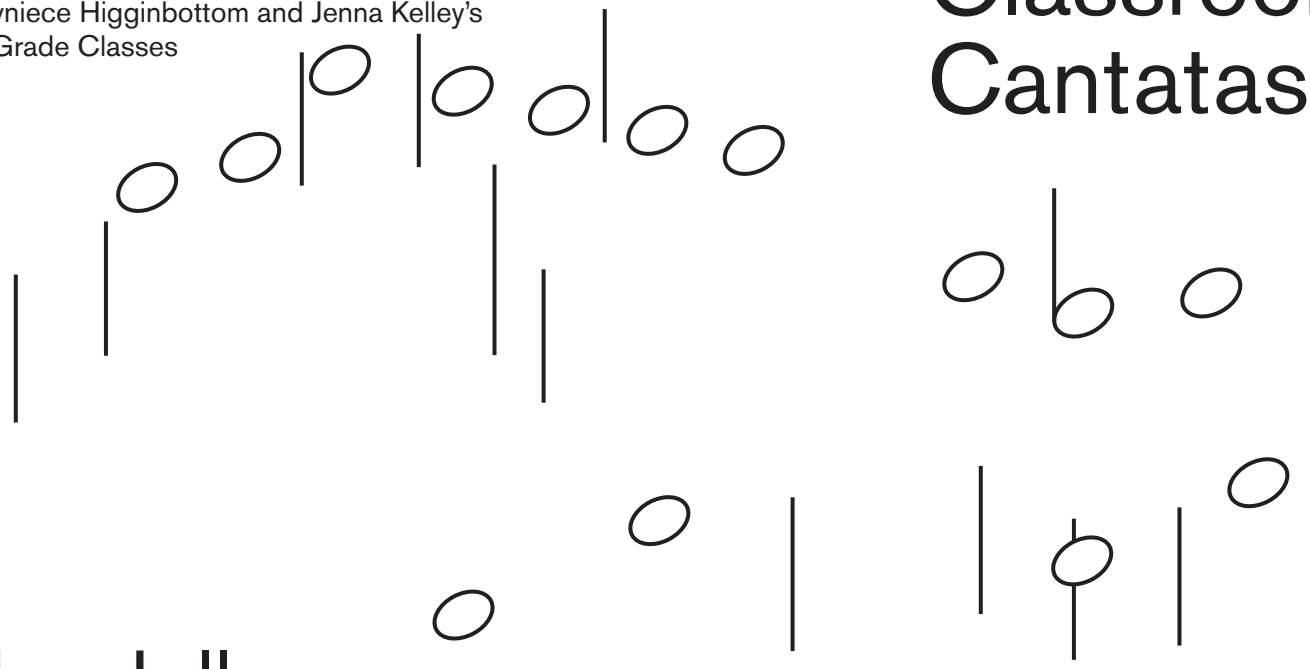
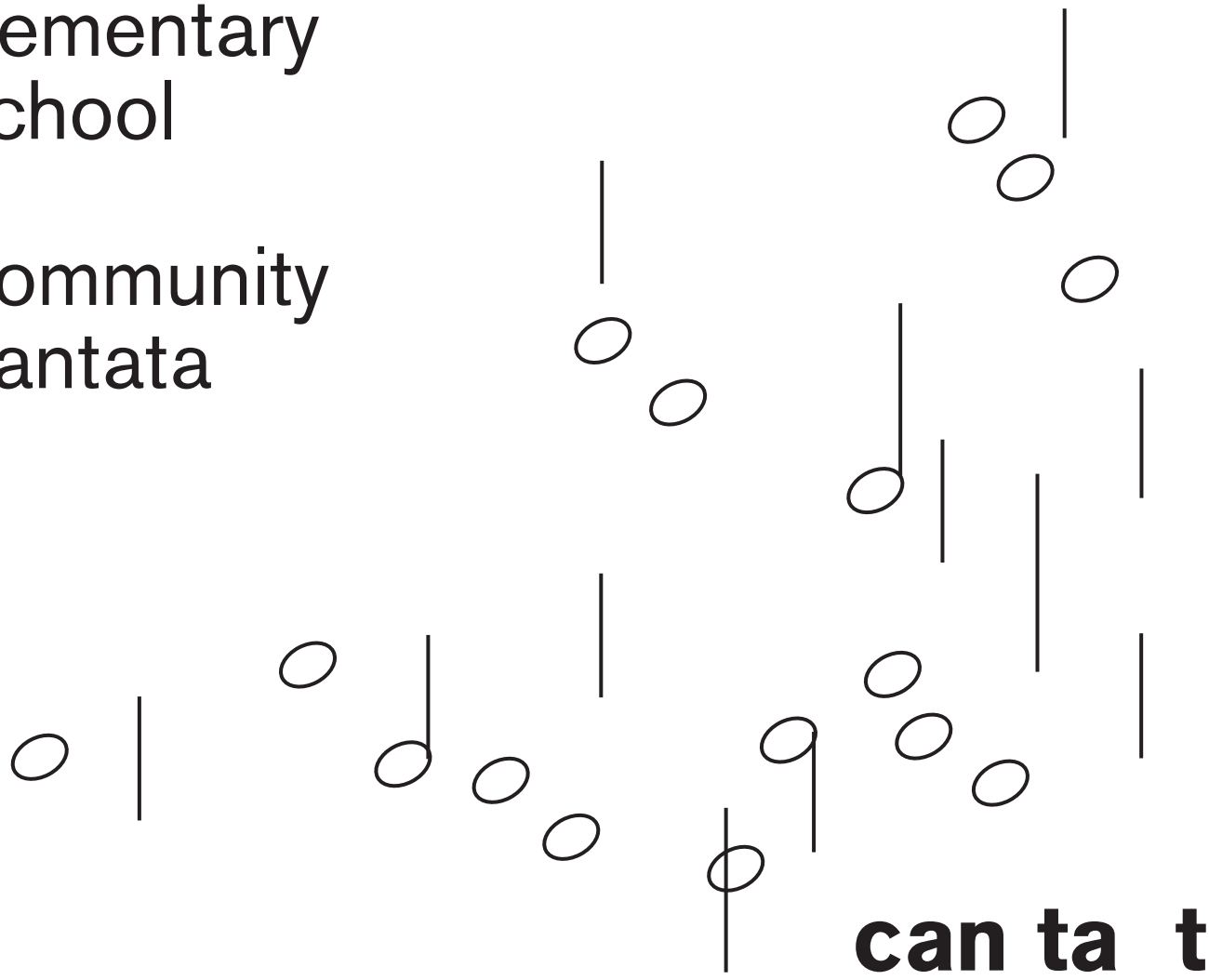
Composed and Performed by
Shawniece Higginbottom and Jenna Kelley's
2nd Grade Classes

Classroom Cantatas



Mendell Elementary School

Community 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*

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Classroom Cantatas at Mendell Elementary School, Roxbury, Massachusetts
Julia Bott, Principal
Shawniece Higginbottom, and Jenna Kelley, 2nd Grade Teachers

James Dargan, Devon Morin, Rachel Panitch, and Sara Wyse-Wenger,
Classroom Cantatas Teaching Artists

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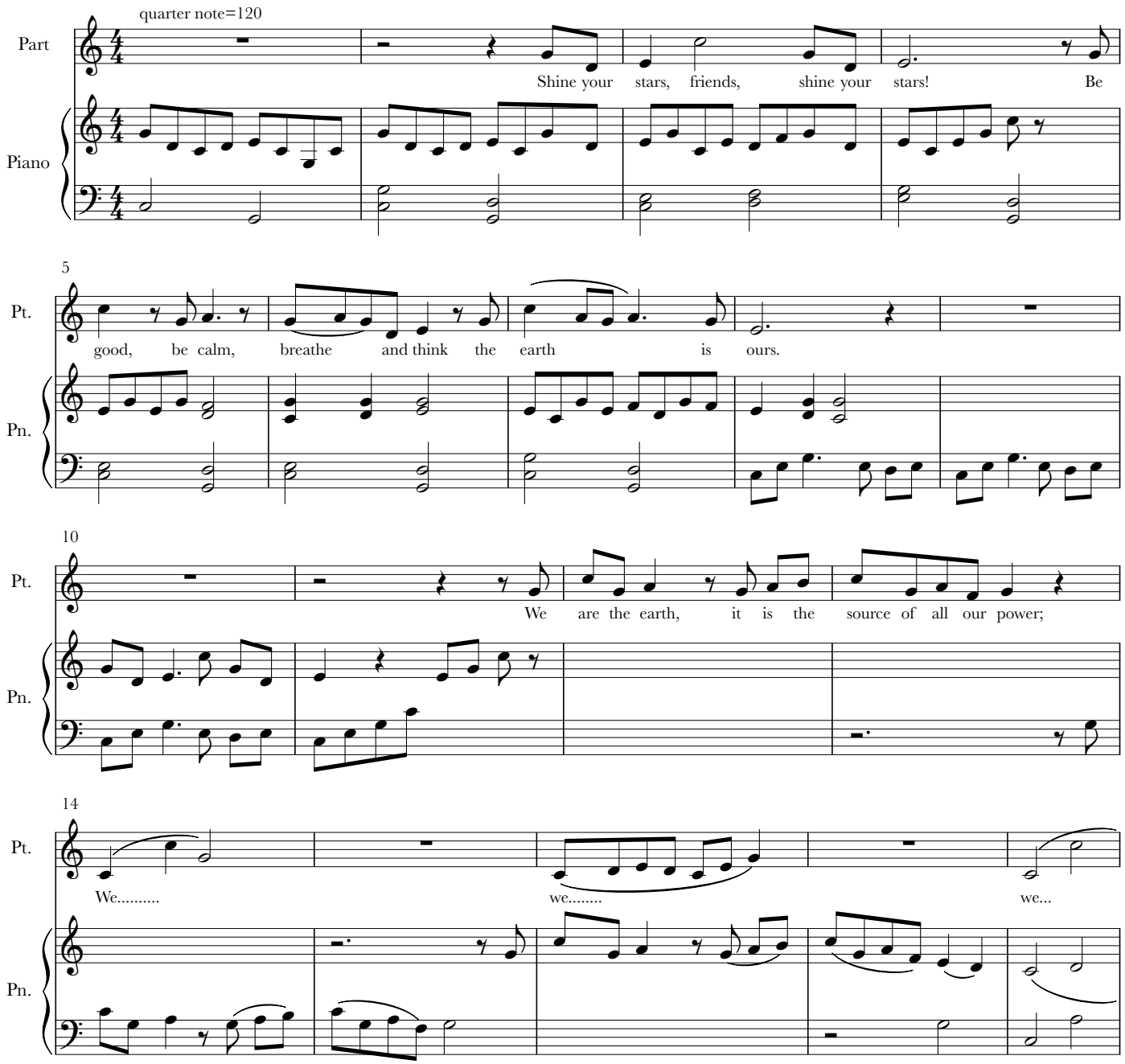
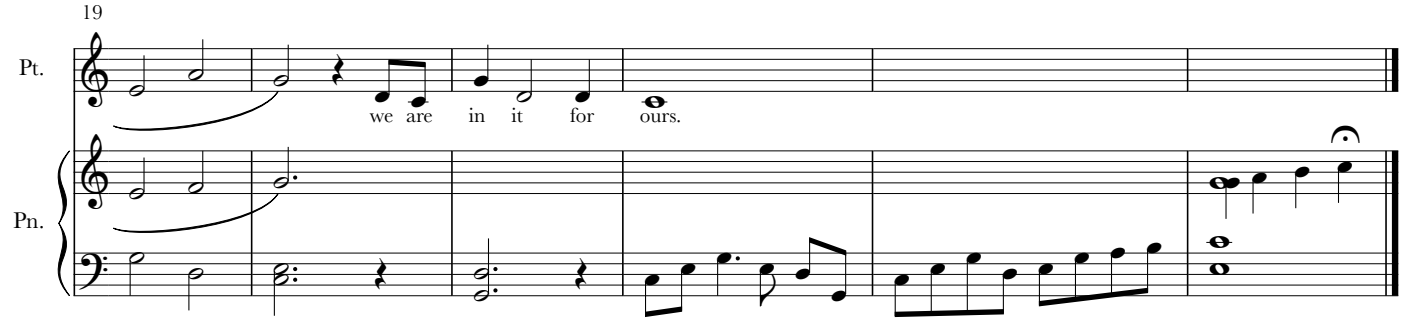
Mendell Chorale: Shine Your Stars



