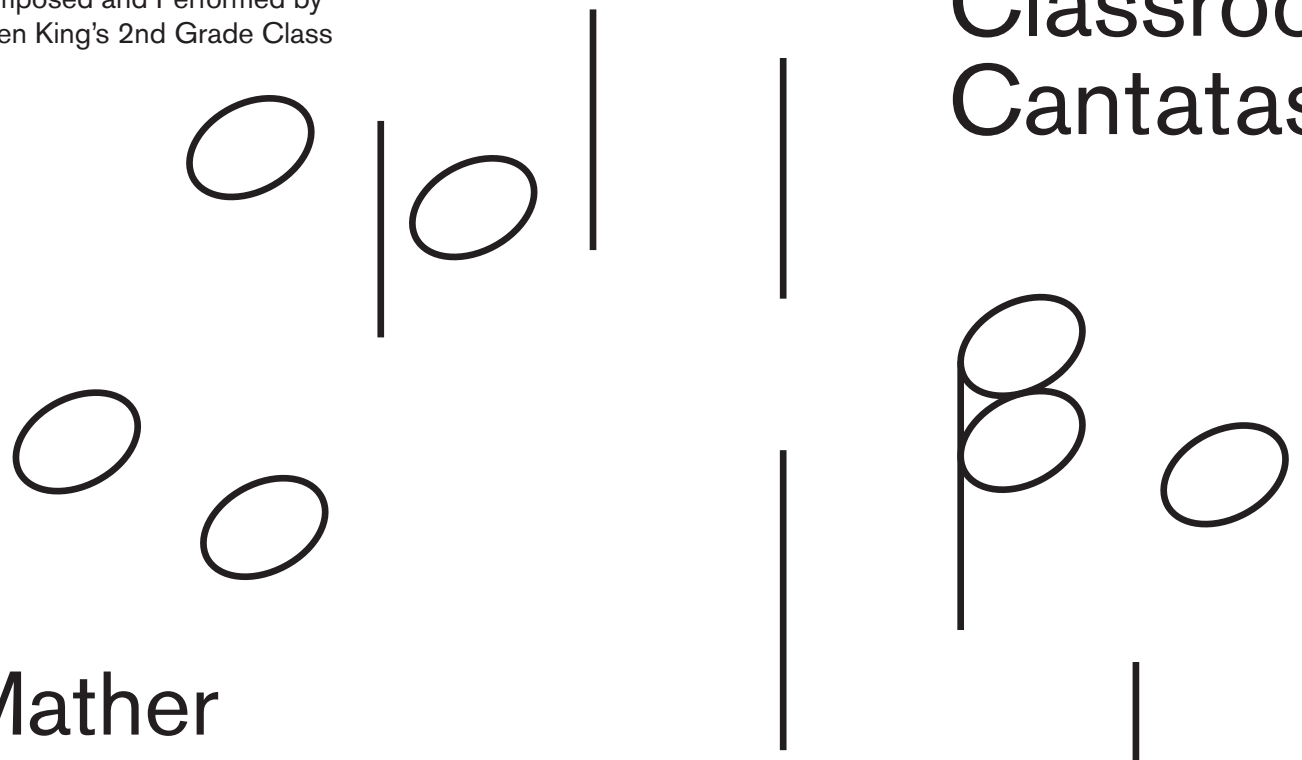
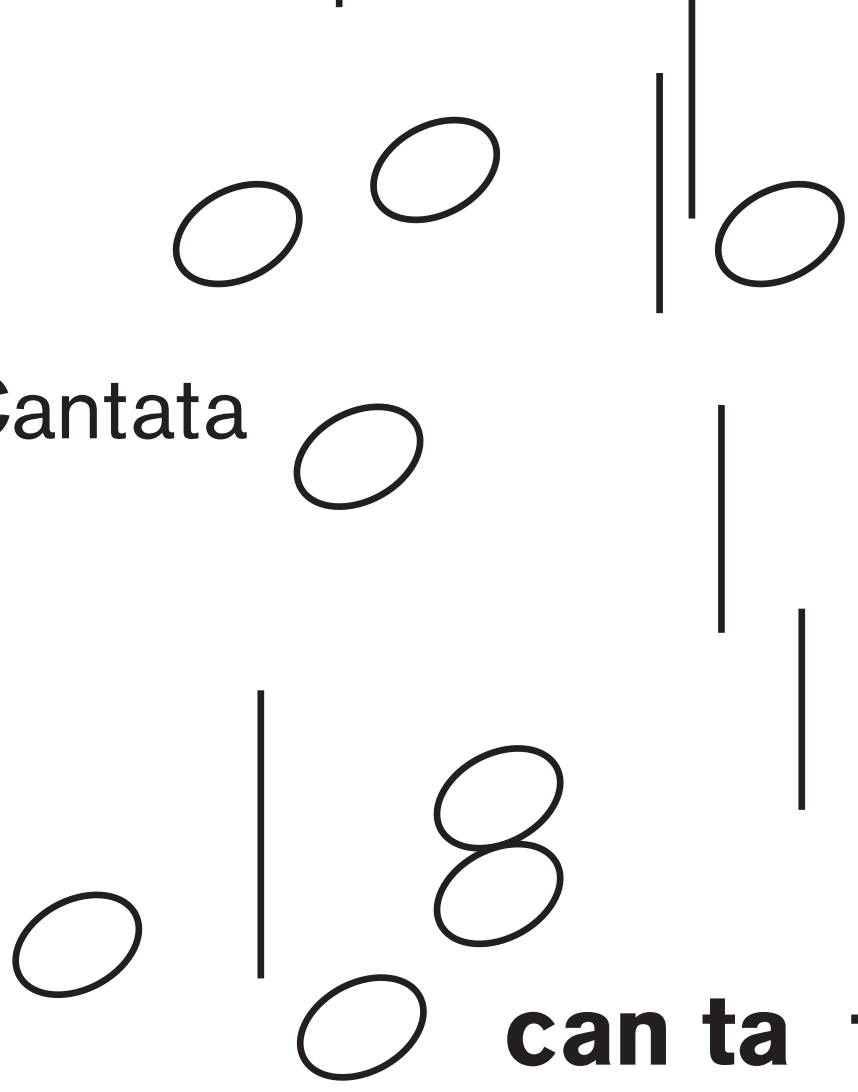
Composed and Performed by
Karen King's 2nd Grade Class

