Composed and Performed by
Dearborn 6th Grade Classes

Classroom Cantatas

Dearborn Middle School

I’m Proud

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"I'M PROUD"
A CANTATA

CHORALE
THE LAND
LITTLE MAN
MAMA
UNFAIRNESS
CHORALE

🎶 The songs in this cantata are based on characters and ideas in Mildred Taylor’s award-winning novel Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, which is set in the South during the Great Depression. Strong family ties, determination, courage and sacrifice enable an African-American family to stay together and to hold onto their land despite racial attacks and economic hardship. This novel is one of those read by sixth graders in Boston Public Schools as part of the Max Warburg Courage Curriculum.
Chorale

Words and music by the Class
6th grade Language Arts, Ms. Choukas, 6-4
Henry Dearborn Middle School, Roxbury, MA

Proudly (♩=98)

Voices

When I think of the land I feel proud of who I am—I don't

Piano

When I think of the land I feel

spoken: I hate to be put down! Fine Slower (♩=80) Eb

like ra-cis-m.

mp

When I think of the land I feel

mp

proud of who I am. I don't like ra-cis-m. I hate to be put down. Ma-ma told me to stand

up for my rights. White and black should not fight—we should all work to-

er. When I

D.S. al Fine

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The Land

Firmly, with pride (d=100)  

Voices

mf  C/G  G  C

The land is good, it gives us food from

Piano

mf

F/G  G  F/G  G  F

generation to generation. The smell of the rich soil runs through the air. My

5  F  G  C/G  G  C

children will look back without despair. The land, let's show it what we can do. Let's

7  F/G  G  F/G  G

show Mother Nature that we can come through. From generation to generation. From

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Little Man

Words and Music by Miguel Blanco, Kyoko Coren, Marquis Henderson, Yovani Nuñez, & Gilbert Rivas Rosario, with Cheri Robartes
6th Grade Language Arts, Ms. Choukas, 6-4
Henry Dearborn Middle School, Roxbury, MA

Proudly, with a bounce (72) mf B♭ D Ddim Eb Bb F Bb

I might be lit-tle, I might be short, but I still won’t let no-one

F Ddim Eb Bb F Bb

turn me ’round! Ignor-ant peo-ple, rude peo-ple. I don’t like ra-cist peo-ple. I

Eb G Ab Db Eb Eb Ab

hope we will all make it a-live No-bod-y will take my

Db C f Ddim Eb Bb F Bb

pride! Ignor-ant peo-ple, rude peo-ple. I don’t like ra-cist peo-ple.

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Mama

Aleisha Vines, DaJuan Robinson, Juan Badillo, Miguel Cordero, Joshua Rivera, Daniel Eden
with Sherry Borener
6th Grade Language Arts, Ms. Choukas, 6-4
Henry Dearborn Middle School, Roxbury, MA

Smoothly rhythmic (\( \frac{1}{4} = 120 \))

Voices

Piano

Mama, Mama, can’t you see?
I’m so proud ’cause you stood up for me.

Mama likes to teach and stand up for her rights.
She covers up the ugly words.

help her kids to learn.

Sometimes Mama is mean to me,

but I know she’s doing the best for me.

You gave me courage.

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Unfairness

Words and Music by Kella Lara Baez,
Jamie Brown, Kelby DePina, Dorilis Fernandez,
with Meaghan Boeimg
Sixth Grade Language Arts, Ms. Choukas, 6-4
Henry Dearborn Middle School

With conviction (♩= 120)

Voices

D A Bm G A

White and black should be to-geth-er. They

D A D

should not fight o-ver who is bet-ter be-cause they both have feel-ings too.

We

D A Bm G A D A D

should be re-spe ct-ed for our per-son-al-i-ties, We're not slaves or mon-sters, We're

Am Am D Am C Am

hu-man be-ings. It's un-fair they called us aw-ful names. And did not re-spe ct the

F G Slower (♩=112) Am C7 F Am

color of our skin. We feel bad to hear these things.

C Dm Am F C G C ad lib C

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Chorale

Words and music by the Class
6th grade Language Arts, Ms. Choukas, 6-4
Henry Dearborn Middle School, Roxbury, MA

Proudly (♩=98)

When I think of the land I feel proud of who I am. I don't like racism.
When I think of the land I feel proud of who I am. I don't like racism.

Mama told me to stand up for my rights. White and black should not fight, we should all work together.

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