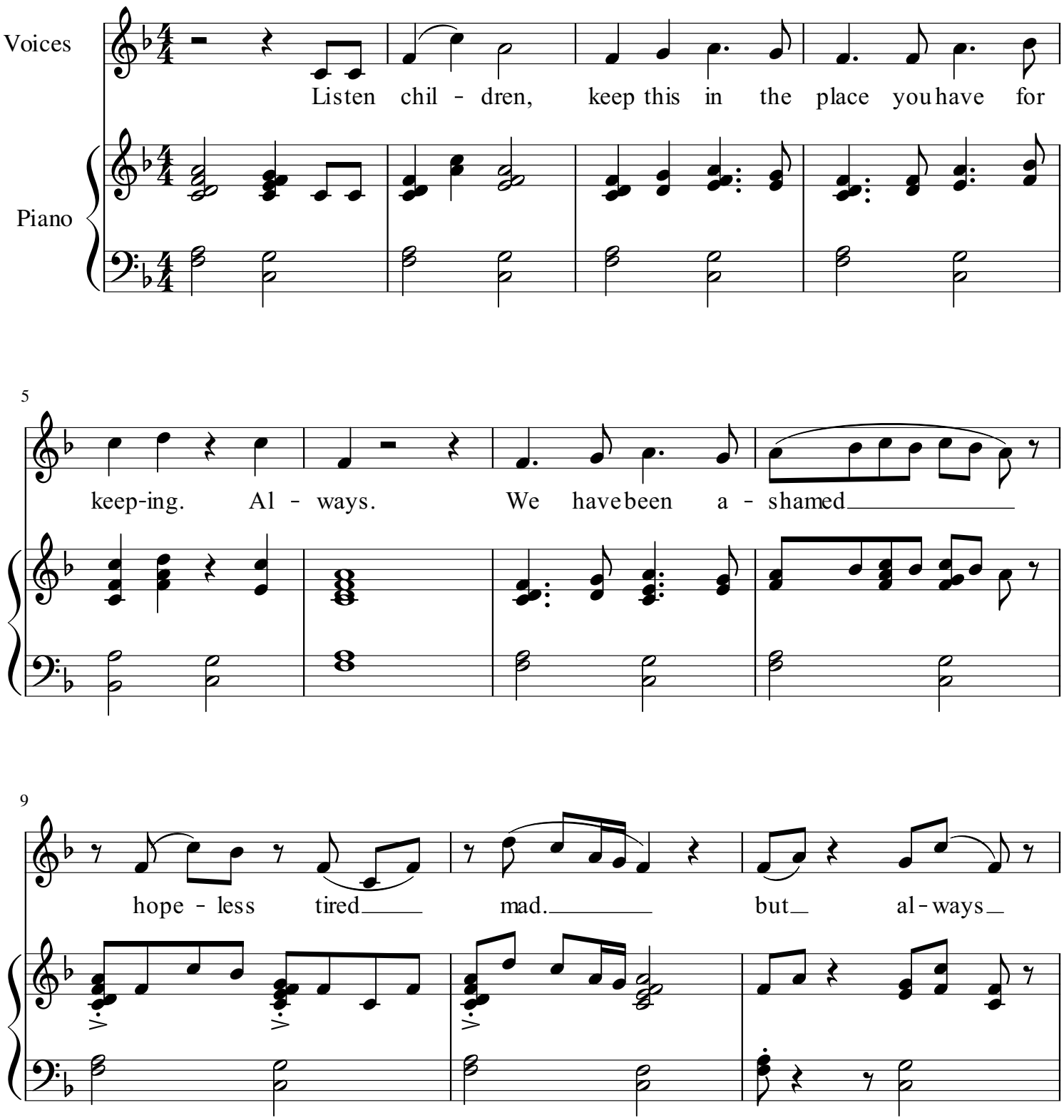

19
Pt.
we are in it for ours.
Pn.

Listen Children

from poem by Lucille Clifton

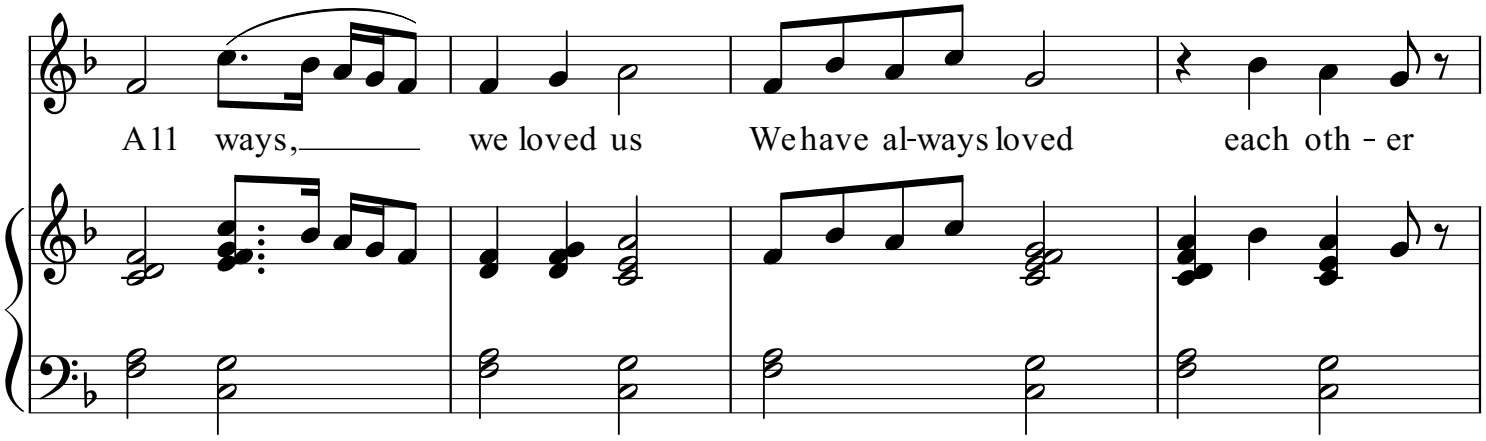
Chiara, Jisneidy, Johnny, Josiah, Kylah
with Devon Morin, Cantata Singers