Classroom Cantatas



Mather Elementary School

Nation of Immigrants Cantata



can ta ta singers

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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 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*

729 Boylston St, Suite 405, Boston, MA 02116
cantatasingers.org | 617.868.5885

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

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We All Have a Heritage Poetry by Sandy Lynne Holman

Mather School - Nevaeh, Zion, Sophia, Joshua, Gavin, Jadilson with Jane Wong

♪. =130

We all lhave a He - ri-tage, yes, this is true.

7

We all have a He - ri-tage, yes, this is true. Do - esn't mat - ter

12

if your skin is black, white yel-low, brown, red, pur ple or blue.

17

All of us have a his - to-ry, where peo - ple did great

22

things. Most of us came from coun tries, where there were once Queens and

Xylophone Option

26

Kings. We all have an - ces - tors,

31

who lived long a - go. Some we may re - mem - ber, And some we don't know.

37 **African Drumming Option**

We all have spe-cial tra - di-tions, a place from where

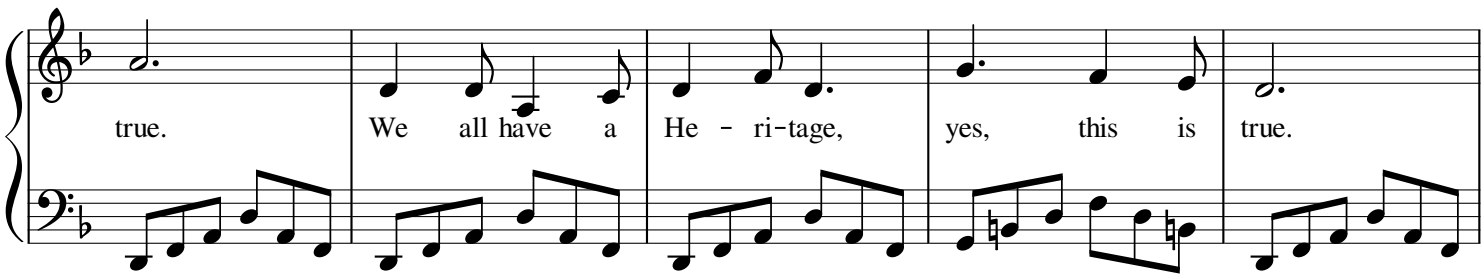
42

we came - Peo-ple - from the dis - tant past gave most of us our last names.

