

The Blue Ridge Parkway

The Blue Ridge Parkway is called "America's Favorite Drive." Spanning 250 miles in North Carolina, the Parkway winds its way among mountain towns, national forests, and historic sites. Visitors can enjoy the stunning panorama with its breathtaking views from scenic overlooks. The glorious fall foliage and the vibrant spring flowers attract many visitors each year. Rich Appalachian culture is demonstrated in the folk art found in charming little towns, such as wood working, textiles, pottery, basketry, and mountain crafts.

Martha Mier

Broadly, majestically

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time. It begins with the instruction "Broadly, majestically". The right hand (RH) starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic, followed by a forte (*f*) dynamic, and then a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic. The left hand provides a steady bass line. The score is divided into four systems, with measure numbers 5, 9, and 12 marked at the beginning of their respective systems. The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some triplet markings. The piece concludes with a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic.

Appalachian Mountain Clogging

Clogging is the official folk dance of North Carolina. Developed during the colonial period in the Southern Appalachian Mountains, clogging is known for its unique, dignified, and beautiful footwork. Clogging can be performed alone, by couples, or in groups. Today, North Carolina is home to numerous clogging festivals, including the Mountain Dance and Folk Festival in Asheville, and the Hickory Hoedown Clogging Festival.

Martha Mier

Fast, spirited

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked "Fast, spirited". The first staff is the treble clef, and the second is the bass clef. The first measure has a dynamic marking of *f*. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1 and 2 above notes. Measure 4 ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. The first measure is marked with a box containing the number 5. The dynamic marking is *mp*. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1 and 2 above notes. Measure 8 ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. The first measure is marked with a box containing the number 9. The dynamic marking is *f*. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1, 2, 4, and 5 above notes. Measure 12 ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. The first measure is marked with a box containing the number 13. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1, 2, and 5 above notes. Measure 16 ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Legend of The Blowing Rock

Blowing Rock is a cliff above Johns River Gorge in northwestern North Carolina. Due to the rock's shape and size, wind currents from the gorge blow vertically, causing light objects to float upwards into the sky. Legend has it that an Indian brave leaped from The Rock, leaving his grief-stricken maiden behind. She prayed daily to the Great Spirit until a gust of wind blew her lover back into her arms.

Martha Mier

Moderately, with expression

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music. The first system begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The second system starts with a measure rest marked with a '3'. The third system includes a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. The fourth system begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and includes a 'LH' marking for the left hand. Fingerings and articulation marks are provided throughout the piece.

Cape Hatteras Lighthouse

The Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is a famous symbol of North Carolina. The tallest lighthouse in the nation, it has warned sailors for more than 100 years of the treacherous Diamond Shoals which extend some 14 miles out into the ocean off Cape Hatteras. These shallow sandbars have claimed so many ships that the area is known as the "Graveyard of the Atlantic." The beacon from the light can be seen some 20 miles out to sea.

Martha Mier

Slowly, mysteriously

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The first system begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes fingerings for the left hand (LH) and right hand. The second system begins at measure 5 with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The third system begins at measure 9 with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes complex fingering patterns. The fourth system begins at measure 13 and ends with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The score features various musical notations including chords, arpeggios, and melodic lines with fingerings.