

Composed and Performed by  
NHCS 4th Grade Classes

# Classroom Cantatas

Neighborhood  
House  
Charter School

Immigration:  
Coming to America

**can ta ta  
singers**

# *IMMIGRATION: COMING TO AMERICA*

written and performed by

THE FOURTH GRADE  
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE CHARTER SCHOOL  
SPRING 2012



singers •

Education outreach by *Cantata*

## About Classroom Cantatas

These two cantatas were written and performed by the Neighborhood House Charter School 4<sup>th</sup> Grade classes as part of "Classroom Cantatas," an educational program of Cantata Singers. Working with musicians from Cantata Singers in weekly sessions, the students sang together, discussed the components of song writing, and met in small groups to write new songs. The groups then learned each other's songs and rehearsed them, resulting in a new cantata, a collection of songs on one topic. The students performed their cantata for other participating urban Boston schools on a field trip to Roland Hayes School of Music in Roxbury where all the cantatas were recorded and put on CD for each student. By performing their cantata for their families, school community and other participating schools, the students experienced the unique accomplishment of sharing original work with an audience. Each student receives a souvenir copy of this piano-vocal score.

### ABOUT CANTATA SINGERS

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The 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 NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE CHARTER SCHOOL

DORCHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

KEVIN ANDREWS, HEADMASTER

KAREN BAKEN, MUSIC SPECIALIST

CARA MCCARTHY, JESSICA ADELMAN AND ALEX BAUGHER, FOURTH GRADE TEACHERS

JOSH TAYLOR, KUMI DONAGHUE, KAY PATTERSON-SHAW AND DANIEL ROSENSWEIG,  
CLASSROOM CANTATAS TEACHING ARTISTS

# Immigration: Coming to America

*A Cantata in Two Parts*

*Written by Ms Baugher, Ms McCarthy and Ms Adelman's Fourth Grades*

*Neighborhood House Charter School, Dorchester, MA*

*Spring 2012*

## *Ellis Island*

*Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor*  
*Poland (Helen Cohen)*  
*Russia (Celia Adler)*  
*Hungary (Lazarus Salamon)*

## *Angel Island*

*It Was on the Day*  
*A Long Way to America*  
*Twice I Have Passed*  
*Living Away from Home*

# It Was On The Day...

Text from *Island*,  
auth. Lai, Lim, Yung

Music by Cam, Deborah, Mairead, Kayla and Jaelyn  
Ms McCarthy and Ms Adelman's 4th Grade  
Neighborhood House Charter School, Dorchester MA  
with Kay Patterson-Shaw, Cantata Singers

*ff* Moderato ♩ = 120

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It begins with a vocal line in G minor, 4/4 time, marked *ff* and Moderato (♩ = 120). The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the bass and chords in the treble. The lyrics are: "It was on the day... day... day... that the wea-ver, wea-ver mai-den, mai-den, met the cow-herd. I ate wind and tas-ted waves". The score includes a dynamic change to *mf* and a time signature change to 3/4 for the final phrase. The piano part continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

It was on the day\_\_\_\_\_

day\_\_\_\_\_ day\_\_\_\_\_ that the wea-ver, wea-ver mai-den, mai-den,

met the cow-herd. I ate wind and tas-ted waves

*mf*

It Was on the Day p. 2

15

for more than twen-ty days, twen-ty days, twen-ty days.

This system contains measures 15 through 19. The vocal line begins with a quarter rest, followed by the lyrics "for more than twen-ty days, twen-ty days, twen-ty days." The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The key signature has two flats and the time signature is 4/4.

20

*f*

For - tu - nate - ly, I ar-rived safe-ly I ar-rived safe-ly

This system contains measures 20 through 23. The vocal line starts with a quarter rest, then sings "For - tu - nate - ly, I ar-rived safe-ly I ar-rived safe-ly". The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. The key signature has two flats and the time signature is 4/4.

24

I ar-rived safe-ly on the A - mer - i - can con - ti - nent!

This system contains measures 24 through 27. The vocal line continues with "I ar-rived safe-ly on the A - mer - i - can con - ti - nent!". The piano accompaniment continues with the same bass line and chords. The key signature has two flats and the time signature is 4/4.