♩ = 80

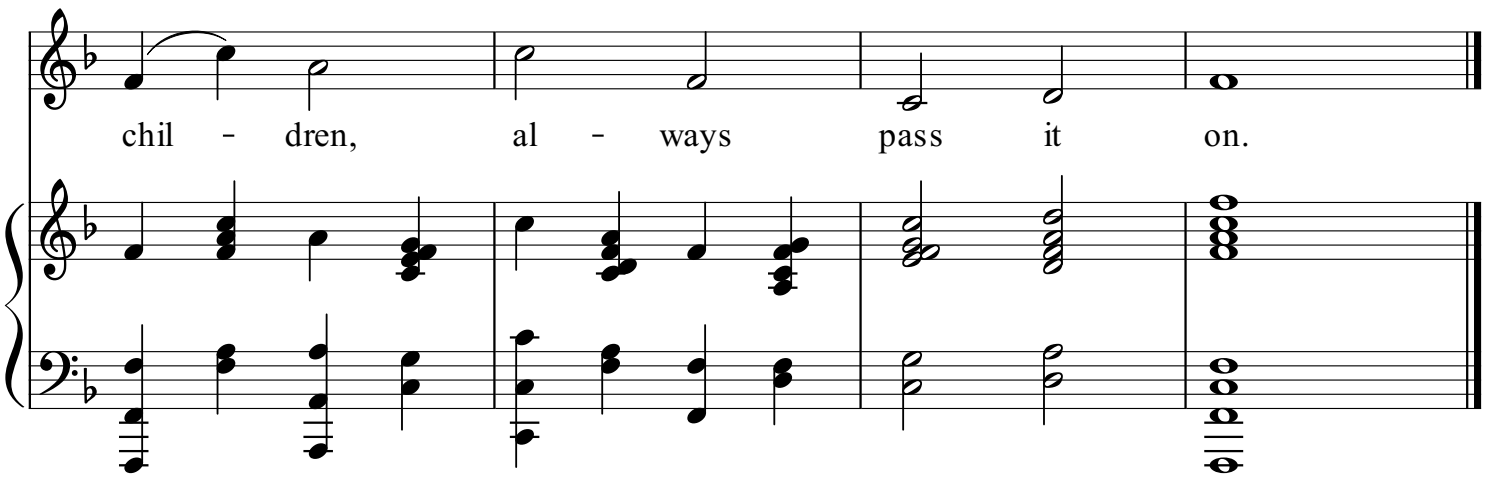


Cantata Singers, 2017

12


A11 ways, we loved us
We have al-ways loved each oth - er

16

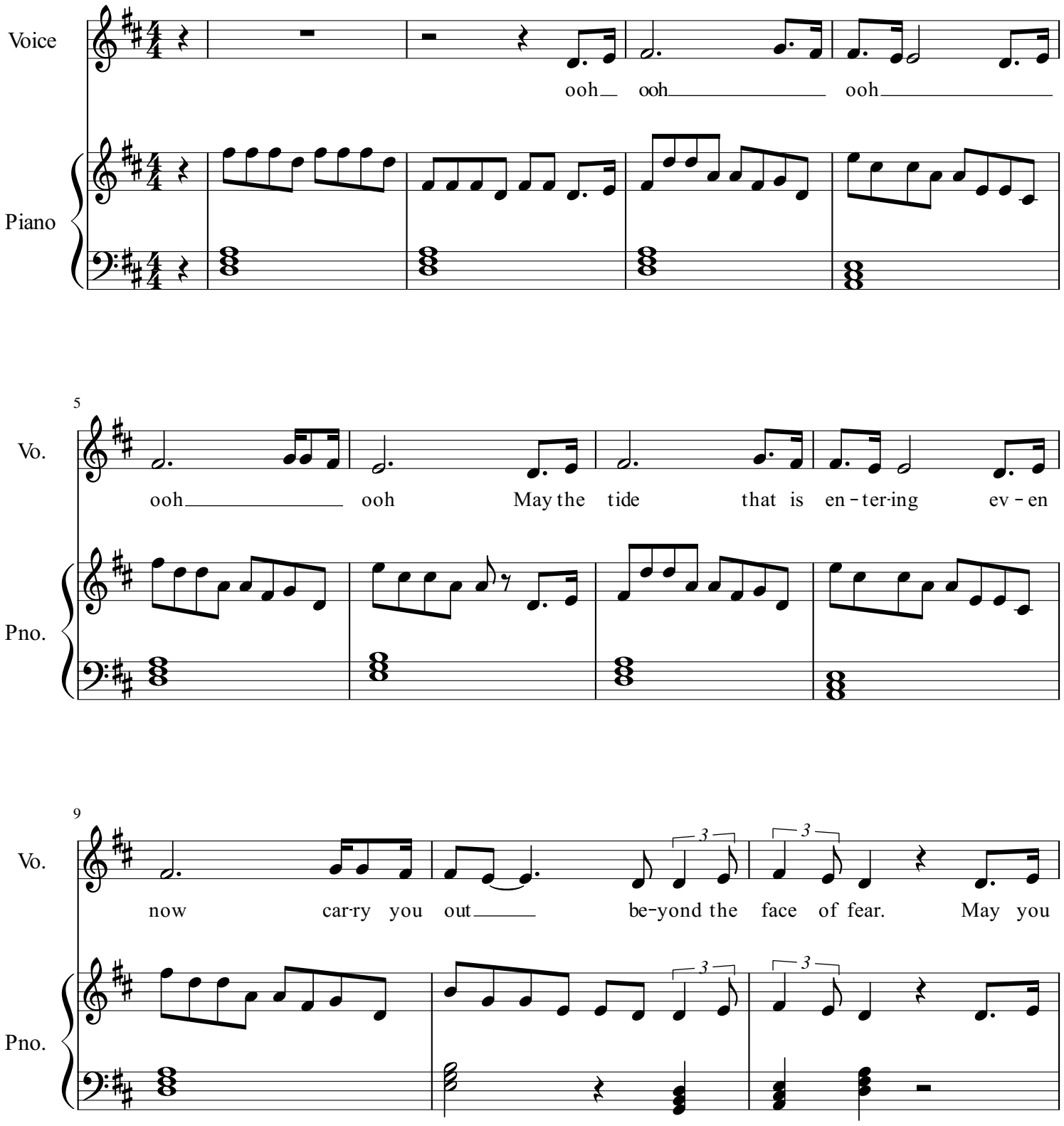

chil - dren, al - ways pass it on.