47

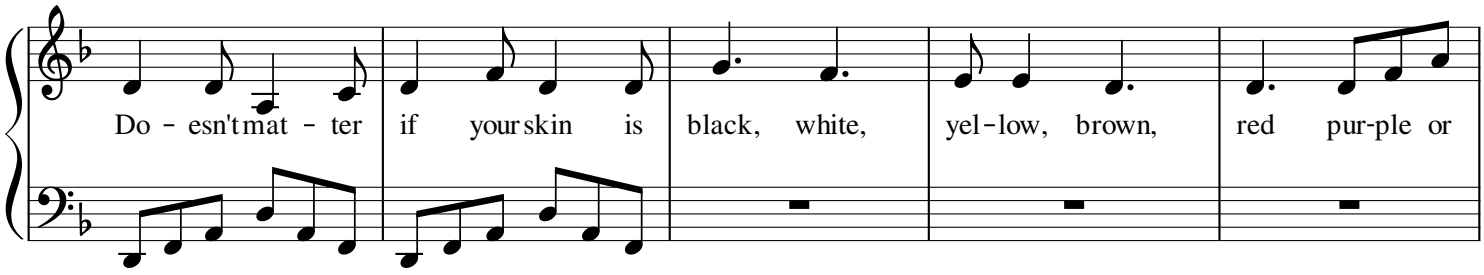
We all have a He - ri-tage, Yes, this is

