

Composed and Performed by
Songkhla Nguyen and Maria Brooks's
2nd Grade Classes

Classroom Cantatas

Mather
Elementary
School

Kindness Cantata

**can ta ta
singers**

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 is a Boston-based chorus and orchestra inspired by the musical genius of Johan Sebastian Bach. Our concerts explore relationships in music from the 17th century to today and invite exploration of Bach's profound and continuing influence on our music, our culture, and ourselves.

Our education program teaches songwriting and choral singing to underserved Boston schoolchildren, guided by the belief that all children deserve the means to express their creative voices.

David Hoose, *Music Director*

Jennifer Ritvo Hughes, *Executive Director*

Emily Kirk Weddle, *Development and Marketing Manager*

Michelle Rush, *Education and Production Manager*

Bridget Dennis, *Operations Manager*

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Classroom Cantatas at Mather Elementary School, Dorchester, Massachusetts

Rochelle Nwosu, Principal

Maria Brooks, Karen King, Lauren Lucero, Songkhla Nguyen, Desiree White, 2nd Grade Teachers

Shaw Pong Liu, Eve Boltax, Ian Pomerantz, Jane Wong and Sara Wyse-Wenger,

Classroom Cantatas Teaching Artists

What is Kindness

Anh, Kevin, Gia, Ethan, Roman and Robson
with Jane Wong, Cantata Singers

Text by students

$\text{♩} = 92$

First system of musical notation (measures 1-5). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Hmmm - - - - - It's a It's say-

Second system of musical notation (measures 6-8). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "per - son wil - ling to help o - ther - s it is be ing re - spect ful
ying good words like please and thank you, it is be ing pe - ace ful

Third system of musical notation (measures 9-12). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "be - ing nice be - ing friends. It is do - na - ting - it is when I li - sten - it is
not vio - lent friendship mends.

Fourth system of musical notation (measures 13-15). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "when I play - It is be - ing nice to all peo - ple, not making fun or laughing at
3

16

them. Kindness is all these things - Be kind at school,

This system contains measures 16 through 19. The vocal line begins with a dotted quarter note, followed by eighth notes, and then a half note. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

20

Be kind e-verywhere It helps so much - When we show we care.

1.

This system contains measures 20 through 22. The vocal line continues with eighth notes and a half note. A first ending bracket covers measures 21 and 22. The piano accompaniment maintains the eighth-note bass line and chordal accompaniment.

23

when we show we real-ly care.

2.

This system contains measures 23 through 25. It begins with a repeat sign. The vocal line has a half note followed by eighth notes. A second ending bracket covers measures 24 and 25. The piano accompaniment continues with the established accompaniment.

Even Small Acts

Text by students

Ahn, Dajanera, Jayquene, Johnny, Mark, Vincent

Sara Wyse-Wenger, Cantata Singers

$\text{♩} = 92$

Voice

Treat oth-ers kind-ly. Treat oth-ers kind-ly. E-ven small ac-tions

Piano

Vo.

can change the world... Treat oth-ers kind-ly. E - ven small thoughts can change the

Pno.

Vo.

world. E-ven small acts can change the world. Friend-ship, o - pen hearts.

Pno.

15

Vo. Each kind-ness rip-ples out like wa-ter. Each kind-ness rip-ples out likewa-ter

Pno.

19

Vo. Makes ev-ery one feel ve-ry good. Rip - Rip - Rip-ple Rip - Rip - Rip-ple

Pno.

23

Vo. plop plop plop plop plop plop plop plop plop plop Fee-ling kind

Pno.

26

Vo. helps us un-derstand how o-ther peo-ple may be fee-ling. Be-ing kind can help our

Pno.

30

Vo. friends. Treat oth-ers kind-ly. E - ven small thoughts can change the world.

Pno.

35

Vo. E - ven small acts can change the world.

Pno.

Growing Kindness

Minh Phuong, Phat, Tina, Nguyen, Elijah, Prince, Syannie, with Ms. Shaw Pong, Cantata Singers

$\text{♩} = 72$

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line with a whole rest. The middle staff is the right-hand piano part, starting with a whole note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and Bb4, and ending with a quarter note G4. The bottom staff is the left-hand piano part, featuring a continuous eighth-note arpeggiated pattern. The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = 72$. The word "dolce" is written above the piano part.

