

# Sacred and Secular Music in Public Schools

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# WHAT IS THIS?

A guitar sheet music snippet in 2/2 time, featuring a C-G7-C-G7-C-G7-C chord progression. The music is written on three staves, each labeled 'Gua' (Guitar). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 2/2 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes, with some chords (C and G7) indicated above the staff. The second and third staves continue the melody and include additional chord markings (G7 and C) above the staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a final chord (C). A watermark 'GuitarNick.com' is visible across the bottom of the sheet music.

# HOW DO STATES HANDLE SACRED MUSIC IN PUBLIC SCHOOL MUSIC COMPETITIONS?

- Some states have no rules at all
- Some have a “percentage” rule
- NAFME feels that religious music for education is “vital and appropriate”
- Regardless of local or state rules, problems can be caused by this

# A VERY BRIEF HISTORY OF CHORAL MUSIC (WHICH IS A BRIEF HISTORY OF WRITTEN MUSIC AS WELL)

- THE EARLIEST MUSIC TOOK WRITTEN FORM FROM WITHIN THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
- TO REMOVE SACRED MUSIC FROM CHORAL LITERATURE WOULD REMOVE MUCH OF HISTORY

# WHAT ABOUT SACRED INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC?

- CHORALES TEACH BALANCE, BLEND, INTONATION, ETC
- LEAVE OUT BACH?
- THERE ARE MANY IMPORTANT PIECES OF BAND LITERATURE BASED ON HYMNS THAT ARE ON MANY STATE REQUIRED MUSIC LISTS

# HOW WILL OUR DECISIONS ON THIS TOPIC AFFECT OUR STUDENTS?

- THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL ISSUES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL WITH SACRED MUSIC BEING PERFORMED
- ENSEMBLES HAVE BEEN CAUSED TO RE-CONSTRUCT ENTIRE SHOWS DUE TO THIS
- WHEN DETAILS ARE NOT CONSIDERED, OUR STUDENTS LOSE

# WHAT CAN WE DO?

- KNOW YOUR SITUATION (COMMUNITY/  
ADMINISTRATION)
- BE PREPARED TO DEFEND YOUR  
SELECTIONS FROM A MUSICAL STANDPOINT

# NOW, BACK TO THE PHILOSOPHICAL DISCUSSION

A musical score for guitar in 2/2 time, consisting of three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a 2/2 time signature, and the instruction '8va'. The melody consists of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Chords are indicated above the staff: C at the beginning, G7 under the G4 note, and C at the end. The second staff continues the melody with quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Chords are indicated: G7 under the G4 note and C at the end. The third staff continues the melody with quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Chords are indicated: G7 under the G4 note, C at the end, G7 under the G4 note, and C at the end. A watermark 'GuitarMilk.com' is visible across the middle of the score.

# Jesus Loves Me

Go to [www.guitarnick.com](http://www.guitarnick.com)  
lots of free guitar tabs & video lessons



Tablited by  
Nicola Mandorino (2010)

C G7 C

G7 C

G7 C G7 C

8va

# THINK ABOUT YOUR STUDENTS

- KNOW IF THIS WILL BE A PROBLEM
- PREPARE TO DEFEND
- GET PERMISSION AHEAD OF TIME
- IF YOU THINK THERE MAY BE AN ISSUE  
CONSIDER HOW MUCH TROUBLE IT WILL BE  
TO REWRITE IT

THANKS! FOR ATTENDING  
TODAY!