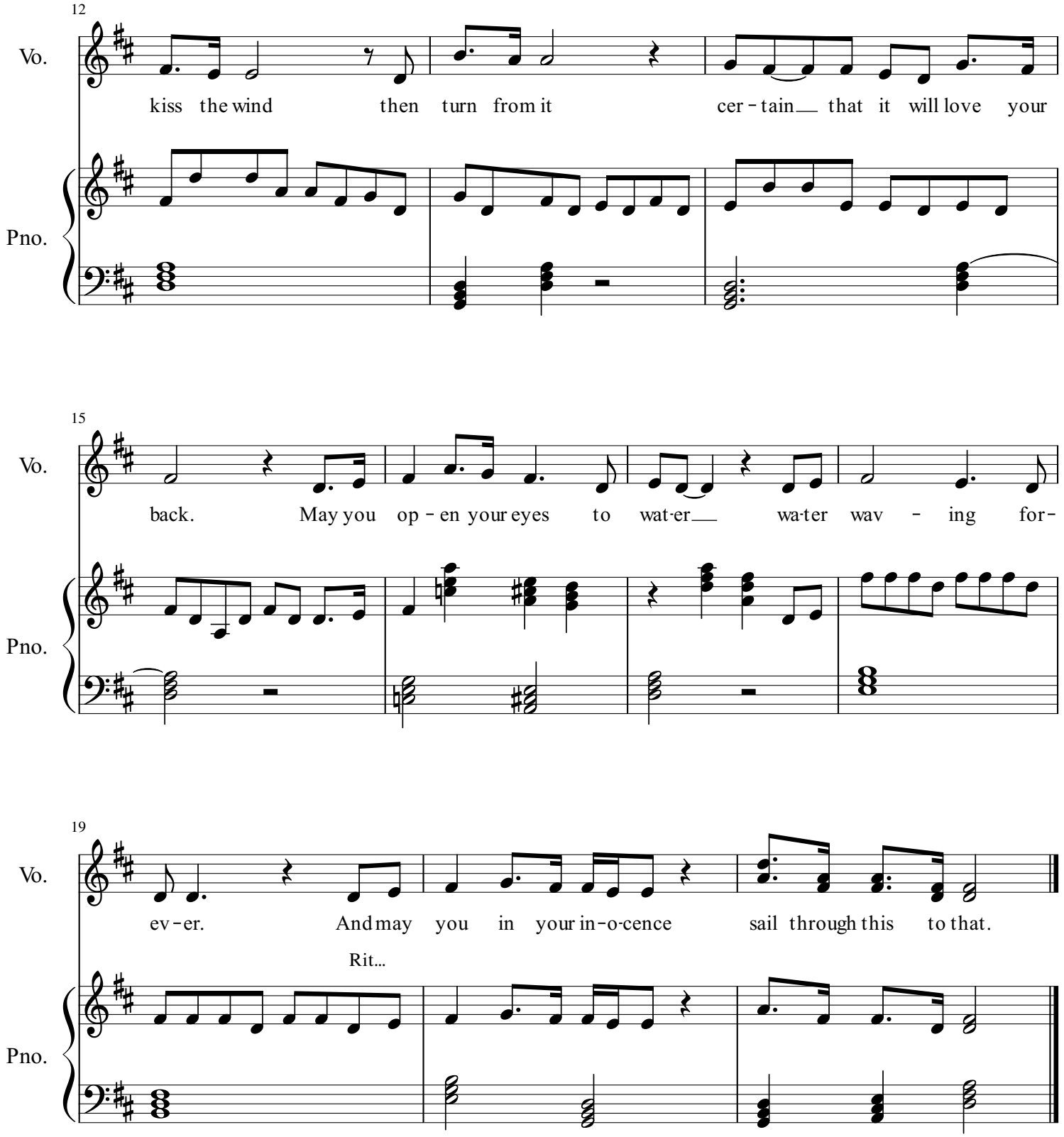
Blessing the Boats

Poem by Lucille Clifton

Eliza, Declan, Hamdi, Gwen and Maeve
with Rachel Panitch, Cantata Singers

♩ = 80



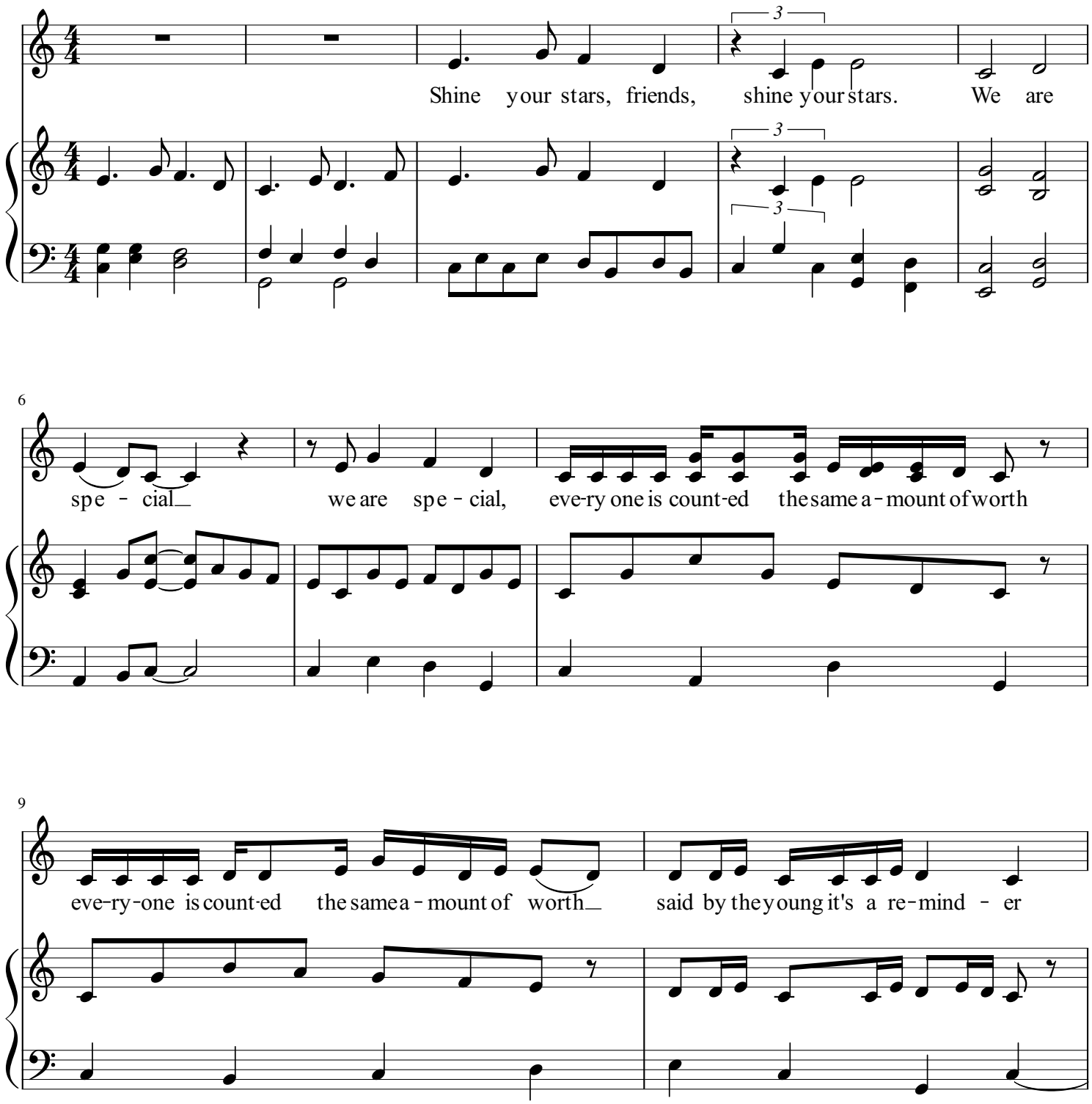

12
Vo.
kiss the wind then turn from it cer - tain that it will love your
Pno.
15
Vo.
back. May you op - en your eyes to wat-er wa-ter wav - ing for-
Pno.
19
Vo.
ev - er. And may you in your in-o-cence sail through this to that.
Rit...
Pno.

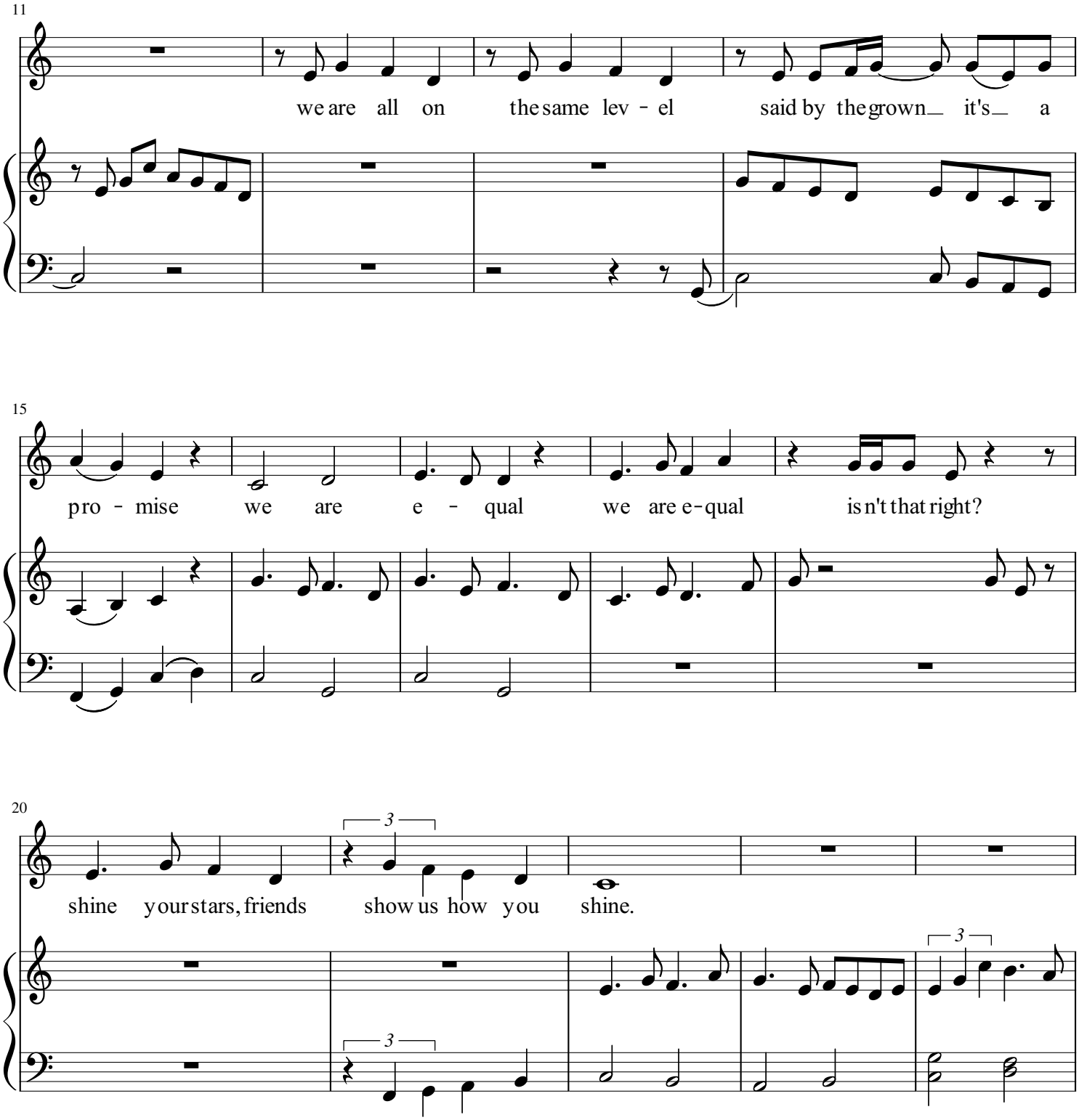
Shine your stars

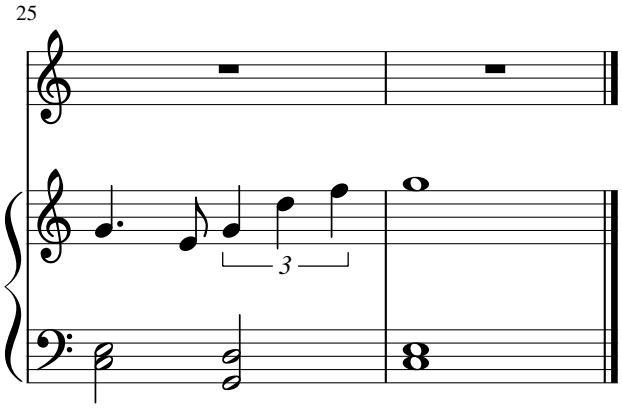
James Dargan
and from poem by Jennifer Byrne

Asa, Eleanor, Lyra, Riley, Sevastian
with James Dargan, Cantata Singers

♩ = 70



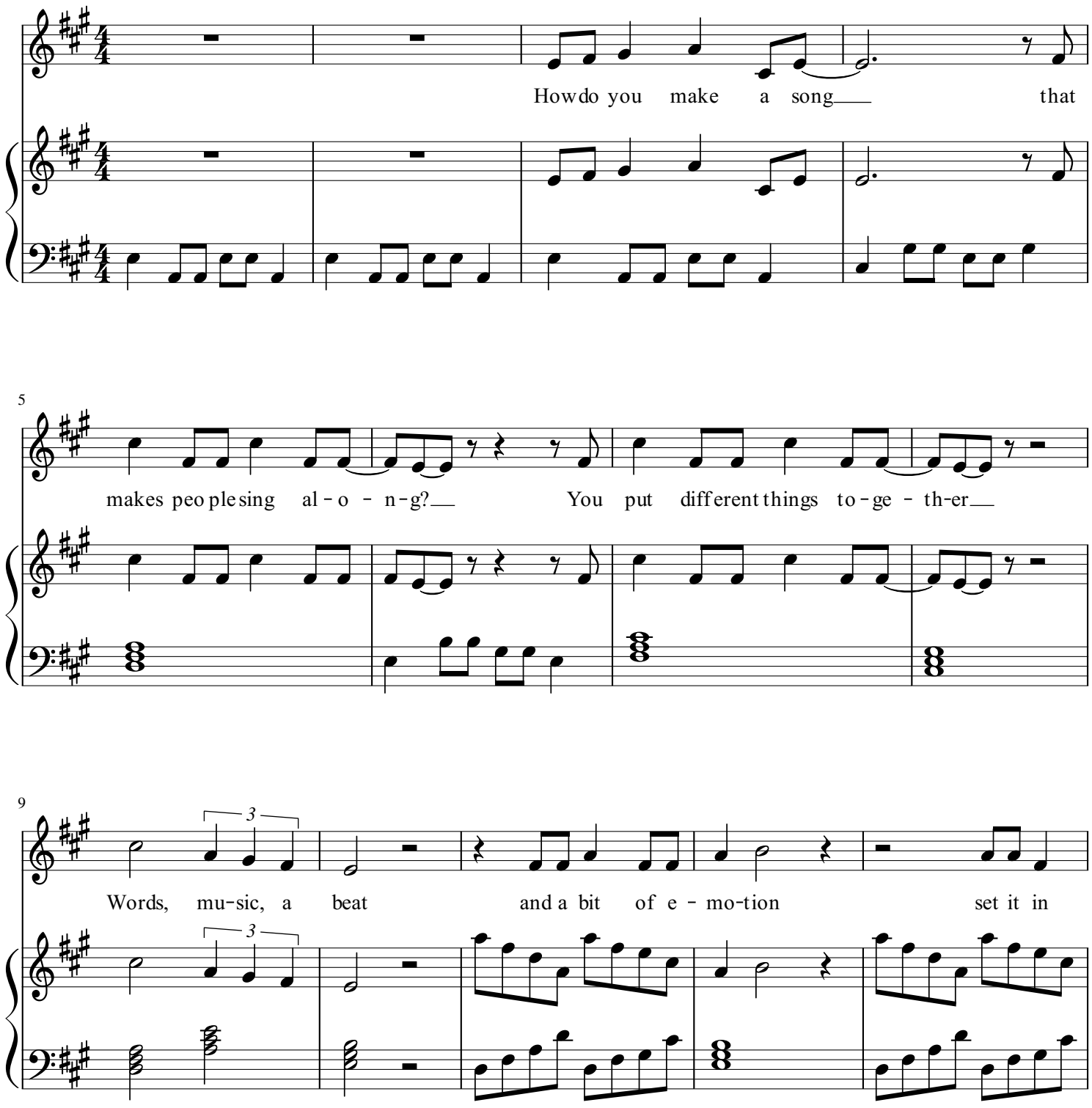

11
we are all on the same lev - el said by the grown__ it's__ a
15
pro - mise we are e - qual we are e-qual is n't that right?
20
shine your stars, friends show us how you shine.
3
3
3

