- Anderson was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts to two musical parents.
- He started piano lessons with his mother at age 5.
- At 12, he showed his 1st composition to his piano teacher, who was so impressed he showed it to the director of the New England Conservatory. As a result, Anderson received a year's scholarship to study music harmony.
- He was gifted in music and the study of languages, and earned two degrees in music from Harvard University.
- Anderson began working with the Boston Pops Orchestra as an arranger and composer.
- His ability with languages made it possible for him to be an Army translator and interpreter during World War II.
- Anderson has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and a Square in Cambridge named after him.
- Over the course of his life, Anderson composed 41 orchestral works, 16 orchestral arrangements, 5 vocal pieces, 3 organ pieces, a musical and 8 other compositions.



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