Classroom Cantatas

Composed and Performed by Ms. Kelley's and Ms. Marroquin's 2nd Grade Classes

Mendell Elementary School

Musical Mysteries

The Book Theme Songs

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MUSICAL MYSTERIES and
THE BOOK THEME SONGS

written and performed by

MS KELLEY’S AND MS MARROQUIN’S SECOND GRADE
ELLIS MENDELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SPRING 2014

CLASSROOM CANTATAS
About Classroom Cantatas

In 1990, Cantata Singers commissioned Slavery Documents by Donald Sur. It was the first of three major choral orchestral works commissioned to date by Cantata Singers with texts exploring the themes of slavery. Slavery Documents’ focus was American slavery, what Mr. Sur called the “unaddressed Achilles heel of United States culture.” Cantata Singers began to see that this work needed to resonate beyond that Symphony Hall performance. Sur’s musical examination of racial inequality and discrimination reminded Cantatas Singers’ leadership of the crying need for meaningful arts education in the schools.

Out of this time, Classroom Cantatas emerged. Ann Marie Lindquist, Paul Brust and Judy Hill Bose developed a residency program far more challenging than the typical “come, talk, sing, leave.” Instead, it was one that had the potential to guide Boston’s schoolchildren in finding and harnessing their creative voices. Classroom Cantatas now flourishes in the Boston public schools and, over its twenty years, has touched the lives of thousands of children.

Classroom Cantatas guides young students in creating their own musical compositions, or “cantatas.” Students from participating schools work with the Teaching Artists—musicians from Cantata Singers’ ensemble—to compose and perform original songs about subjects they are studying in class or about larger cultural and historical issues. Past cantata topics have included the American Revolution, Factors of Weather, Mexican Culture, immigration, the Civil Rights Movements, Mathematics, poetic devices, and Geography. Over the past twenty years of Classroom Cantatas, students have composed and performed over 300 songs.

About Cantata Singers

    David Hoose, *Music Director*
    Jennifer Hughes, *Executive Director*
    Colette Novak, *General Manager*
    Joshua Taylor, *Education Coordinator*

    729 Boylston St, Fourth Floor, Boston, MA 02116
    ph: 617-868-5885; fax: 617-868-3772

Cantata Singers was founded in 1964 to present what was then a long-neglected repertoire, the cantatas of J.S. Bach. Since that time, the group has expanded its repertoire to include choral works from the seventeenth century to the present day. The Cantata Singers’ recordings and performances can be heard regularly on local and national public radio. For much more about Cantata Singers, visit our website: [www.cantatasingers.org](http://www.cantatasingers.org).

CLASSROOM CANTATAS
AT ELLIS MENDELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS
JULIA BOTT, PRINCIPAL
JENNA KELLEY AND MARIA MARROQUIN, SECOND GRADE TEACHERS

CAROLA EMRICH-FISHER, STEPHEN GARMAN, KILIAN MOONEY, DANIEL ROSENSWEIG
AND SARA WYSE-WENGER:
CLASSROOM CANTATAS TEACHING ARTISTS

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Written by Ms Kelley’s and Ms. Marroquin’s Second Grade Classes
Ellis Mendell Elementary School, Roxbury MA
Spring 2014

TELL US A STORY!

SCIENCE FICTION

AUTHOR’S PURPOSE

THE TORTOISE AND THE HARE

I AM THE BOOK

BE QUIET! I’M READING!

RETEL A STORY

FAIRY TALE

THE FIRST BOOK

WHERE DO YOU LIKE TO READ YOUR BOOK?
Tell Us A Story!
Ms Marroquin's Second Grade Class
with Sara Wyse-Wenger, Cantata Singers

Tell us a story!
Tell us a story! Nana, Papa,
Tell us a story! Abuelo! Abuelita!
Tell us a story! Tell us about when Daddy was small!