# A Long Way to America

Text from *Island*,  
auth. Lai, Lim, Yung

Music by Anthony, Elijah, Kadian, Tyia and Maura  
Ms McCarthy and Ms Adelman's 4th Grade  
Neighborhood House Charter School, Dorchester MA  
with Daniel Rosensweig, Cantata Singers

Voice

Piano

6

6

Pno.

11

11

Pno.

I board-ed the

steam-ship for A - mer - i - ca Time flew

like a shoot - ing ar - row

A Long Way to America p. 2

16

Sev - eral months have e - lapsed

Pno.

21

Still I'm at the be - gin - ning, — be - gin - ning of the

Pno.

26

*rit.*

road. My heart is ner - vous with an - ti - ci - pa - tion.

Pno.



# Twice I Have Passed

Music by Aliyah, Erica, Sophie, Tylen, and Winston  
Ms McCarthy and Ms Adelman's 4th Grade  
Neighborhood House Charter School  
with Josh Taylor, Cantata Singers

Text from *Island*,  
auth. Lai, Lim, Yung

The musical score is written for Voice and Piano. It consists of three systems of music. The first system is in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The voice part begins with a rest, followed by the lyrics "Twice I have passed through the blue oc - ean." The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand. The second system starts at measure 7, where the time signature changes to 4/4. The voice part has the lyrics "Ex - pe - ri - enced the wind and dust of jour - ney." The piano accompaniment continues with a similar bass line and chords. The third system starts at measure 12, with the lyrics "In a weak coun - try, we must all join to - ge - ther". The piano accompaniment concludes with a final chord in the right hand.

Voice

Piano

7

Pno.


12

12

Pno.

Twice I Have Passed p. 2

17



in ur - gent ef - fort. It de-pends\_\_ on all of us to

Pno.

22



roll back the wi-ld wa-ves\_\_

Pno.

# Living Away From Home

Text from *Island*,  
auth. Lai, Lim, Yung

Music by Joel, Nahom, Aine, Jade and Angelis  
Ms McCarthy and Ms. Adelman's 4th Grade  
Neighborhood House Charter School, Dorchester, MA  
with Kumi Donaghue, Cantata Singers

The musical score is written for Voice and Piano. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The tempo is marked 'Andante'. The score is divided into three systems. The first system shows the beginning of the piece with a piano introduction and the start of the vocal line. The second system continues the vocal line with lyrics and includes a piano accompaniment with a triplet. The third system concludes the vocal line with lyrics and piano accompaniment. Dynamics include *mf*, *mp*, and *f*. Performance markings include accents and slurs.

**System 1:**  
Voice: *mf* *3* Liv-ing a-way from home e-lic-its a  
Piano: *mf* *3*

**System 2:**  
Voice: *mp* hun-dred fee-lings. My chest is filled withsa-sa-sa-sad-ness and *(spoken)* an-ger. Night and day, I  
Piano: *f*

**System 3:**  
Voice: *v.* sit. For - tu-na - te - ly, I have a nov - el  
Piano:

Living Away p. 2

*mp*

as my com-pan - ion. I just write these few — lines — to

Pno.

*dim.* *fading*

The first system of music consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are "as my com-pan - ion. I just write these few — lines — to". The piano accompaniment is written in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The right hand plays chords and moving lines, while the left hand plays a steady bass line. Dynamic markings include *dim.* and *fading*.

ex - press What is on my mind. —

Pno.

The second system of music continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line lyrics are "ex - press What is on my mind. —". The piano accompaniment continues with similar textures, ending with a final chord in the right hand and a sustained bass line in the left hand.

# Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor

Music By Tmari, Max, Kiandra, Haley and Breann

Ms. Baugher's 4th Grade

Neighborhood House Charter School, Dorchester MA

with Kay Patterson-Shaw, Cantata Singers

Text by Emma Lazarus

*dolce*  
Voice *mf* Give me your ti - red your

Piano *And.*

6 *p* *mf* *p*  
poor, poor your

Pno.

