

# Elements of Music

**Melody** - the horizontal sequence of the "highs" and "lows" in a song; **the main idea**

**Harmony** - the vertical chordal structure of a composition (the leftover highs and lows that are not melody); **the setting**

**Rhythm** - the **duration** of notes; counts per beat

**Form** - the **shape** of a composition; the order of the melodies

**Beat** - the **basic pulse** of a composition

**Meter** - the **basic grouping** of beats

**Color** - the resulting sound derived by **the use of certain instruments in a song**

**Tempo** - the **speed** at which the beats go by; fast/slow

**Dynamics** - the volume; **the "louds" and "softs"** in a composition

**Pitch** - the **"highness" or "lowness"** of a given note