52



A capella

57



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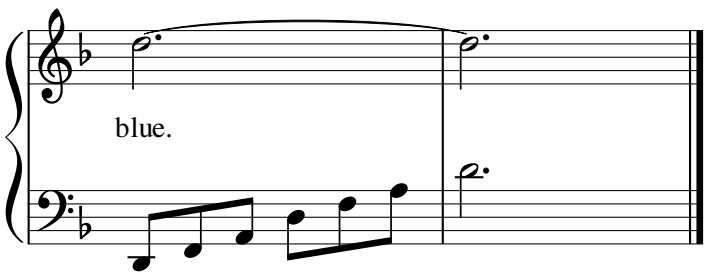
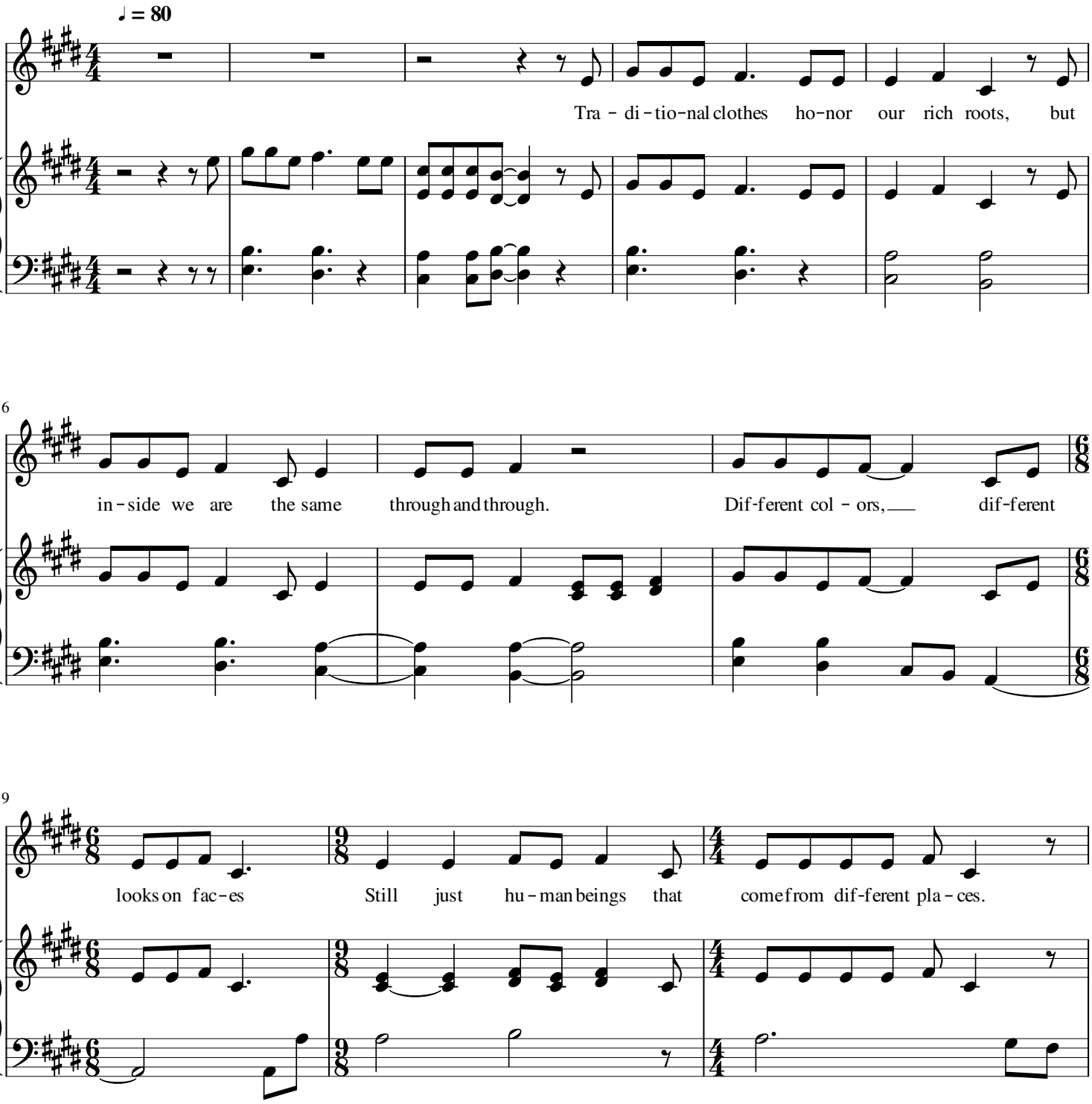
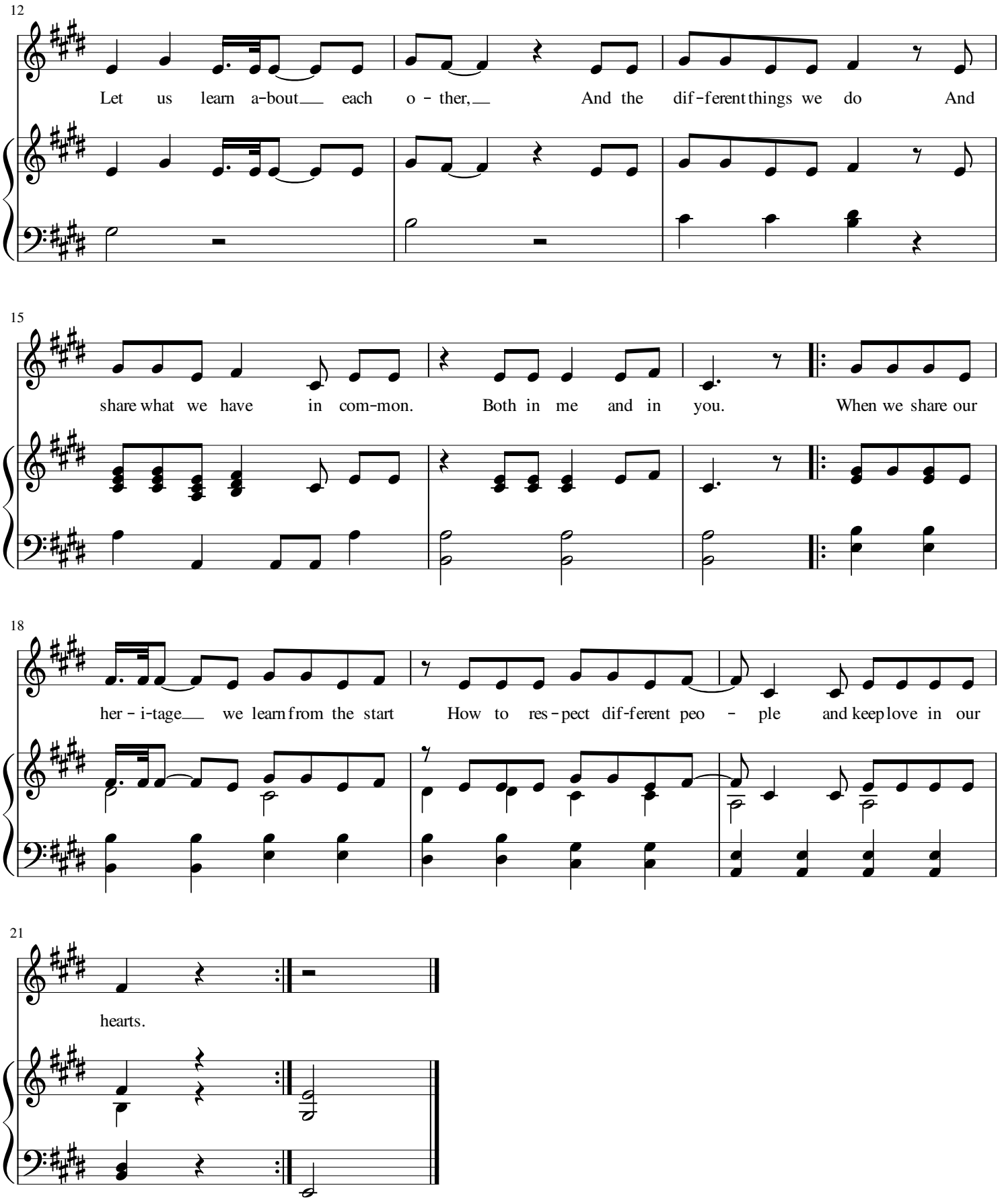


