

**JAZZ
BEGINNINGS
SERIES**

Feliz Navidad

Words and Music by JOSÉ FELICIANO

Arranged by VICTOR LÓPEZ

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor	1st Trombone
1st E \flat Alto Saxophone	2nd Trombone (Optional)
2nd E \flat Alto Saxophone	Guitar Chords
1st B \flat Tenor Saxophone	Guitar (Optional)
2nd B \flat Tenor Saxophone (Optional)	Piano
1st B \flat Trumpet	Bass
2nd B \flat Trumpet (Optional)	Drums

Optional/Alternate Parts

1st C Flute
2nd C Flute
1st B \flat Clarinet
2nd B \flat Clarinet
E \flat Baritone Saxophone
Tuba (Doubles Bass)
Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)
Baritone Horn T.C./B \flat Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 1st Trombone)
Auxiliary Percussion

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Feliz Navidad, a Spanish phrase meaning “Merry Christmas” (literally “Happy Nativity”), was written in 1970 by internationally known singer/song writer José Feliciano. José was born blind, to humble beginnings in Lares, Puerto Rico. His family immigrated to New York City where young José taught himself to play the guitar with undaunted determination and nothing but records as his teacher, practicing for as many as 14 hours a day. Exposed to the rock-n-roll of the '50s, José was then inspired to sing. The rest of his career is a success story. José Feliciano is recognized as the first Latin artist to cross over into the English music market, opening the doors to others who now play an important part in the American music industry.

This arrangement is written in the Latin-rock style. The opening statement introduces a tutti section with a very simple syncopated rhythmic pattern. The same rhythmic pattern appears throughout the chart but with slight variations. To lock-in this rhythmic figure, consider engaging the entire ensemble in a simple repetitive hand-clapping activity. Direct the group to clap the rhythmic pattern in measures 1–3 and then from measure 5 to the downbeat of measure 9.

The drumset solo fills should be played aggressively but not too loud. Ensure that the rhythmic combination of the basic rock pattern in the drumset part and the simple 2-3 clave pattern in the auxiliary percussion part is played accurately. The Latin instruments should not be allowed to play freely but instead should adhere to the written patterns.

Starting with the pickups to 25, the dynamic level goes up a notch and the auxiliary rhythm part drops the guiro, but introduces the large muffled cowbell. Notice that the neck and mouth of the cowbell are played for the two different pitches with the neck being the higher pitch and the mouth the lower pitch. Check out how to properly hold and play these instruments.

At measure 48, direct the drumset player to bring out the small cowbell solo. The small cowbell can be mounted to the drumset if desired. If no small cowbell, the player may play the figure on a woodblock. Measures 49–63 denote the initial rhythmic configuration with the drumset playing solo fills.

For the solos section at measures 65–80, a suggested unison solo has been written for all winds. This section can feature one or more soloists, particular sections, a combination thereof or the entire ensemble. Work on articulations and phrasing.

Enjoy!

—Victor López



**Victor
López**

Victor López is a highly acclaimed educator, composer, arranger, and adjudicator. He holds music degrees from the University of Florida and Florida International University, with an Ed.D. in Educational Administration and Supervision. He has served as director of bands at the middle and senior high school levels and as an administrator in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools. He has recorded and performed with various artists and has appeared in numerous music videos. He has over 450 compositions/arrangements published as an exclusive composer, arranger and clinician for Alfred Music.

CONDUCTOR
30613S

FELIZ NAVIDAD

By JOSÉ FELICIANO
Arranged by VICTOR LÓPEZ

LATIN ROCK ♩ = 132

1st C FLUTE (OPTIONAL)

2nd C FLUTE (OPTIONAL)

1st B♭ CLARINET (OPTIONAL)

2nd B♭ CLARINET (OPTIONAL)

1st E♭ ALTO SAXOPHONE

2nd E♭ ALTO SAXOPHONE

1st B♭ TENOR SAXOPHONE

2nd B♭ TENOR SAXOPHONE (OPTIONAL)

1st B♭ TRUMPET

2nd B♭ TRUMPET (OPTIONAL)

1st TROMBONE

2nd TROMBONE (OPTIONAL)

1st GUITAR (OPTIONAL) N.C.

PIANO N.C.

