



## **Harvey Stokes Masterclass Series**

### **Composing and Arranging for Recorders**

The American Recorder Society (ARS) and the North American Virtual Recorder Society (NAVRS) invite all interested students to join Dr. Harvey Stokes for a series of masterclasses on composing and arranging for recorders.

Harvey J. Stokes, an American composer currently on the music faculty at Hampton University, holds a PhD in composition from Michigan State University. His music has been programmed by numerous prominent organizations, including the Richmond Symphony, the Lancaster Symphony, the Virginia Beach Symphony, the Oxford String Quartet, and the New England Conservatory Contemporary Ensemble. A respected educator, Stokes received the 2017-18 Edward L. Hamm Sr. Distinguished Teaching Award at Hampton University.

Play-the-Recorder-Month was established in 1992 in celebration of the American Recorder Society's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It now serves as a means to excite and engage its membership on an annual basis, as well as an opportunity to invite new members. For Play-the-Recorder-Month, 2025, The ARS has commissioned Dr. Stokes to write a new work for recorder quartet.

The commissioned work, "Flight Games", has now been published and sent to all members of the ARS, and will be featured during an online performance and discussion of the piece on March 15, 2025. It can also be found in the Play-the-Recorder-Month library on the ARS website (<https://americanrecorder.org>)

On **January 30 and April 10 of 2025**, Dr. Stokes will be leading masterclasses designed to showcase the incredible potential of the recorder as an instrument, and to encourage young composers to write for it. In Dr. Stokes own words: *"The American Recorder Society has invited me to provide masterclasses in which creative work for the recorder ensemble is encouraged. I am inviting everyone to participate, as we will consider ideas which will make this creative work an intensely rewarding experience."*



These classes will be online and free of charge for participating students.

### Schedule:

Interested students will receive login information for class participation from their professors.

The first class, held on **Thursday, January 30 at 2pm**, will be an introduction to writing for the recorder, offering essential tips on what to be aware of, its unique capabilities, and ideas for exploration.

The second class, held on **Thursday, April 10 at 2pm**, will be an opportunity for Dr. Stokes to review work submitted by participating students and to give constructive feedback.

Both classes will be 90 minutes in length.

### Submissions:

Those wishing to submit an original composition for review should inform their professors immediately after the first masterclass. Students will then be given a link that will allow them to upload a score and optional audio recording.

All submitted works will also be considered for inclusion in the ARS digital library, a resource used by thousands of recorder players throughout the world.

Questions? Feel free to contact Jamie Allen at [jamieamericanrecorder@gmail.com](mailto:jamieamericanrecorder@gmail.com) with any further questions.