3

The second system of the musical score consists of three staves. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "Kind hearts are the gar - den". The piano accompaniment continues with the same arpeggiated pattern as in the first system.

5

The third system of the musical score consists of three staves. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "Kind thoughts are the roots". The piano accompaniment continues with the same arpeggiated pattern.

7

The fourth system of the musical score consists of three staves. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "Kind words are the blos - soms". The piano accompaniment continues with the same arpeggiated pattern.

9

Kind deeds are the fruits Love is the

12

sun shine That warms in to life For

15

on - ly in dark-ness grow ha - tred and strife

19

Kind hearts are the gar - den

22

Kind thoughts are the roots

This system contains measures 22 and 23. The vocal line (treble clef) has a melody with lyrics: "Kind thoughts are the roots". The piano accompaniment (grand staff) features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

24

Kind words are the blossoms

This system contains measures 24 and 25. The vocal line (treble clef) has a melody with lyrics: "Kind words are the blossoms". The piano accompaniment (grand staff) continues with the eighth-note bass line and chords.

26

Kind deeds are the fruits

This system contains measures 26 and 27. The vocal line (treble clef) has a melody with lyrics: "Kind deeds are the fruits". The piano accompaniment (grand staff) concludes with a final chord in the right hand and a double bar line.

Kind Hearts

Anh H., Angeline, Jessica, and Viet
with Ian Pomerantz, Cantata Singers

Anonymous

$\text{♩} = 72$

Voice

Piano

mf

Kind hearts are

6

Vo.

Pno.

gar-dens . Kind thoughts are roots. Kind words are blossoms .

11

Fine

Vo.

Pno.

Kind deeds are fruits. Love is the sweet sun-shine that warms in - to

16 *fp* *fp* D.C. al Fine

Vo. life - for on-ly in dark ness , grow hat-red and strife.

Pno.

Kindness

Lyrics by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater

Composed by Tam, Vinh, Ryan, Kenny, Markeem, and Eve Boltax

(hold arm out straight.....drop crayonbox.....crouch down)

when I dropped my crayonbox in rain-bow sli-vers on

The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a whole rest for two measures, followed by a quarter note 'w', a quarter note 'h', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'I', a quarter note 'd', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'p', a quarter note 'm', a quarter note 'y', a quarter note 'c', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'y', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'b', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'x', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'b', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'w', a quarter note 's', a quarter note 'l', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'v', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 's', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'n'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

6 (point to a person in the audience) (while still crouching, do a gathering motion.....stand up)

the floor one per-son came to help me ga-ther roll-ing cra-yons six - ty four

The second system of the musical score is in 4/4 time. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a quarter note 't', a quarter note 'h', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'f', a quarter note 'l', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'p', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 's', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'c', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'm', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 't', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'h', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'l', a quarter note 'p', a quarter note 'm',e', a quarter note 'g', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 't', a quarter note 'h', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'l', a quarter note 'l', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'g', a quarter note 'c', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'y', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 's', a quarter note 's', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'x', a quarter note 't', a quarter note 'y', a quarter note 'f', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'u', a quarter note 'r'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

11 (crouch back down and pat hands quickly on the floor.....slowly stand up with hands raised above head) rit. a tempo

craw ling on our hands and knees we picked up bits of green and blue when a tempo

The third system of the musical score is in 4/4 time. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a quarter note 'c', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'w', a quarter note 'l', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'g', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'u', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'h', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'd', a quarter note 'k', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 's', a quarter note 'w',e', a quarter note 'p', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 'c', a quarter note 'k', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'd', a quarter note 'u', a quarter note 'p', a quarter note 'b', a quarter note 'i', a quarter note 't', a quarter note 's', a quarter note 'o', a quarter note 'f', a quarter note 'g', a quarter note 'r', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'n', a quarter note 'd', a quarter note 'b', a quarter note 'l', a quarter note 'u',e', a quarter note 'w', a quarter note 'h', a quarter note 'e', a quarter note 'n'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The system includes a key signature change to one flat and a time signature change to 6/4.

(sweep hands in an arc to hang at your side)

(extend hands to a partner)

some one else spills all their crayons I will stop to help them too