

## Guide to Music Literature in Academic Competitions

Prepared by Dr. Howard J. Buss (July 2005)

1. Any musical composition in any style may be excerpted for questions pertaining to music theory, style, instrumentation, performance practice, and/or cultural background.
2. Patriotic songs, marches, military theme songs, and folk songs from our American heritage, such as those by Stephen Foster and African-American Spirituals, may be used for title and/or composer identification questions. Also, excerpts from time-tested American musicals may be employed for this purpose. Most notably would be works such as *West Side Story*, *Candide*, *South Pacific*, *The Music Man*, *Oklahoma*, *The Sound of Music*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Porgy and Bess*.
3. Title and/or composer identification questions will emphasize, but not be limited to, the 50 compositions on the following list:

Bach, Johann Sebastian.

*Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor*

*Brandenburg Concerto #2*

Barber, Samuel

*Adagio for Strings*

Beethoven, Ludwig van

*Für Elise*

*Symphony #5*

*Symphony #9*

Berlioz, Hector

*Symphonie Fantastique*

Bizet, George

*Carmen*

Brahms, Johannes

*Symphony #2*

*Violin Concerto*

Copland, Aaron

*Appalachian Spring*

*Fanfare for the Common Man*

Debussy, Claude

*La Mer*

*Prelude to Afternoon of a Faun*

Dvořák, Antonín

*Symphony #5 (New World Symphony)*

Gershwin, George

*Rhapsody in Blue*

Grieg, Edvard Hagerup

*Peer Gynt Suite #2*

Grofé, Ferde  
*The Grand Canyon Suite*

Handel, George Frederick  
*Messiah*  
*Water Music*

Haydn, Franz Joseph  
*Symphony #94 (The Surprise Symphony)*  
*Symphony #101 (The Clock Symphony)*

Holst, Gustav  
*The Planets*

Mendelssohn, Felix  
*Violin Concerto*  
*Italian Symphony*

Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus  
*Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*  
*Symphony #40 (K. 550)*

Mussorgsky, Modest  
*Pictures at an Exhibition*  
*Night on Bald Mountain*

Orff, Carl  
*Carmina burana*

Puccini, Giacomo  
*Madama Butterfly*

Prokofiev, Sergei  
*Peter and the Wolf*  
*Symphony #5*

Ravel, Maurice  
*Bolero*

Strauss, Richard  
*Also sprach Zarathustra*

Rimsky-Korsakov, Nicolas  
*Scheherazade*  
*The Flight of the Bumble Bee*

Rossini, Gioacchino  
*William Tell Overture*  
*The Barber of Seville*

Saint-Saëns, Camille  
*The Carnival of the Animals*

Schubert, Franz Peter  
*Symphony #8 (The Unfinished Symphony)*

Schumann, Robert  
*Album for the Young*

Stravinsky, Igor  
*The Rite of Spring (Le sacre du printemps)*  
*The Firebird*

Tchaikovsky, Peter Ilyich  
*Symphony #5 [Pathétique]*  
*1812 Overture*

Verdi, Giuseppe  
*Aida*

Vivaldi, Antonio  
*The Seasons*

Wagner, Richard  
Overture to *Tannhäuser*  
*Die Walküre (The Valkyrie)*