

Dedicated to the Massachusetts Music Educators Association,
for performance by the Honors Choir at the MMEA Conference, Andrew Megill, conductor,
March 11, 2017—Boston, Massachusetts

The Land of the Free

an arrangement of “The Star-Spangled Banner”
for SATB Chorus unaccompanied

Francis Scott Key (1779–1843),
Additional words by Gwyneth Walker

Gwyneth Walker

Program Notes

This arrangement of “The Star-Spangled Banner” includes extra phrases to emphasize the personal expression of the anthem. At the start, the chorus proudly proclaims, “This is the country of which I sing, where I can speak, which I will protect and save.” The closing section is both emotional and hopeful in message, speaking of the inclusive spirit and generosity of the nation: “The land of the free, the country I love, the heart of compassion and the home of the brave!”

Moderate tempo ♩ = 92

mf smoothly, with affection

Soprano
This is the home of the brave. —

mf smoothly, with affection

Alto
This is the home of the brave.

mf smoothly, with affection

Tenor
8
This is the land of the free.

mf smoothly, with affection

Bass
This is the land of the free.

Moderate tempo ♩ = 92

mf

Keyboard
(for rehearsal only)

Note setting and format by Gwyneth Walker Music Productions

Available editions:

SATB, ECS Catalog No. 8527

SSAA, ECS Catalog No. 8528

TTBB, ECS Catalog No. 8529

5

S (mf) where I can speak, which I will pro- tect and _

A (mf) where I can speak, which I will pro- tect and _

T (mf) This is the coun- try of which I sing, which I will pro- tect and _

B (mf) This is the coun- try of which I sing, which I will pro- tect and

A

9 rit. **f** , **Faster** ♩ = 100 **f** can you see ...

save. can you see ...

save. can you see ...

save. O say, can you see, by the

save. O say, can you see, by the

A

rit. **f** , **Faster** ♩ = 100 **f**

save. can you see ...

save. can you see ...

save. O say, can you see, by the

save. O say, can you see, by the

12

S ear - ly light ... *unis.* hailed ...

A ear - ly light ... hailed ...

T dawn's ear - ly light, what so proud - ly we hailed at the

B dawn's ear - ly light, what so proud - ly we hailed at the

16

S last gleam - ing? Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the

A last gleam - ing? Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the

T twi - light's last gleam - ing? and bright stars ...

B twi - light's last gleam - ing? and bright stars ...

B

20

S per - il - ous fight, o'er the ram - parts we watched, — were so *unis.*

A per - il - ous fight, o'er the ram - parts we — watched, — were so

T through the fight... watched...

B through the fight... watched...

24

S gal - lant - ly stream - ing? **C** *p* rock - ets' red glare... — *mf*

A gal - lant - ly stream - ing? *p* rock - ets' red glare... — *mf*

T gal - lant - ly stream - ing? *p* And the rock - ets' red glare, the bombs

B gal - lant - ly stream - ing? *p* And the rock - ets' red glare, the bombs

D

rit.

Slower

S
say, does that star - span - gled ban - ner yet wave o'er the

A
say, does that star - span - gled ban - ner yet wave o'er the

T
say, does that star - span - gled ban - ner yet wave o'er the

B
unis.
say, does that star - span - gled ban - ner yet wave o'er the

D

rit.

Slower

38

unis.

S
land of the free and the home of the

A
land of the free and the home of the

T
land of the free and the home of the

B
land of the free and the home of the

E

mf smoothly, with affection *f*

S
A
T
B

the coun - try I love, the
brave!
The land of the free, the coun - try I love, the
The land of the free, the coun - try I love, the

p
p smoothly, with affection *mf* *f*
p smoothly, with affection *mf* *f*
p *mf* *f*

S
A
T
B

heart of com - pas - sion and the home of the brave!
heart of com - pas - sion and the home of the brave!
heart of com - pas - sion and the home of the brave!

rit. *cresc.* *ff*
cresc. *ff*
rit. *cresc.* *ff*