

## **Composer's Notes**

JUST THINK ABOUT IT! was written for my band students with the purpose of providing them with an "enjoyable" song to play. The challenge that I have observed with my students is keeping the tempo throughout the entire song.

It is my hope that JUST THINK ABOUT IT! will provide students with a song that they will enjoy learning to play, and provide other music educators with a teaching tool that can be used to motivate and encourage their students. The flute part was written in octaves starting in measure #25 to allow the option of giving the advanced students a more challenging part, and for the melody to "cut" through the ensemble.

JUST THINK ABOUT IT! is dedicated to the Madison County Central School Bands, Madison, Florida.

## **About the Composer**

Gary Gazlay was born in Pueblo, Colorado and grew up in Pinellas County, Florida where he began studying piano at the age of five. The positive influence of his junior and high school band directors on his life is the reason he chose a career as a music teacher.

Mr. Gazlay attended the University of South Florida and after graduating from college in 1974, he moved to Madison, Florida and began his teaching career in the Madison County Florida Public School System. He retired from the public school system at the end of May 2016, and taught music in Madison County for over 42 years at the adult, high school, middle school and elementary levels.

In 1979 the Madison High School Band under his direction was selected and performed at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. In 2011, 2012 and 2013 his fanfares for brass were selected as one the winners of the Dallas Wind Symphony Fanfare Competition. Also, in 2014 he was selected as the Teacher of the Year for Madison County Florida.

Mr. Gazlay is a member of: ASCAP, NAfEA, Florida Bandmasters Association, Florida Music Educators' Association, The International Horn Society, The National Band Association, Handbell Musicians of America and Pi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

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