Sharing Our Heritage

from a poem by
Sandy Lynn Holman

Damian, Katalina, Louis, Lyla and Mariama,
with Sara Wyse-Wenger, Cantata Singers

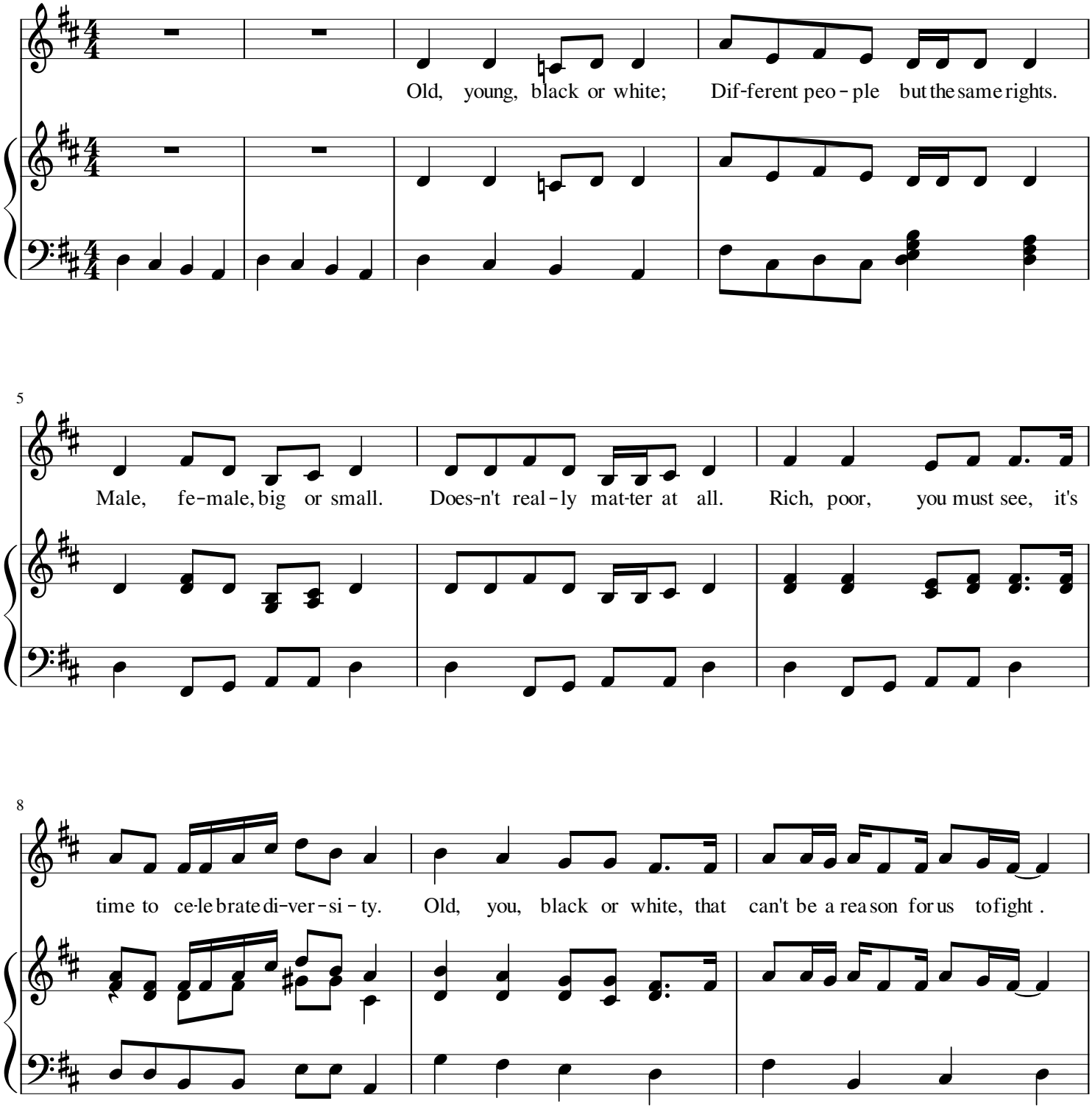



12
Let us learn a-bout each o - ther, And the dif-ferent things we do And
15
share what we have in com-mon. Both in me and in you. When we share our
18
her - i-tage we learn from the start How to res-pect dif-ferent peo - ple and keep love in our
21
hearts.

The Same Rights

Adapted from *Diversity* by Davey,
Aberlady Primary School

London, Aliyah, Jatalza, Jayden, Sabine, with Ian Pomerantz, Cantata Singers



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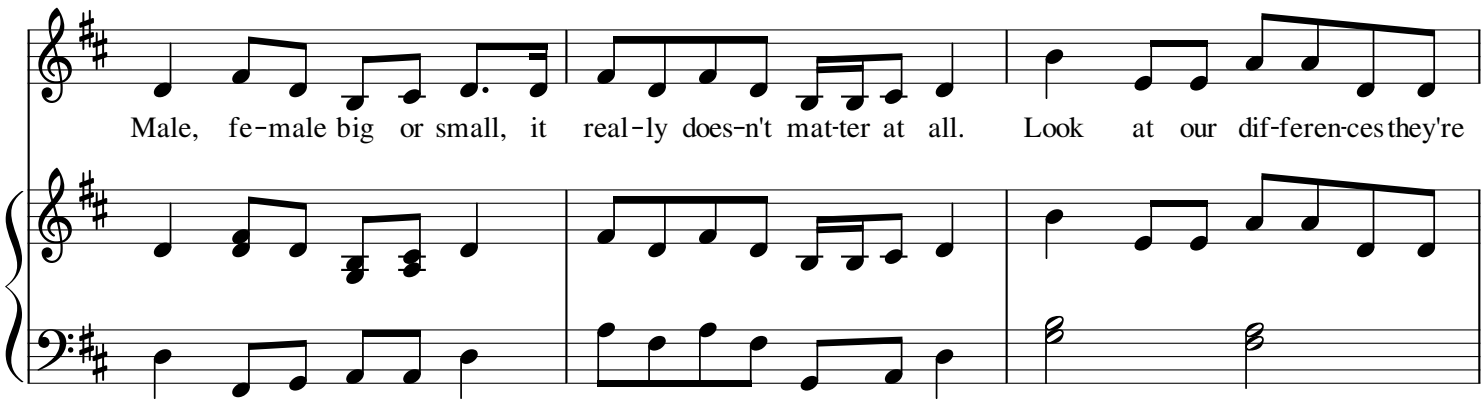
11