Those are the stories we like best of all!
Science Fiction
by Alexa, Fayola, Kirk, Nagwa, Tommy and Vivian
with Sara Wyse-Wenger, Cantata Singers

Slowly, dreamily

Faster, steadily

2014 Cantata Singers
Science Fiction is fantasy

But Science Fiction

helps us dream
Science Fiction helps us dream and someday

science will catch up with fiction

Science Fiction is

fantasy through technology
Why do authors write stories and books? Why do authors want us to know?
Do they want to persuade us? Do they want to be famous?
Do they write to inform us or...
Be books? and write! 

to get rich? Why do authors write stories and books? Because they love writing!

just to entertain us? Persuade, inform entertain, P I

E! That spells pie! Do they itch to get rich?

Vo.

Pno.

Vo.

Pno.

Vo.

Pno.

Vo.

Pno.

2014 Cantata Singers
I'm a tortoise, I'm a hare, I'm a hare,
I'm a hare, I'm a hare, I'm a hare,

I'm a hare, I'm a hare
You're a slow-poke, I don't care

I get where I want to go if we raced you'd come in last.
Well, I dare you, shall we race.

Fine with me you choose the place.

One foot Two feet Three feet Four

Keep on going not much more Tortoise is so slow a chap.
I'll just take a little nap

Look at Hare he's fast asleep! I'll slip by without a peep

Oh dear something's wrong

bet I slept a bit too long! You're speedier my
silly friend but still I beat you in the end. Slow and steady

wins the race.
I am the Book

by Aaron, Jeliya, Joshua and Niza
with Kilian Mooney, Cantata Singers

Adagio

Voice

I will be your friend

Piano

Stay by your side

contradict you, make you laugh or

tear-y-eyed on a summer's morning.

2014 Cantata Singers
I'll spark you, help you sleep, bring dreams you'll forever keep
don a dappled autumn afternoon. I'll warm you,
keep you kindled, dazzle you 'til storms have dwindled.
on a snow-flaked winter evening.

I'll plant in you a summer seedling, with bursting life, while you are reading_

I am the book you are needing. I am the book you are needing.
I am the book you are needing.
Be Quiet! I'm Reading!
Ms Kelley's Second Grade Class
with Sara Wyse-Wenger, Cantata Singers

2014 Cantata Singers
"Quiet! I'm Reading! Turn off the TV! I just have to finish this Harry Potter fantasy! YOU'RE DISTRACTING ME WITH THE TV!"

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Retell A Story
by Alandra, Amalia, Amoni, Malachi and Wyatt
with Sara Wyse-Wenger, Cantata Singers

Andante, quasi recit.

When I read a story it has more than one part.

The Title and the Author, that's just where I start.

Setting, Characters, and Problem are story parts as well.

Press left hand onto white keys
Now when you read a story you know the parts.

Easy to re-tell all make it easy to re-tell all make it

ginning, Middle, End all make it easy to re-tell all make it
Fairy Tale
by Eliel, Aaron, Jack and Sienna
Carola Emrich-Fisher, Cantata Singers

Once upon a time, far, far, far away, Is

how a fairy tale begins. In the middle is a princess in distress,

in distress dun, dun, duh! With a wicked witch, or a
wick-ed queen or king, And a her-oine or a

he-ro who is kind, Through ma-gic, ma-gic

and in-tell-li-gence, and in-tell-li-gence, good wins o-ver e-vil,

"They lived hap-pi-ly e-ver af-ter" is the end.
The First Book

Jayden, Kyann, Valencia and Wilson
with James Dargan, Cantata Singers

Voice

Piano

Vo.

Well... may-be a lit-tle bit more like a nip a tin-gle

Pno.

It's fun real-ly it's fun real-ly it's fun It keeps on o-pen-ing

Voice

You may fall in Dig in you'll ne-ver e-ver reach the bot-tom

Pno.
It's not like it's the end of the world.

Just the world as you think you know it.
Where do you like to read your book?
Where do you like to
by a brook.
sub-way train, at-tic, camp-er trail-er, plane.
Sea-side, lake-side,