

This work was commissioned by, and is dedicated to Director Christopher Dobbs  
and The Noah Webster House Museum, West Hartford, Connecticut

# Noah's National Language

Words & Music by Richard Chiarappa  
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**3/4** *Maestoso*  $\text{♩} = 72$  **2/4** **3/4** **4/4** **3/4** **2/4** **3/4** **4/4** **3/4**

Piccolo

Flute 1 & 2

Oboe 1 & 2

Clarinet Bb 1 & 2

Bass Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon 1 & 2

Horn 1 & 2

Horn 3 & 4

Trumpet in Bb 1

Trumpet in Bb 2 & 3

Trombone 1 & 2

Bass Trombone

Tuba

Timpani

Tubular Bells

Cymbals

Tenor Drum

Bass Drum

Narrator & Noah

Harp

SOPRANO  
ALTO

TENOR  
BASS

**3/4** *Maestoso* **2/4** **3/4** **4/4** **3/4** **2/4** **3/4** **4/4** **3/4**

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

Narrator:  
Noah Webster...  
father of the  
American Dictionary.

born  
October 16th, 1758  
in West Hartford,  
Connecticut.

A statesman  
and a teacher,  
an author and  
a lawyer...

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3/4 2/4 3/4 4/4 3/4 2/4 3/4 4/4 3/4 2/4

Picc. *mp* *soli*

Fl. 1,2 *mf*

Ob. 1,2 *mf*

Cl. 1,2 (play)

B. Cl.

Bsn. 1,2

Hn. 1,2

Hn. 3,4

Tpt. 1 *soli* *mf*

Tpt. 2,3

Tbn. 1,2 *mf*

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Tub. B.

Cym.

T. D. *mf*

B. D. *mf*

N. & N. *mf*

Hp.

S. A.

T. B.

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Db. *mf*

an editor, a publisher and a lexicographer.

As a young teacher at twenty years old...

he discovered the problem of American education.

"Look at these children of all ages; crammed into a one-room schoolhouse."

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**2/4 3/4 soli 4/4 3/4 (Chorus) 2/4 3/4 4/4 3/4**

Picc.

Fl. 1,2

Ob. 1,2

Cl. 1,2

B. Cl.

Bsn. 1,2

Hn. 1,2

Hn. 3,4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2,3

Tbn. 1,2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Tub. B.

Cym.

T. D.

B. D.

N. & N.

Hp.

S. A.

T. B.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Learning from the only books available - those from England. This cannot be! We need our own identity. These are American children and they must learn from American books!

But there aren't any.

No - ah, No - ah start writ ing, write your own book. Just make it

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5/4

4/4

3/4

39

Picc. *mp* solo 1.

Fl. 1,2 *a2*

Ob. 1,2 *f*

Cl. 1,2 *f* 1.

B. Cl. *f*

Bsn. 1,2 *f*

Hn. 1,2 *f* 1.

Hn. 3,4 *f* *a2*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2,3 *f*

Tbn. 1,2 *f*

B. Tbn. *f*

Tba. *mf*

Timp. *f* 1.v.

Tub. B. *f* (C.C.) 1.v.

Cym. *f*

T. D. *f* 3

B. D. *f*

N. & N. *f*

Noah's goal was to develop an American language that would be independent of all other languages. It would help our young country form its individuality.

And write he did.

Hp. *mp*

S. A. *3* simple, just make it clear.

T. B. *3*

Vln. 1 *f* 1. solo *mp* tutti *mp*

Vln. 2 *f* *mp*

Vla. *f* *mp*

Vc. *f* *mp*

Db. *f*

5/4 4/4 3/4

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51

The musical score is arranged in systems. The top system includes Piccolo, Flute 1 & 2, Oboe 1 & 2, Clarinet 1 & 2, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon 1 & 2, Horn 1 & 2, Horn 3 & 4, Trumpet 1, Trumpet 2 & 3, Trombone 1 & 2, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, Tubas, Cymbals, Tom-toms (T.D. and B.D.), and N. & N. The middle system is for Harp. The bottom system is for vocal soloist (Soprano and Tenor parts) and strings (Violin 1 & 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass). The score features various time signatures: 3/4, 2/4, and 3/4. Dynamic markings include *mf* and *p*. Performance instructions such as "1. soli", "a 2.", and "solli" are present. The vocal soloist part includes lyrics: "There. It is finished. Now, what hall I call it? Ah! Of course!", "A Gammatcal Institue of the English Language.", and "Maybe simply, 'The American Spelling Book?'".

There. It is finished  
Now, what hall I call it?  
Ah! Of course!

"A Gammatcal  
Institue of the  
English Language."

Maybe simply,  
"The American  
Spelling Book?"

No - ah, you can do bet - ter. Look at your book. Hold it up

4/4 3/4

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Picc.

Fl. 1,2

Ob. 1,2

Cl. 1,2

B. Cl.

Bsn. 1,2

Hn. 1,2

Hn. 3,4

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2,3

Tbn. 1,2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Tub. B.

Cym.

T. D.

B. D.

N. & N.

Hp.

S. A.

T. B.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

high, turn it a - round. What do you see? Blue - back spel - ler.

Blue - back spel - ler.

"A spelling book... with a blue back. How about "The Blue-Back Speller!"

f, ff, mf, p, mp, ff, a2, 3, 8

(to Sus. Cym) (to Cr. Cym)

4/4 3/4