11 *mf*  
hud - dled mas - ses year - ning to breathe free, free

Pno.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three systems of staves. The first system includes a voice line and a piano line. The voice line begins with a rest, followed by the lyrics 'Give me your ti - red your'. The piano line provides accompaniment with a steady eighth-note pattern. The second system continues the voice line with lyrics 'poor, poor your' and includes dynamic markings *p*, *mf*, and *p*. The piano line continues with the same accompaniment. The third system features a voice line with lyrics 'hud - dled mas - ses year - ning to breathe free, free' and a dynamic marking of *mf*. The piano line continues with the accompaniment.

Give me your tired ... p. 2

16 *f*

The wretch - ed

Pno.

20

re - fuse of your tee - ming shore shore

Pno.

26 *mf*

Send these the home-less, temp - est toss'd to me

Pno.

Give me your tired ... p. 3

33 *p*

— *Girls:* I lift my lamp be - side the gold - en

Pno.

38 *mf*

door, (All:) door

Pno.

# Helen Cohen (Poland)

Music by Eva, Davida, Aaron,  
Jerry and Michael

Text from *I Was Dreaming to Come to America*,  
ed. Virginia Lawlor

Ms. Baugher's 4th Grade  
Neighborhood House Charter School, Dorchester MA  
with Josh Taylor, Cantata Singers

**Smoothly** ♩ = 80

The musical score is arranged in three systems. The first system includes a Voice part, a Piano part, and Tom Toms. The second system includes a Voice part, a Piano part, and Tom Toms. The third system includes a Voice part, a Piano part, and Tom Toms. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Smoothly' with a quarter note equal to 80 beats per minute. The lyrics are: 'I was dre-aming to come to A - me - ri - ca. And, and, and...'. The Tom Toms part consists of a steady rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

Voice

Piano

Tom Toms

me - ri - ca. And, and, and...

Pno.

T.T.



Helen Cohen p. 2

11

I was drea-ming, and my dream came true.

Pno.

T.T.

17 *con brio*

When I came here, I was in \_\_\_\_\_ a dif-ferent world.

Pno.

T.T.

Helen Cohen p. 3

22

It was so quiet it was peaceful.

Pno.

T.T.

28

*rit. to end*

I was dreaming to come to America...

Pno.

T.T.

# Celia Adler (Russia)

Music by Sean, Brandon, Kiana,  
Shea and Danielle

Text from *I Was Dreaming to Come to America*,  
ed. Virginia Lawlor

Ms. Baugher's 4th Grade  
Neighborhood House Charter School, Dorchester MA  
with Daniel Rosensweig, Cantata Singers

*mp*

Voice

Piano

8

8

Pno.

17

17

Pno.

My bas - ket my lit - tle  
bas - ket. That's all I had with me. My moth - er  
gave me a sand-wich, sand-wich, and I had one change of clothes.

Celia Adler (Russia)

24

That's what I brought from Eu - rope.

Pno.

24

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for a vocal piece by Celia Adler, titled '(Russia)'. The score begins at measure 24. It consists of two staves: a vocal line on top and a piano accompaniment (Pno.) on the bottom. The vocal line is written in a treble clef and contains the lyrics 'That's what I brought from Eu - rope.' The piano accompaniment is written in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The music is in a common time signature. The vocal line starts with a dotted quarter note, followed by eighth notes, and ends with a half note. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic and rhythmic foundation, with chords and single notes in both hands.

# Lazarus Salamon (Hungary)

Text from *I Was Dreaming to Come to America*,  
ed. Virginia Lawlor

Music by Henry, Kymani, Kiva, Ariel and Megan  
Ms Baugher's 4th Grade  
Neighborhood House Charter School, Dorchester MA  
with Kumi Donaghue, Cantata Singers

Andante

Voice

Piano

*mf*

**§**

*f* *mf*

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

this is the on - ly coun - try Whereyou're not a stran - ger, not a stran - ger, Be-

cause we are all stran-gers, all stran-gers, It's on-ly a mat-ter of time, who got here first,  
(spoken)

Pno.

Pno.

Lazarus Salamon p.2

Fine

D.S. al Fine

It's on - ly a mat - ter of time. And

Pno.