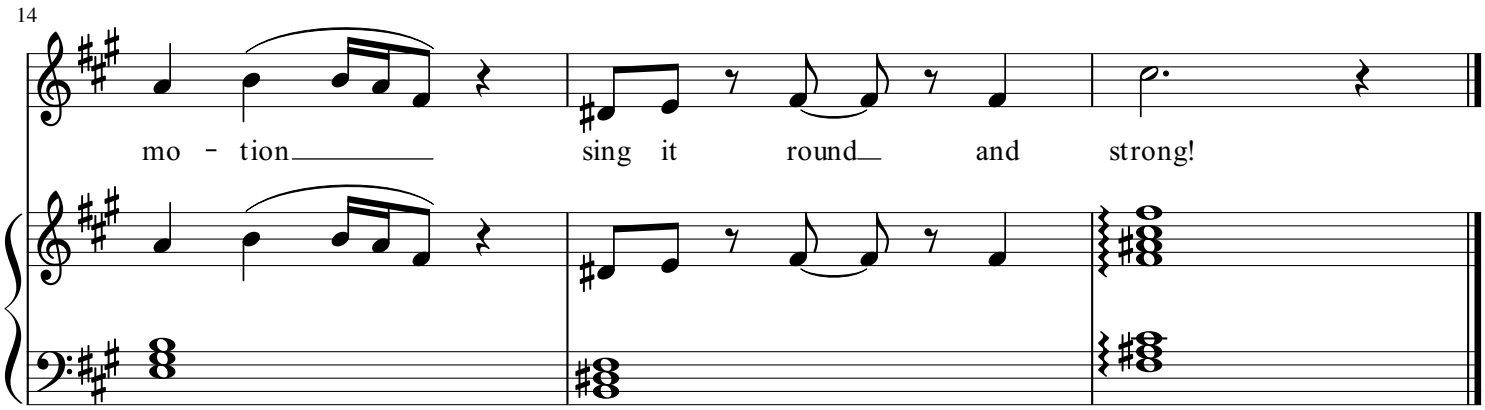

25
3

How Do You Make a Song

James Dargan

Dhalia, Bija, Miangelis, Nico and Maurice
with Rachel Panitch, Cantata Singers

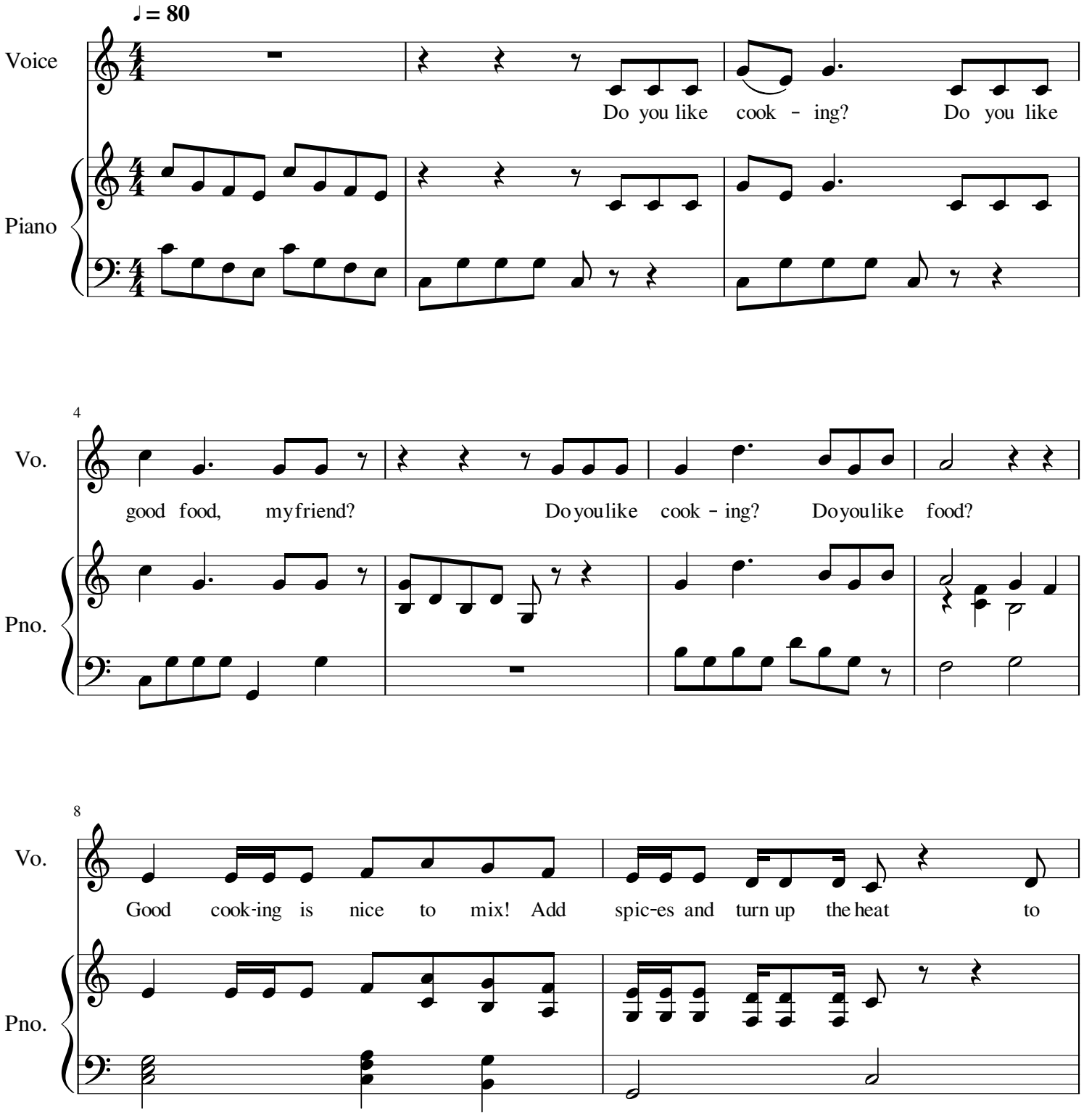



14
mo - tion
sing it round
and strong!

