**The Great Computer Challenge, 2023**

***Music Composition, Level 4***

# **Background**

Music technology is the use of any device, mechanism, machine or tool by a musician or composer to make or perform music; to compose, notate, play back or record songs or pieces; or to analyze or edit music. Many computer programs have been developed for creating music notation (called *scorewriters* or *music notation software*). Music may also be stored in various digital file formats for purposes other than graphic notation output.

# **Guidelines & Requirements**

You are commissioned to compose the soundtrack for a new science fiction film as described in the Challenge below. *Minimum requirements include*:

1. Write an original instrumental piece. This piece must include at least two traditional sound sources and one nontraditional sound source.
2. The entire piece must be an original composition.
3. Give your imagined film a title and include it in the title of your piece.
4. The meter(s) and key(s) are your choice, but they must be clear and definite.
5. Your piece must contain **all** of the following elements:

• Six different indications of dynamics, including at least one crescendo and one decrescendo

• Variations in rhythm, including at least one instance of syncopation

• Variations in texture

• Various instances of harmony

*IMPORTANT:*

REMINDER: Leave your password for the judges if your computer has a locked screensaver. Judges cannot evaluate what they cannot access. Thank you!

# **Challenge 1**

**Problem:** You are commissioned to compose the soundtrack for a new science fiction film. Your piece for this challenge will serve as the theme music for the film. Science fiction films typically deal with imaginative and futuristic concepts such as advanced science and technology, space exploration, time travel, parallel universes, and extraterrestrial life. When writing your piece, make sure the theme conveys the science fiction aspects of the film, including the film’s style, mood, plot, etc.

# **Judging Criteria**

Complete the following problem thoroughly (meeting all criteria) using either multi-track software or a traditional notation software. The judges will (A) review the music on-screen in the software used to prepare it and (B) listen to it aurally.

IMPORTANT: A recording will not be accepted without the on-screen view of the notation.  Points will be awarded for

• meeting minimum requirements - 50%

• creativity and originality - 25%

• musicality (incorporation of musical elements for expression) - 25%

***Have fun and thanks for participating in the   
Great Computer Challenge, 2023!***