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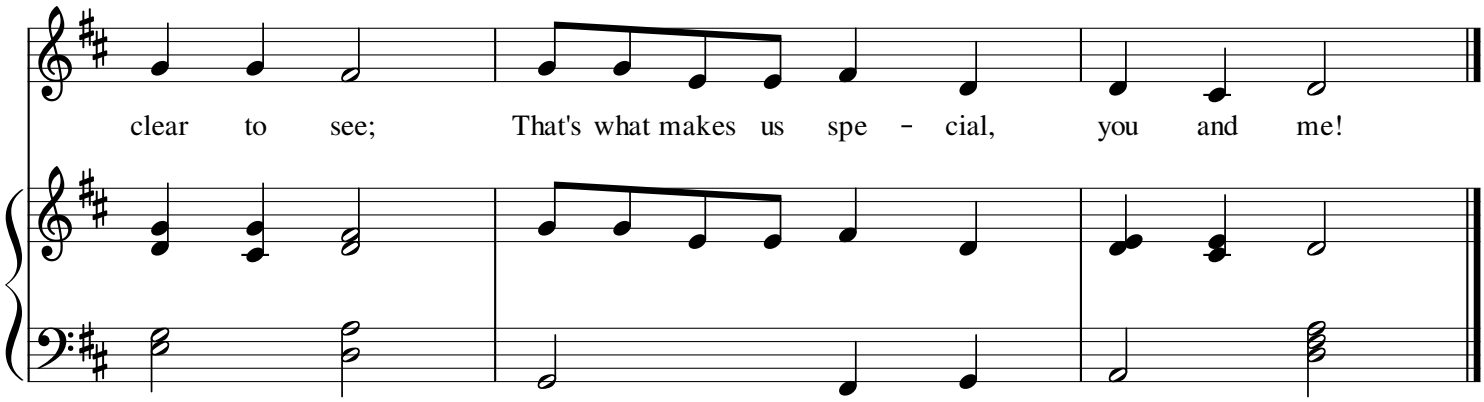
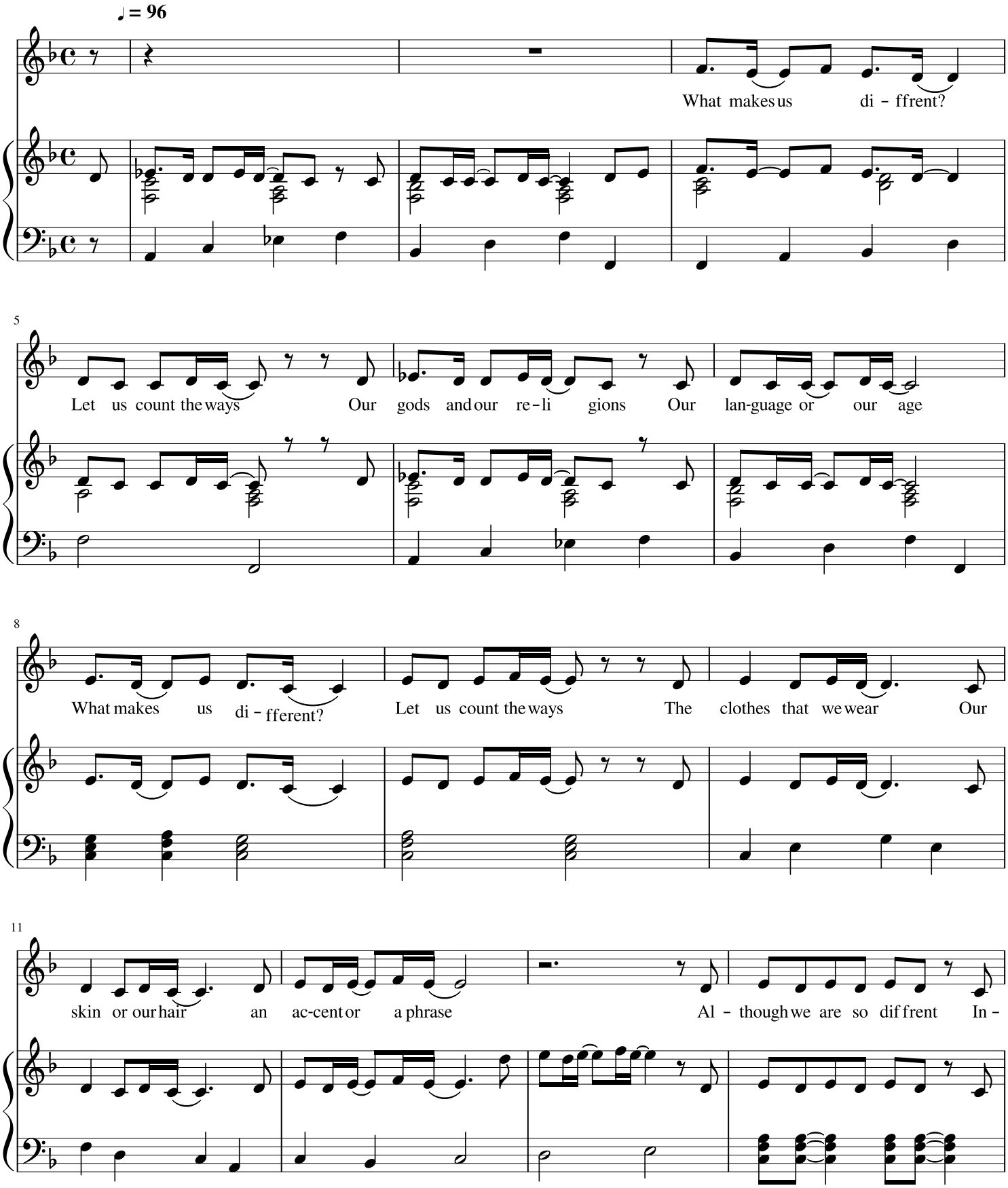
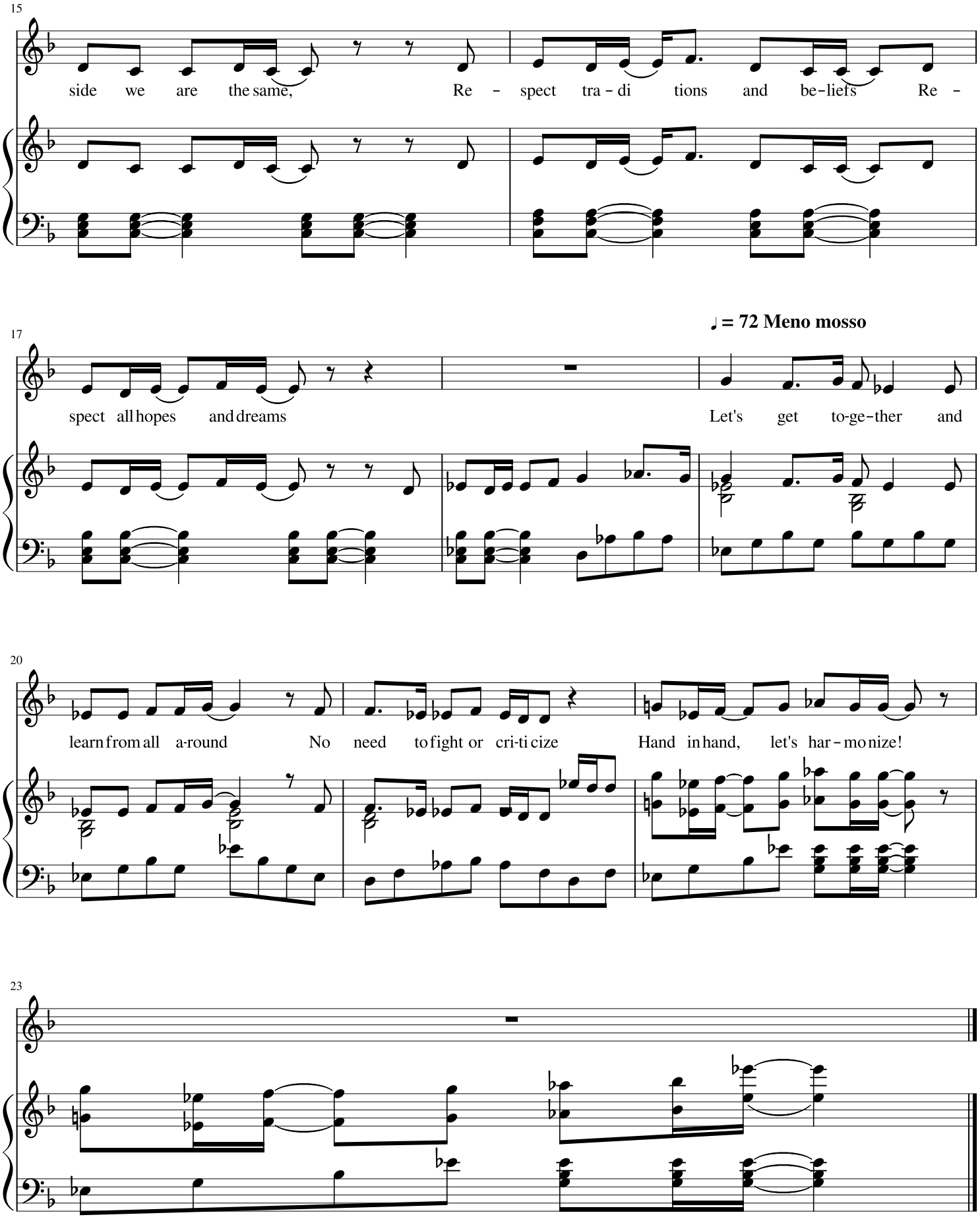


2017 Cantata Singers

What Makes Us Different

Soryha, Rishad, Trang, Sanii, Devin and Ms. Shaw Pong, Cantata Singers




15
side we are the same, Re - spect tra - di tions and be - liefs Re -
17
♩ = 72 Meno mosso
spect all hopes and dreams Let's get to-ge-ther and
20
learn from all a-round No need to fight or cri-ti cize Hand in hand, let's har - mo nize!
23