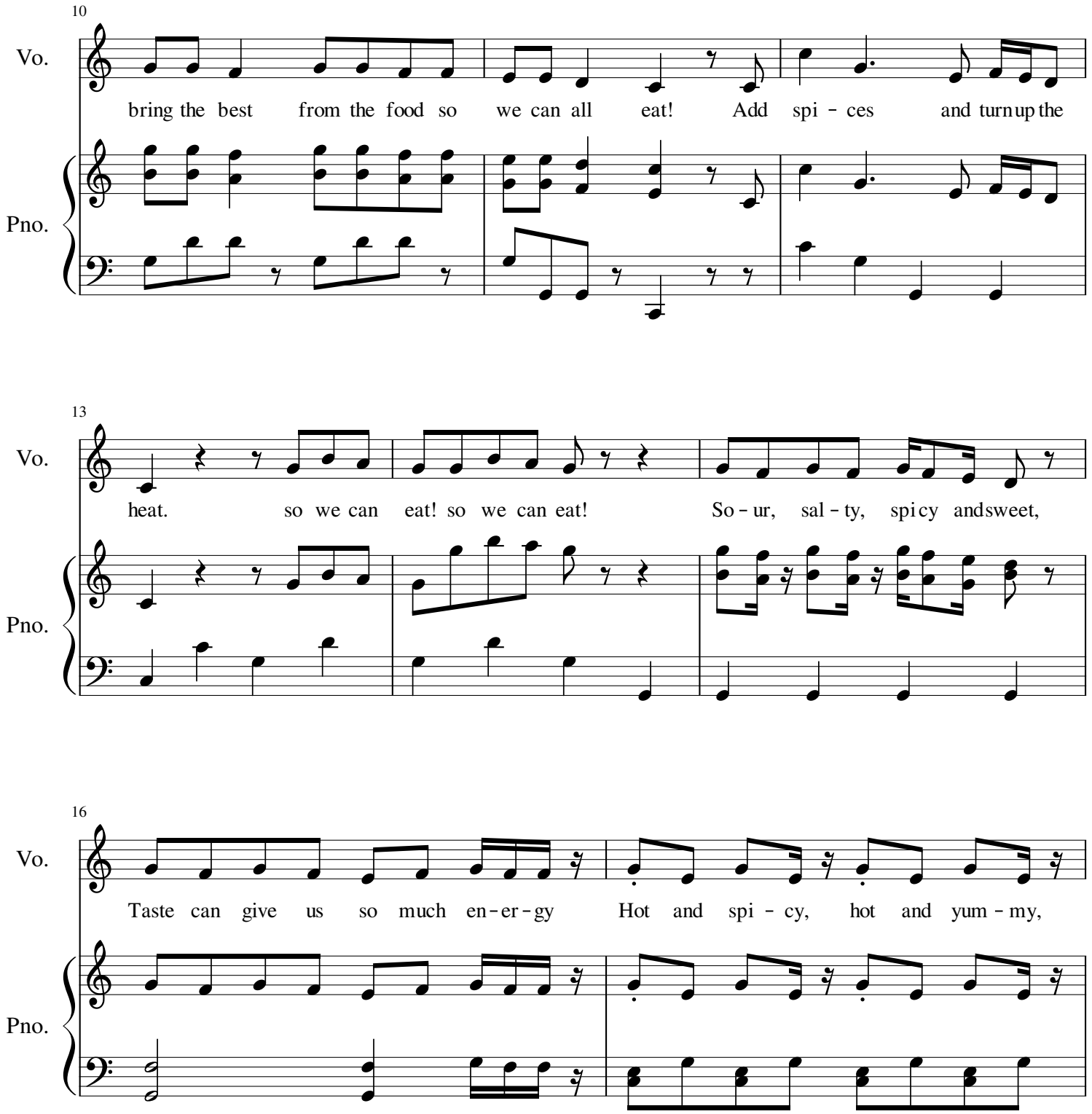
Good Food

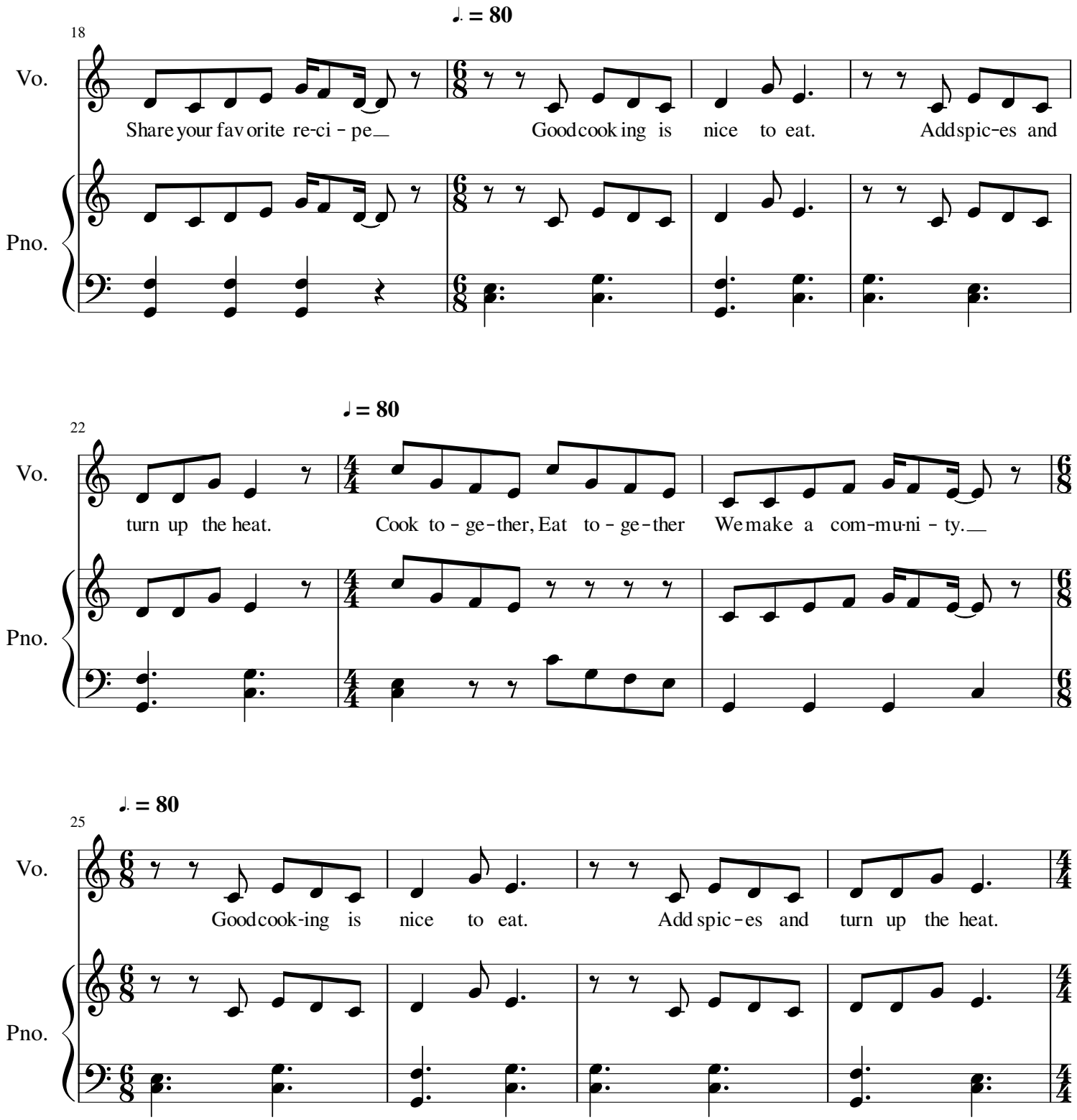
James Dargan and Sara Wyse-Wenger

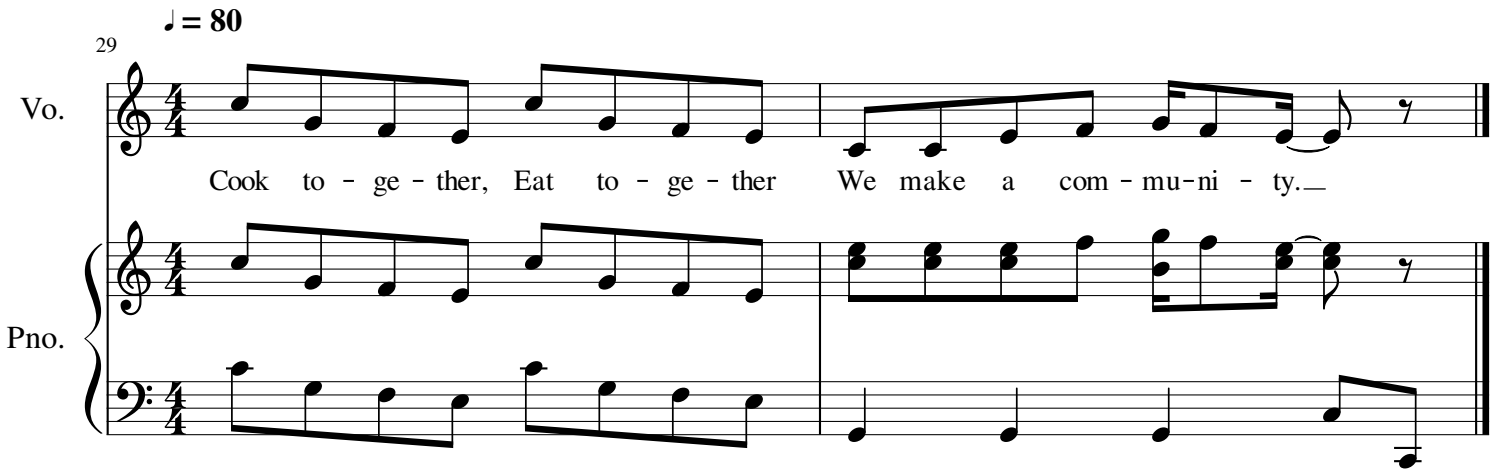
Ethan, Evie, Genesee, Hafsa, Kaylin
with Sara Wyse-Wenger, Cantata Singers



2017 Cantata Singers


10
Vo.
bring the best from the food so we can all eat! Add spi - ces and turn up the
Pno.
13
Vo.
heat. so we can eat! so we can eat! So - ur, sal - ty, spi cy and sweet,
Pno.
16
Vo.
Taste can give us so much en - er - gy Hot and spi - cy, hot and yum - my,
Pno.


♩. = 80
18
Vo.
Pno.
Share your fav orite re-ci - pe__
Good cook ing is nice to eat.
Add spic-es and
♩ = 80
22
Vo.
Pno.
turn up the heat.
Cook to - ge-ther, Eat to - ge-ther
We make a com-mu-ni - ty.__
♩. = 80
25
Vo.
Pno.
Good cook-ing is nice to eat.
Add spic - es and turn up the heat.

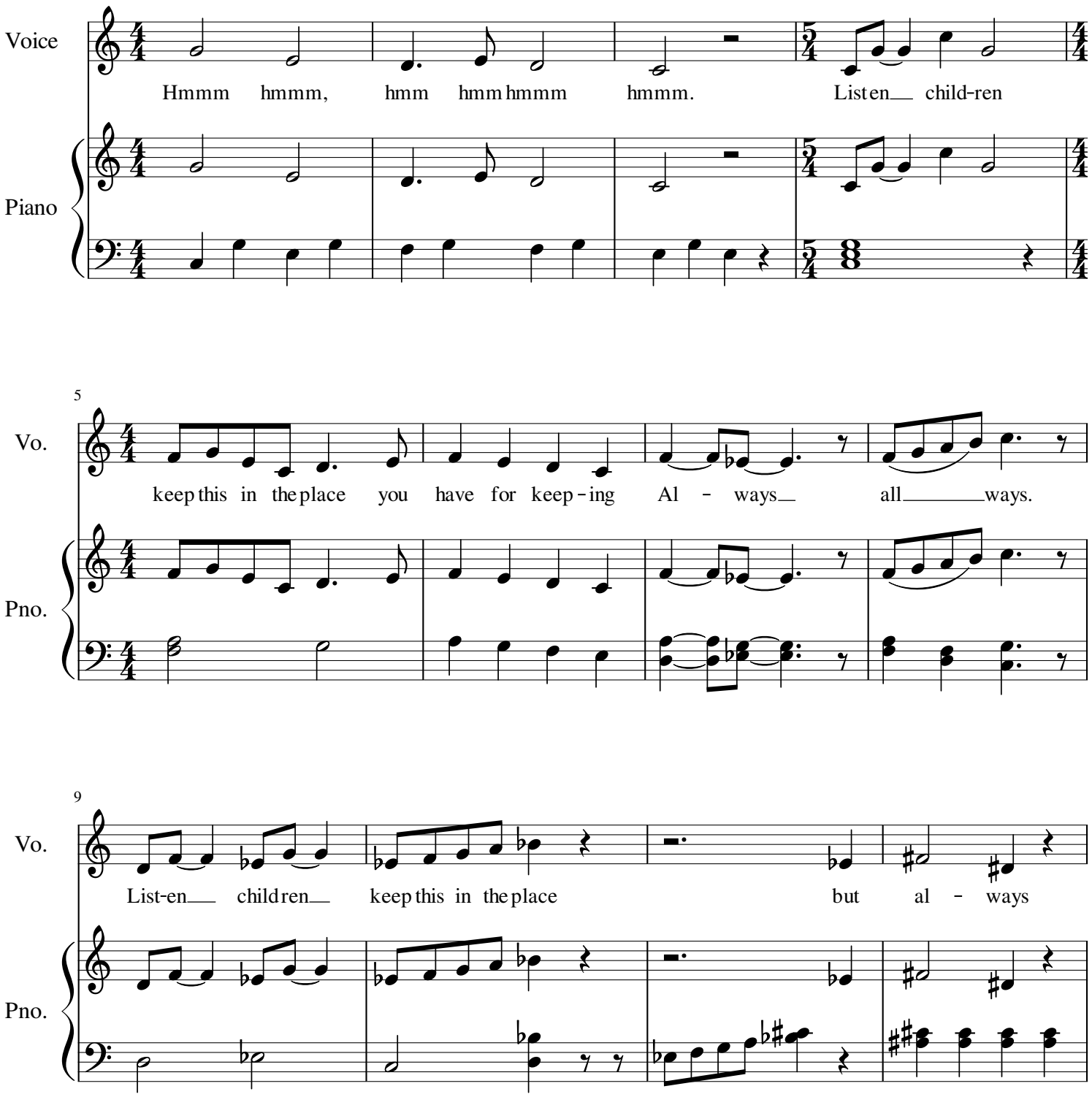

♩ = 80
29
Vo.
Cook to - ge - ther, Eat to - ge - ther We make a com - mu-ni - ty.
Pno.