2nd BASS (CHORDS WRITTEN ON PART)

DRUMS SOLO FILL

CONDUCTOR

FLUTE 1

FLUTE 2

CLAR. 1

CLAR. 2

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

LIGHT FILL

Musical score for Feliz Navidad, page 3. The score includes parts for Flute 1 & 2, Clarinet 1 & 2, Alto 1 & 2, Tenor 1 & 2, Trumpet 1 & 2, Trombone 1 & 2, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score is marked with a large red watermark: "Preview Only Requires Purchase".

Chord progression for Guitar and Piano:

- Measures 17-18: Cm7, F7
- Measure 19: Eb7
- Measure 20: Cm7, Eb7
- Measure 21: Eb7, F
- Measure 22: Eb7, Eb
- Measure 23: Eb7, Eb
- Measure 24: Eb7

Measure numbers: 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24. A rehearsal mark "R.S." is present at the end of measure 24.

Musical score for Feliz Navidad, page 4. The score includes parts for Flute 1 & 2, Clarinet 1 & 2, Alto 1 & 2, Tenor 1 & 2, Trumpet 1 & 2, Trombone 1 & 2, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score is marked with a large red watermark: "Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase".

The score is divided into measures 25 through 32. Measure 32 includes a "FILL" instruction. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. The conductor's part is marked with a "25" and a clef.

CONDUCTOR 33

FLUTE 1

FLUTE 2

CLAR. 1

CLAR. 2

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40

Musical score for Feliz Navidad, page 6. The score includes parts for Flute 1 & 2, Clarinet 1 & 2, Alto 1 & 2, Tenor 1 & 2, Trumpet 1 & 2, Trombone 1 & 2, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score is marked with a large red watermark: "Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase".

Measure numbers 41 through 48 are indicated at the bottom of the page. Measure 48 includes the instruction "SOLO (SM. COWBELL)".

Musical score for Feliz Navidad, page 7. The score includes parts for Flute 1 & 2, Clarinet 1 & 2, Alto 1 & 2, Tenor 1 & 2, Trumpet 1 & 2, Trombone 1 & 2, Guitar (GTR.), Piano (PNO.), Bass, and Drums. The music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page. The Drums part includes 'SOLO FILL' markings with dashed lines above measures 52 and 55. Measure numbers 49 through 56 are printed below the drum staff.

Musical score for Feliz Navidad, page 8. The score includes parts for Flute 1 & 2, Clarinet 1 & 2, Alto 1 & 2, Tenor 1 & 2, Trumpet 1 & 2, Trombone 1 & 2, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score is marked with a large red watermark: "Preview Only Requires Purchase".

Measures 57-64 are shown at the bottom of the page. Measures 60 and 63 contain "SOLO FILL" markings.

CONDUCTOR

65 OPEN FOR SOLOS

Musical score for Feliz Navidad, page 9. The score includes parts for Flute 1 & 2, Clarinet 1 & 2, Alto 1 & 2, Tenor 1 & 2, Trumpet 1 & 2, Trombone 1 & 2, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score is marked with a large red watermark: "Preview Requires Purchase".

Chord progressions for the first system (measures 65-72):

- Flute 1 & 2: Cm7, F7, Bb, Fm7, Bb7, Eb, F, Bb, Fm7, Bb7
- Clarinet 1 & 2: Dm7, G7, C, Gm7, C7, F, G, C, Gm7, C7
- Alto 1 & 2: Am7, D7, G, Dm7, G7, C, D, Dm7, G7
- Tenor 1 & 2: Dm7, G7, C, Gm7, C7, F, G, C, Gm7, C7
- Trumpet 1 & 2: Dm7, G7, C, Gm7, C7, F, G, C, Gm7, C7
- Trombone 1 & 2: Cm7, F7, Bb, Fm7, Bb7, Eb, F, Bb, Fm7, Bb7
- Guitar & Piano: Cm7, F7, Bb, Fm7, Bb7, Eb, F, Bb, Fm7, Bb7

Drum part includes a "LIGHT FILL" marking at the end of measure 72.

73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81

FLUTE 1

FLUTE 2

CLAR. 1

CLAR. 2

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

1. 2. D.S. AL CODA

FILL

⊕ CODA

FLUTE 1

FLUTE 2

CLAR. 1

CLAR. 2

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

SOLO (SM. COWBELL)

SOLO FILL

82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90

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Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase

Preview Only
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