Classroom Cantatas

Mather Elementary School

Out of Many
We are One

cantata singers

Composed and Performed by
Ms. King and Ms. White’s 2nd Grade Classes

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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

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.

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Classroom Cantatas at Mather Elementary School
Dorchester, Massachusetts
Rochelle Nwosu, Principal
Karen King and Desiree White, 2nd Grade Teachers

Shaw Pong Liu, Rachel Panitch, Daniel Rosensweig, and Allie Whitfield
Classroom Cantatas Teaching Artists

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In Diversity there is Beauty and there is Strength

Based on quotes from Maya Angelou
Chloe, Jeaden, Yaiza, Adriana, Amelia, with Rachel Panitch, Cantata Singers

We speak many languages and many stories from as many places as can be. Maya Angelou reminds us: "Diversity makes for a rich tapestry."
Gorgeous fabric woven of many threads, different colors and different lengths. With so many humans from different places "In diversity there is beauty and there is strength." "All the threads of that tapestry are equal in value no matter their color and..."
if we missed just one of these threads the world would be much duller.
Bouquet of People

Nyah, Hugo, Ericson, Fantasia, Milan, and Marco with Daniel Rosensweig, Cantata Singers

To make the world a more beautiful place
We each have a different face.
We each have a different feature, different hair.

2016 Cantata Singers
Some are dark and some are fair. Eyes of green or brown or blue.

Skin of different colors too. Just like flowers in colored array

People, too, make a lovely bouquet.

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2016 Cantata Singers
The Brighter the World Becomes

Qarau

Janelle, Lyaa, Samantha, Amir, Ethan, and Jayden with Allie Whitfield, Cantata Singers

Voice

Piano

6

The more of we there is The bright-er the world be - comes

We will be one voice And I is re - duced to none. There would be no we If

there were no you and no me. There would be no us if

Cantata Singers, 2016
we came together but could not agree

You getting your way and I getting mine Would only leave a trail of destruction behind

I imagine a world without a we
All that is left is sil-ly old me Cer-tain-ly not much fun would that be a-

lone on an is-land with-out a-ny glee.
It's Up to Me and You

Esther Yost

Mykel, Thiago, Danayah, Niloy, Jodie, with Shaw Pong Liu, Cantata Singers

\( \text{\textit{\(j = 104\)}} \)

\begin{align*}
&\text{I have a dream said Martin Luther King we're} \\
&\text{gon-na make a dream come true let freedom ring said Martin Luther King} \\
&\text{it's} \\
\end{align*}

Cantata Singers, 2016
It's not the color of your hair,
It's not the color of your skin,

It doesn't matter what you wear,
it's the character within.
I have a dream said Martin Luther King we're gonna make a dream come true let freedom ring said Martin Luther King it's up to me and you
Text by students

When our families came to America they each had their own cause:

some escaping from problems or wars,
some from unfair laws some wanted to pray in their own way

some answered freedom's call

Some came from Africa against their will, the most unfair of all We
try to make things better today, ever more free and more fair

Like our families we seek a better world for all to share!

We can live and learn together Out of many we are one

We can love and change for better et pluribus unum

Cantata Singers, 2016
Meno mosso

We can love and change for better e pluribus unum
Dr King Had A Dream

Author unknown

Amya, Michael W, Deidra, Gabriel, Tristan, Zarin, with Allie Whitfield, Cantata Singers

Doc-tor King had a dream of broth-er-hood, of love and peace and

do-ing good. Now that he's gone it's the good we do that helps to make his

dreams come true

Treat peo-ple kind-ly
15

Vo.

Do what is fair
Work for all people
Show that you care.
These are the ways

Pno.

19

Vo.

if we work as a team
To remember the man
Who said "I have a dream."

Pno.
Celebrate We!

Text: Qarau

Amelia, Terrence, Aiden, Jayla, Ralph, and Amahra
with Daniel Rosensweig, Cantata Singers

I could ne - ver be

you

And you could ne - ver be me.

Check out your fin-

ger-print for this gua-ran-tee

But by learn-ing re-spect-ing and

2016 Cantata Singers
loving each other
You and I together make we.
So

let us come together,
YES! You and me,
Let us celebrate our cultural diversity.
It is our differences that set us apart.
A
cause to rejoice And share love from the heart.

never be you And you could never be me.

check out your fingerprint. for this guarantee

But by
learn-ing re-spect-ing and lo-ving each o-ther
You and I to-
ger-
ther make WE!
No Difference

Shel Silverstein

Amhari, Taquajah, Lakai, Theresa, Gregory, with Rachel Panitch, Cantata Singers

Small as a peanut big as a giant

We're all the same size when we turn off the light.

Rich as a sultan poor as a mite

We're all worth the same when we
turn off the light. Red black or orange yellow or white. We

all look the same when we turn off the light. So may-be the way to make

everything right is for us to just reach out turn off the light!