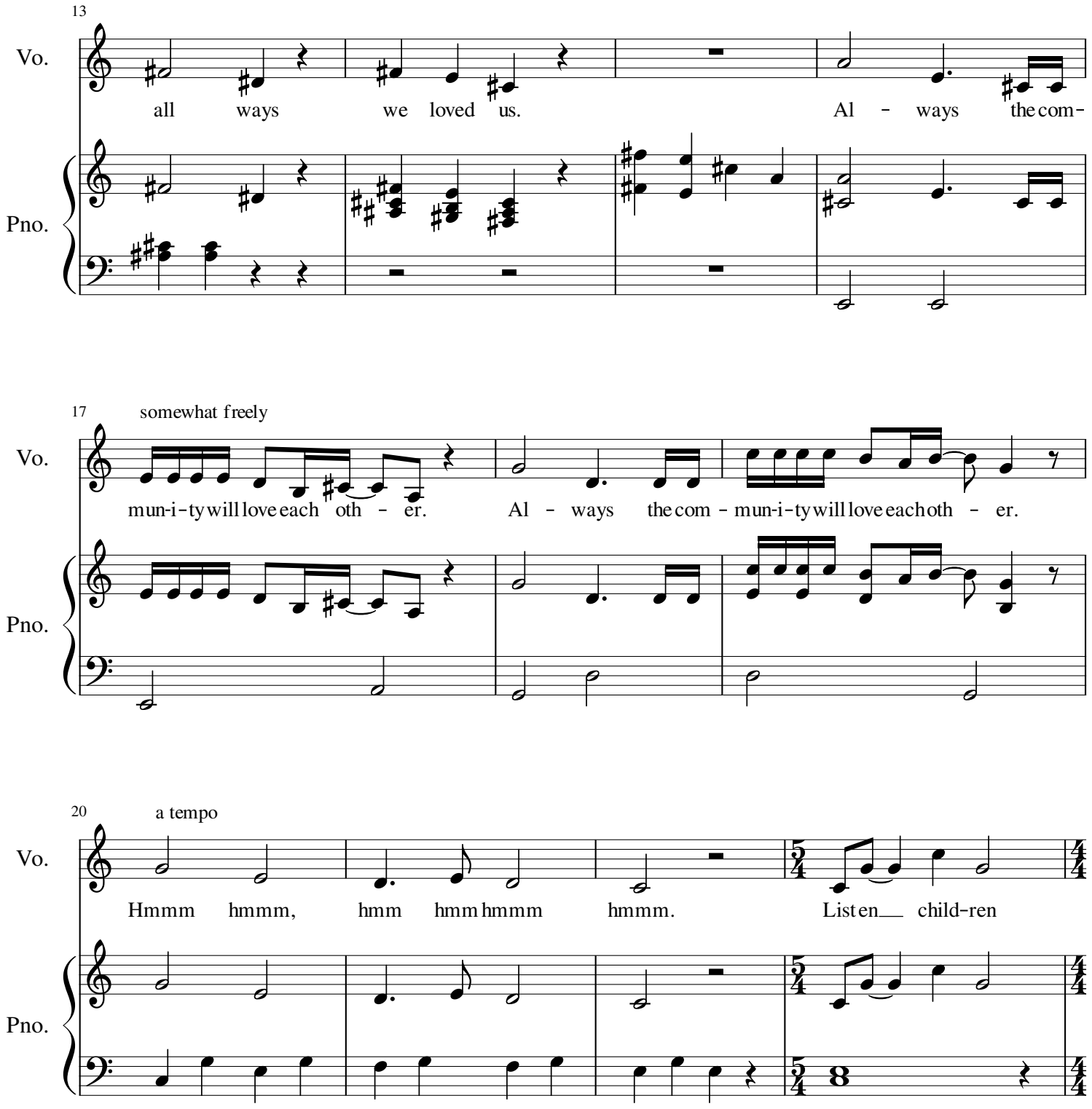
Listen Children

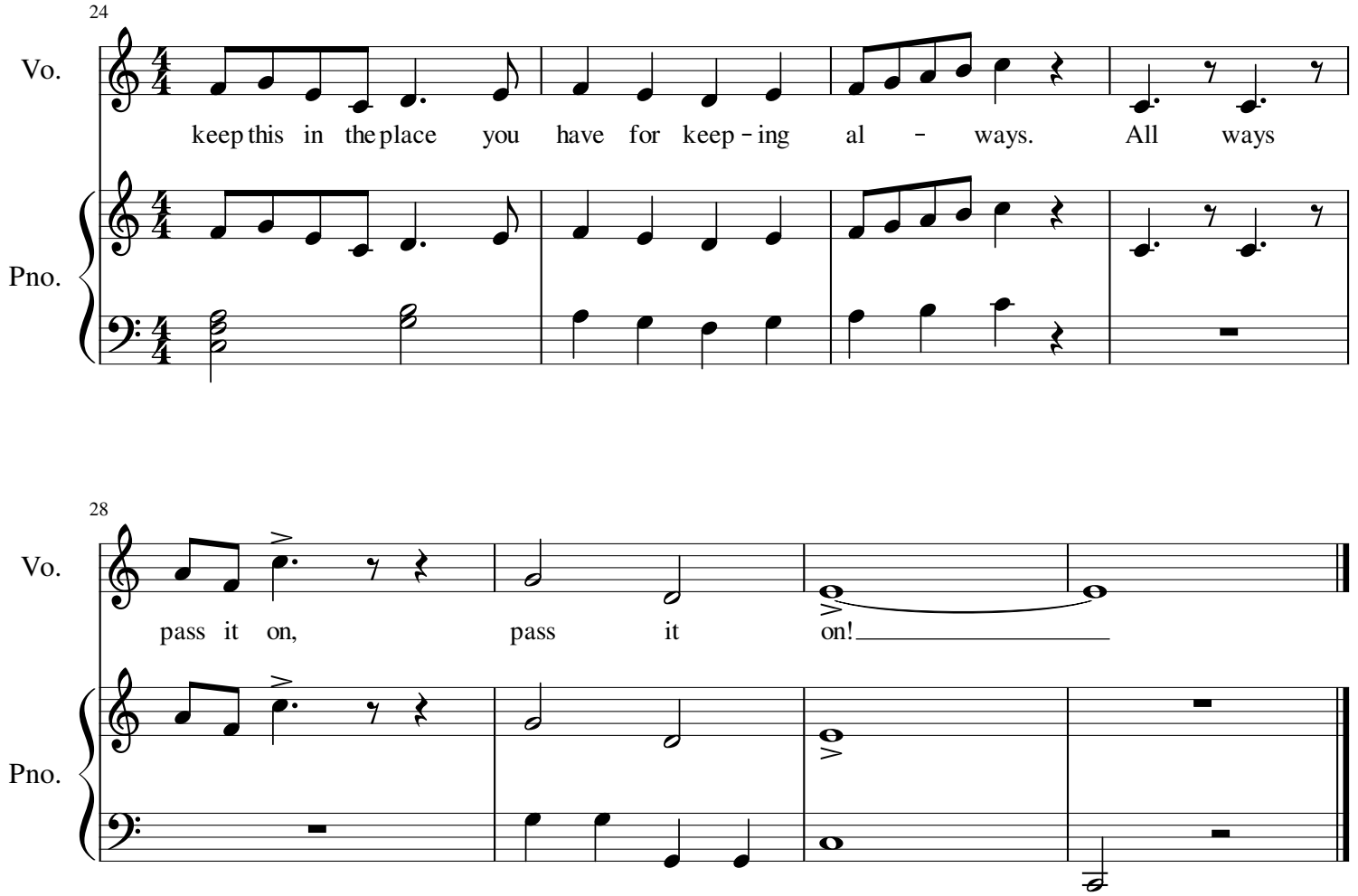
Hava, Iris, James, Nova, Yomar
with Sara Wyse-Wenger, Cantata Singers

