

## **More About DIME VARIATIONS**

**DIME VARIATIONS** was originally written as a contest piece for a talented pair of flutists in a middle school band, where I had a long-term substituting gig after my retirement from full-time teaching. Then it had languished in the drawer for several years afterwards, until I decided to publish it through Dacker Music. Beside the original flute duet, it is now also available for clarinet, saxophone, violin, and violin-viola duets.

This intermediate-grade piece is appropriate for all high school and advanced middle school students. The theme and first 5 variations, in the key of C minor\*, give the students a chance to experience the different forms of the minor scale, independent parts that cross occasionally, and some minor dissonance as the theme goes through various permutations on its way to a tempo boost in the fifth variation, then a lift into a bright C major\* for a race to the finish in the final 2 variations.

\*Only the flute and saxophone scores are in (concert) C minor/major.  
The clarinet score is in (concert) F minor/major and the string scores are both in A minor/major.