Composed and Performed by Emerson 4th Grade Classes

Classroom Cantatas

Emerson Elementary School

Arguing for Justice

cantata singers

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ARGUING FOR JUSTICE
A CANTATA

CHORALE
THE SMITH SCHOOL
SARAH ROBERTS, THE LONELY GIRL
BENJAMIN ROBERTS
BOLD MR. MORRIS
CHARLES SUMNER
CHORALE
Sa-rah Ro-berts, Proud to be an A-meri-can. Her fa-ther fought for her rights, Two law-yers, one black, one white, Fought and won against un-fair-ness. They did-n’t give up, They did-n’t give up.
Smith School

With Conviction $\frac{4}{4} \text{ at 100}$

Voices

The Smith School, nice once, dirty now, so messy it's like a

ruin, only black children, Not enough books, not enough

subjects, snow on the window. Freezing, freezing, freezing when snow comes

Not a school for learning. We want a better school. We want the best school.

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Sarah Roberts, the Lonely Girl

Paulino Barros, Dana De Silva, Kevin Jeffers,
Jessica Mendes, Martinez Smart, with Menghan Boering
Mrs. Kiley's 4th Grade Class
Ralph Waldo Emerson Elementary School
Roxbury, Massachusetts

Voices

Slowly (♩=100)

Piano

Sarah Roberts, born black and smart. Ev'ry school she went to she felt lonely.

Eighteen fifty-five, Eighteen fifty-five, There was a new law, and a fair one too.

Sarah Roberts, Sarah Roberts, born black and smart.

Like an echo

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Benjamin Roberts

Rhythmic, energetic (♩= 112)

Benjamin Roberts, a proud printer. He's angry and upset about Sarah's school. There are no white children in Sarah's school. Sarah should learn with black and white children. Mr. Roberts brave as can be tells the lawyers, "Fight for right! School is for all kids!"

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Bold Mr. Morris

Lina Depina, Melinda Goncalves, LaShay Rogers, 
Jocienne Tavares, Joseph Tavares 
Mrs. Kiley's 4th Grade Class
Ralph Waldo Emerson Elementary School

Moderato  \( J = 108 \)

Voices

Bold mis-ter Mor-ris, First black law-yr in Mas-sa-
chu-setts. Stud-ied hard, read the law, be-lieved in fair-

Piano

Worked with a white law-yr for jus-tice. All should stu-dy to-geth-

Ev-ry child should go to an-y school they want. He

fought for Sa-rah’s fam-

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Charles Sumner

Words and Music by Michael Baptista,
    Michael Montrand, Abobomi DoCanto, Hien Nguyen,
    Iesha Ford and Leon Shaw, with Daryl Yoder

Mrs. Kiley's Fourth Grade Class

Ralph Waldo Emerson Elementary School, Roxbury, MA

Firmly (♩= 112)

Voices

Piano

strong as an ox,
    strong as a bear,
    talking to the judge,
    with his chest out, in a loud voice, talking to the judge,
    Helping the
    He fought for justice.
    When the judge said, "No!"
    He did not give up. He fought until he won. He fought until he won.

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With Spirit \( \textstyle \frac{\text{f}}{\text{f}} \)

Voices

Sarah Roberts, Proud to be an American. Her

fa-ther fought for her rights, Two law-yers, one black, one white,

Fought and won against unfairness. They didn’t give up. They

didn’t give up.