

## FOR CONCERT BAND

2022

## Marie A. Douglas

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Marie A. Douglas, BMI
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I AM ENOUGH

The Commission
I am Enough was commissioned by the California Band Dírectors Association, Social Impact Consortium and the CBDA All-State Small Schools Band:

> Flute 1
> Flute 2
> Oboe

Bassoon
Clarinet 1 in Bb
Clarinet 2 in Bb
B Bass Clarinet
Alto Saxophone Tenor Saxophone
Barítone Saxophone

# Trumpet 1 in Bb 

Trumpetzin Bb
Horn in $F 1$
Horn in F2
Trombone 1
Trombone 2
Euphonium
Tuba

Timpaní (hard/dry mallets)
Percussion 1: Maracas, Glockenspiel + Xylophone
Percussion 2: Crash Cymbals + Castanets
Percussion 3 ( 2 players): Triangle, Snare Drum + Bass Drum

DURATION: ca. 5 minutes

I am Enough was commissioned by the California Band Dírectors Association 2023 Social Impact Consortium. The piece is a two-movement piece for wind band on the topic of mental health. The piece is 2.5 , which makes the work easily accessible to a variety of ensembles.

Written in 2022, the piece is centered around teen mental health and wellness with each movement telling the story of a fictional teen overcoming their struggles with Anxiety/Fear, ADHD/Sadness, respectively. I Am Enough travels through genres and regions of the African diaspora and Latin America, mixing in R\&B, Southern Hip-Hop, and Mexican Folkloric vibes.

In movement one we meet Elena, a ballerina whose family immigrated from Mexico. We join her in ballet class, where she often drifts off into the depths of her imagination during the warmup session. Causing what starts out as a waltz feel to morph into a Mexican influenced folkloric dance adventure, where Elena feels at home. Beginning firmly in B flat major the movement then teetertotters between a B flat altered harmonic minor scale and the original key. Accompanied by percussion often found in the music of Latin America, this movement takes the listener and performer on a journey into the mind of a young lady longing to learn more about herself, and her culture.

## Elena - ADHD - sadness, grief

Soooo, my ballet instructor told mama that she has to reel me back in from time to time. She says I'm talented but sometimes I don't pay attention, I "drift off". I mean, I really like ballet class, especially when we have recitals, I love to perform, and I love to see my friends. I love my teachers, I guess I just want to learn different dances too. Sometimes I watch YouTube and listen to the songs my aunties play at our cookouts, from when they were kids in Mexico. It sounds like so much fun and it seems more natural for me. I am not going to lie, during our ballet warm up sessions 1 often get carried away dreaming of a class that teaches dances from Mexico.

In the second movement you are introduced to Jace, a non- gender conforming teen who struggles with anxiety. We first sonically observe Jace in the midst of an amazing slumber, depicted by the soprano woodwinds. As their angelic sleep begins to deteriorate due to sobering interruptions occurring via the percussion and brass, Jace realizes that they were snoozing their alarm this entire time, panic sinks in and attempts to have Jace conform to its plan. An internal battle is demonstrated via an epic ballad section. Jace arises victoriously after reading affirmations from their great - aunt, the way their therapist advised.

## Jace $\times$ Anxiety - fear

My alarm clock woke me out of an angelic sleep. Who knows how many times I'd hit snooze? "Oh no!..."Am I late?"..."I can NOT be late again!!"..."I was doing so good beíng on time last month!"..."Principal Evans is going to be so disappointed!!!" ..." "iniiii'm
just going to stay home. No walk of shame for me!" ..." OMG, it's so hot suddenly...."...."Okay I have to calm down". I closed my eyes and sank with my back to the wall, down to my plushy carpet and remembered the affirmations my great aunt taught me. I begin to say them aloud, "I Can Only Do So Much, It's Okay to Cut Myself Some Slack. I Can Take Life At My Own Pace, I Don't Have To Rush. My Mistakes Don't Define Me, Everyone Makes Mistakes. I Am In Charge Of How I Feel And I Feel To Choose Happiness. I AM ENOUGH!" Calm washed over me eventually, like it always does. A few minutes passed and I realized I felt much better. I went to school late. The day wasn't so bad. I showed up anyway. Did the opposite of what anxiety wanted. I won this time.

My goal in composing this work, via the textures and orchestration, in addition to the stylistic choices, and literary aspects, was to cover a variety of musical phenomena displaying some of the prevailing cultures of the young people walking the hallways of America's schools and telling their stories. We see you! Keep striving! The premiere will be given by the new California Small Schools All-State Honor Band and conductor Dr. Peter Boonshaft at CASMEC February 2023.

For more information about this piece or any others written by Marie $A$. Douglas, please visit: marieadouglas.com or contact the composer at: mussempre@gmail.com


## ABOUTTHE COMPOSER

Marie A. Douglas (b. 1987) has been noted for the arrangement and orchestration choices within her works for various ensembles. Her music focuses on affording quality voice leading, memorable rhythms and unique and interesting textures for musicians at all levels of music performance. Marie is inspired by the music of modern African American and minority music composers such as R. Nathaniel Dett, Quincy Jones, Duke Ellington, Florence Price, Margaret Bonds, Lili and Nadía Boulanger and many others. Marie enjoys arranging, transcribing, and orchestrating the music of others, in addition to her own compositions.

Due to her arranging background, she often chooses to infuse attributes of her favorite genres of music into her creations, and aspects of wind band and orchestral literature in her electronic music productions. Most recently, her compositions have íncluded spirituals, body percussion, spoken word, sound design, samples, and tons of other elements many of which find their origins in the African Díaspora.

Presently Marie is fixated on fusing hip-hop, specifically, the sub-genre "trap music" with instrumental ensemble elements. Marie enjoys mixing and layeríng genres and textures as a means to inject excitement into pieces intended for concert performance. Marie is currently a doctoral student at the University of Memphis where she studies composition and conducting with Kamran Ince, Mahir Cetiz, and Albert Nguyen,
 respectively.


## NOTESTOCONDUCTOR

Here are a few things to consider as you prepare this piece:
This piece intentionally consists of contrasting moments of emotional turmoil, endurance, and overcoming throughout. With the previous in mind, DO lean into the dissonances, tempo changes, rhythms, dynamics, and textures on display. This approach will aid in creating an artistic and emotionally gripping portrayal of the dirty and gritty sounds as well as the soulful, velvety, and delicate aesthetics that occur.

Additionally, to further aid in the interpretation of the piece, reading and discussing the vignettes provided for each teen representing a movement is encouraged.

# I am Enough 

for ConcettBand
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## I. ADHD / Sadness












2. Anxiety / Fear




| Timp. | P\% | - | - | . | $\cdots$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| P. 1 | $b^{-\quad .}$ | $\ddots_{3} \rho$ | $\bullet \cdot \frac{0}{3} \cdot \frac{0}{3}$ |  | $\rho \quad \int_{3}^{\cdot \rho} \rho$ | $\cdot \cdot \cdot \rho$ | $\cdots \dot{B}_{3}^{0} \cdot$ |
| P. 2 | \#1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
|  | (Triangle) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| P. 3 | \#" | $\cdots$ | - | - |  | $\because$ |  |

6
7
8
9
10
II
12

I3 $d=132$





$29 \cdot 108$ OMG I'M LATE!




 $\dot{f}=$


36
37
38
39
40
4 I
42




59
60
6 I
62
63
64



