEAD!** A **STORMDirector** is not a follower. He or She is a **proponent** of Music and Music Education. He or She faces the same adversaries that the... shall we call them, **Slow-Drip-Directors...** face, but unlike their counterparts, they overcome these obstacles. Why? Because above all else, they love the kids and the responsibility of taking them on a great and noble journey. **STORMDirectors** are not masters. They are instead, perpetual learners, always giving to and humbled by that which they serve: Music and Students, Students and Music. I have met some of you! And you **ARE STORMDirectors!** I love and respect you.

CREATING a STORMBook from a 3-Ringed Binder!

Eventually, over Time, you can create a **STORMBook!** This is a useful addition to your library and teaching arsenal. Here's why. If you were to play **one STORM work** on each of your concerts, it would take you **16 years** to fully explore the *currently* existing **STORMLibrary** and ever-expanding message. If you were to render one work for **Winds & Percussion in Motion** every **4 years**, you could span **28 years!**

THE FOUNTAINHEAD

#763 for Wind Symphony
Commissioned by the 1994-1995 Oswego High School
Concert Band, Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble,
Directed by Mr. William Palange & Mr. Anthony Joseph
Sponsored by The Oswego High School
Band Parent Association
First Performance 11 March 1995
at The Oswego High School
Theater of the Performing Arts
© Stephen Melillo IGNA 6 June 1994

Just days ago, I was treated to a most gracious and generous gift. The Oswego High School Band Parents' letter and unexpected gesture has given me the strength and faith to bravely face the next great adventure. As much as is possible for me, limited as I am to these few pages and words, I would like to publicly acknowledge and thank the Oswego High School Band Parents. They did much more than merely commission a work. They became a part of its intended message, a message of Virtue and Valor, Integrity and Love. Through their action, they have lifted the Music from the page, making it a part of their lives and the lives of their children. They have built a **Monument to the Spirit of Man**. Thank you, OHS Band Parents... for your generosity, your thoughtfulness... your giving.

Stephen Melillo
Composer