from poem by Lucille Clifton

♩ = 92



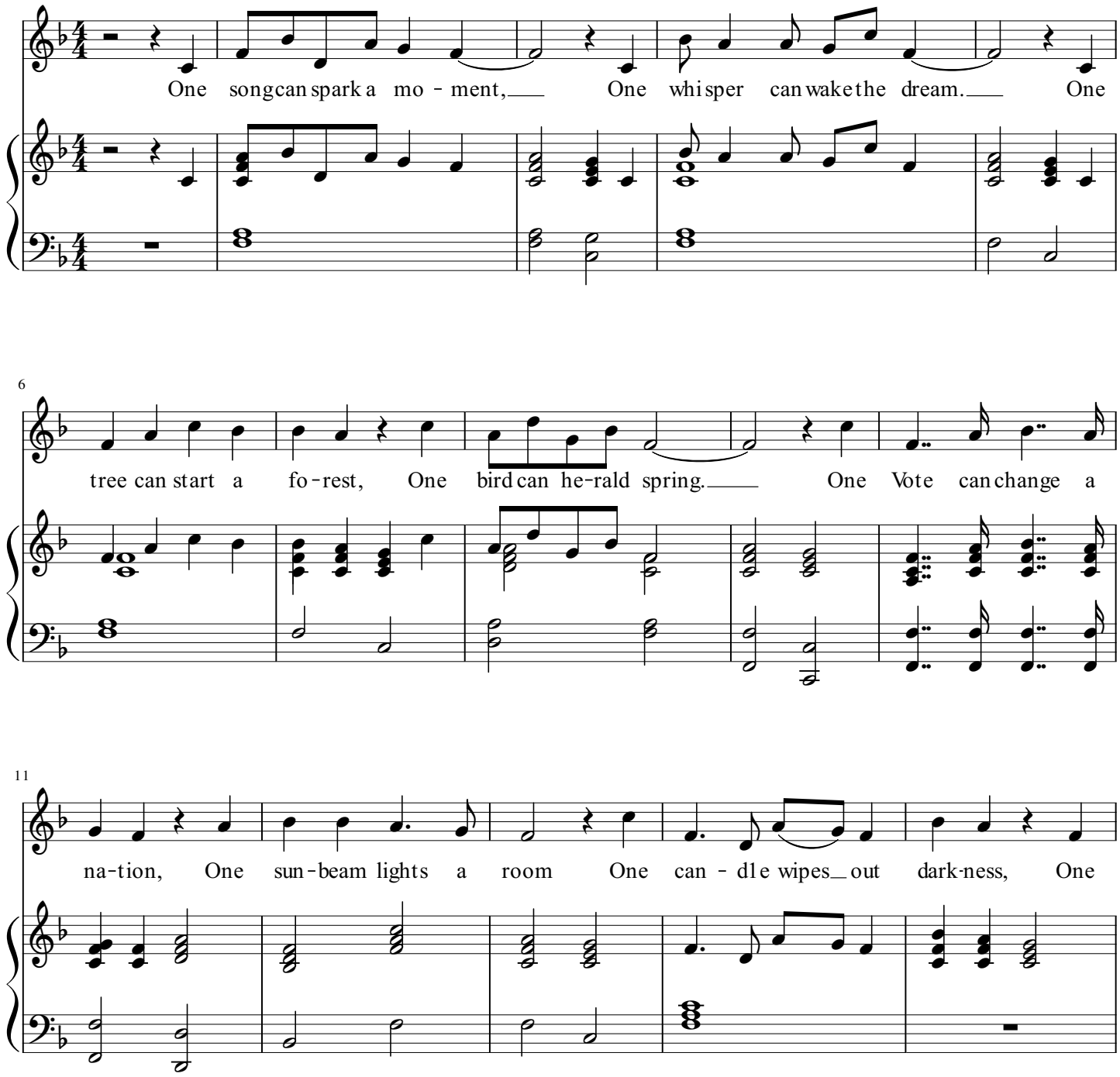

13
Vo.
all ways we loved us.
Al - ways the com-
Pno.
17
somewhat freely
Vo.
mun-i-ty will love each oth - er.
Al - ways the com - mun-i-ty will love each oth - er.
Pno.
20
a tempo
Vo.
Hmmm hmmm, hmm hmm hmmm hmmm.
Listen child-ren
Pno.

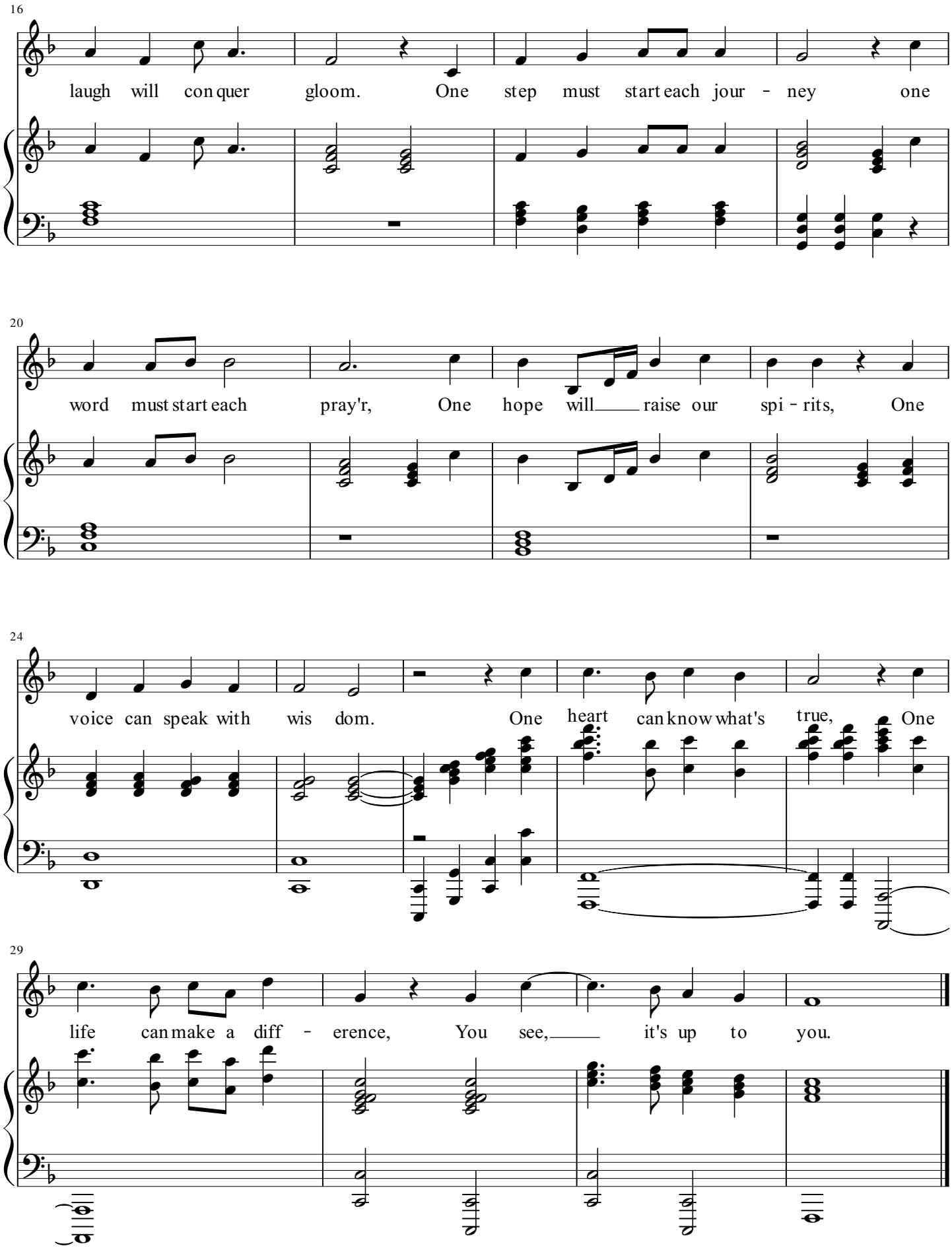

24
Vo.
keep this in the place you have for keep - ing al - ways. All ways
Pno.
28
Vo.
pass it on, pass it on!
Pno.

The Power of One

Ezra, Gianni, Maddie, Pru, Skylei
with Devon Morin, Cantata Singers

Ashish Ram



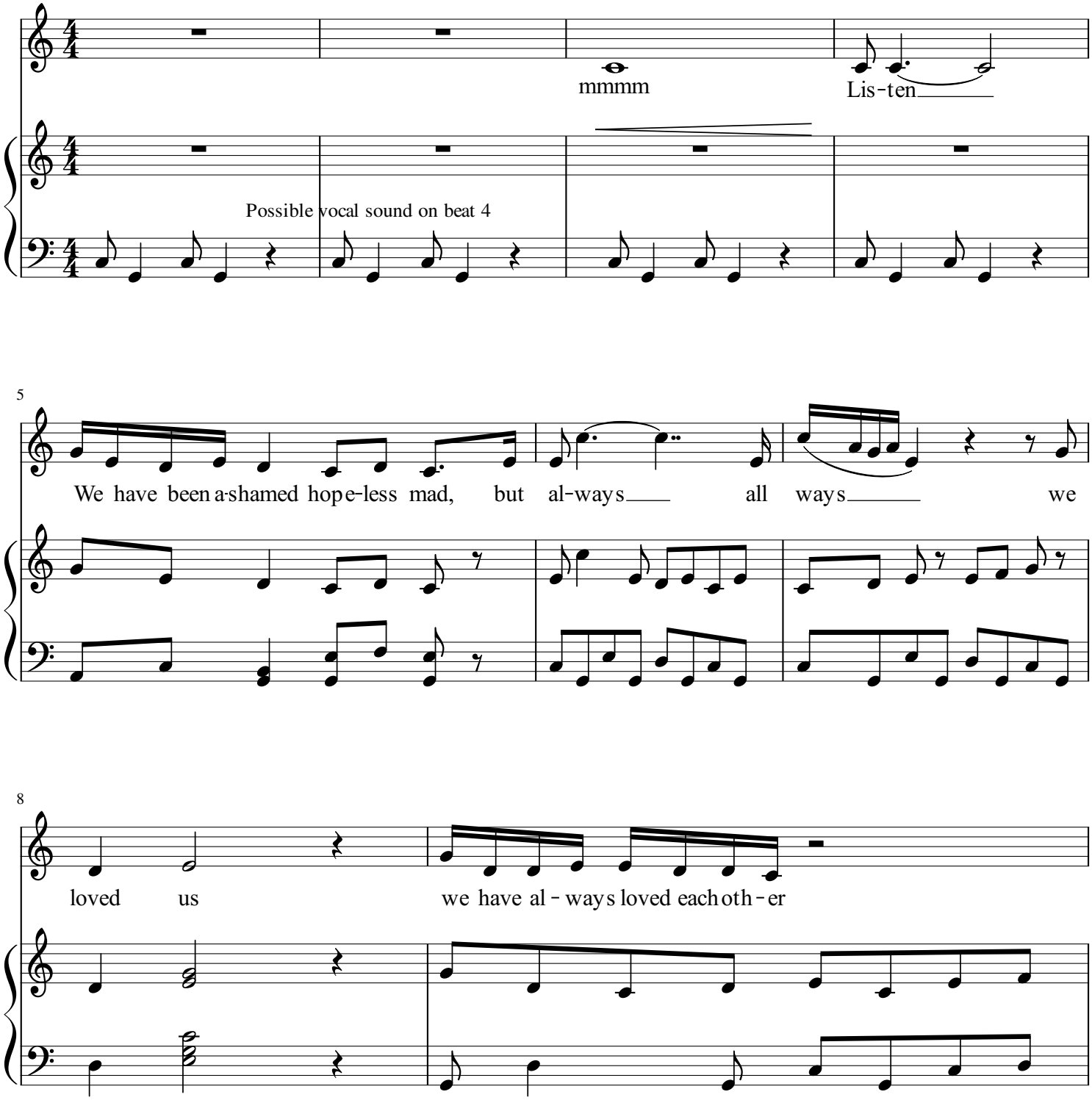

16
laugh will con quer gloom. One step must start each jour - ney one
20
word must start each pray'r, One hope will raise our spi - rits, One
24
voice can speak with wis dom. One heart can know what's true, One
29
life can make a diff - erence, You see, it's up to you.

Listen, Children

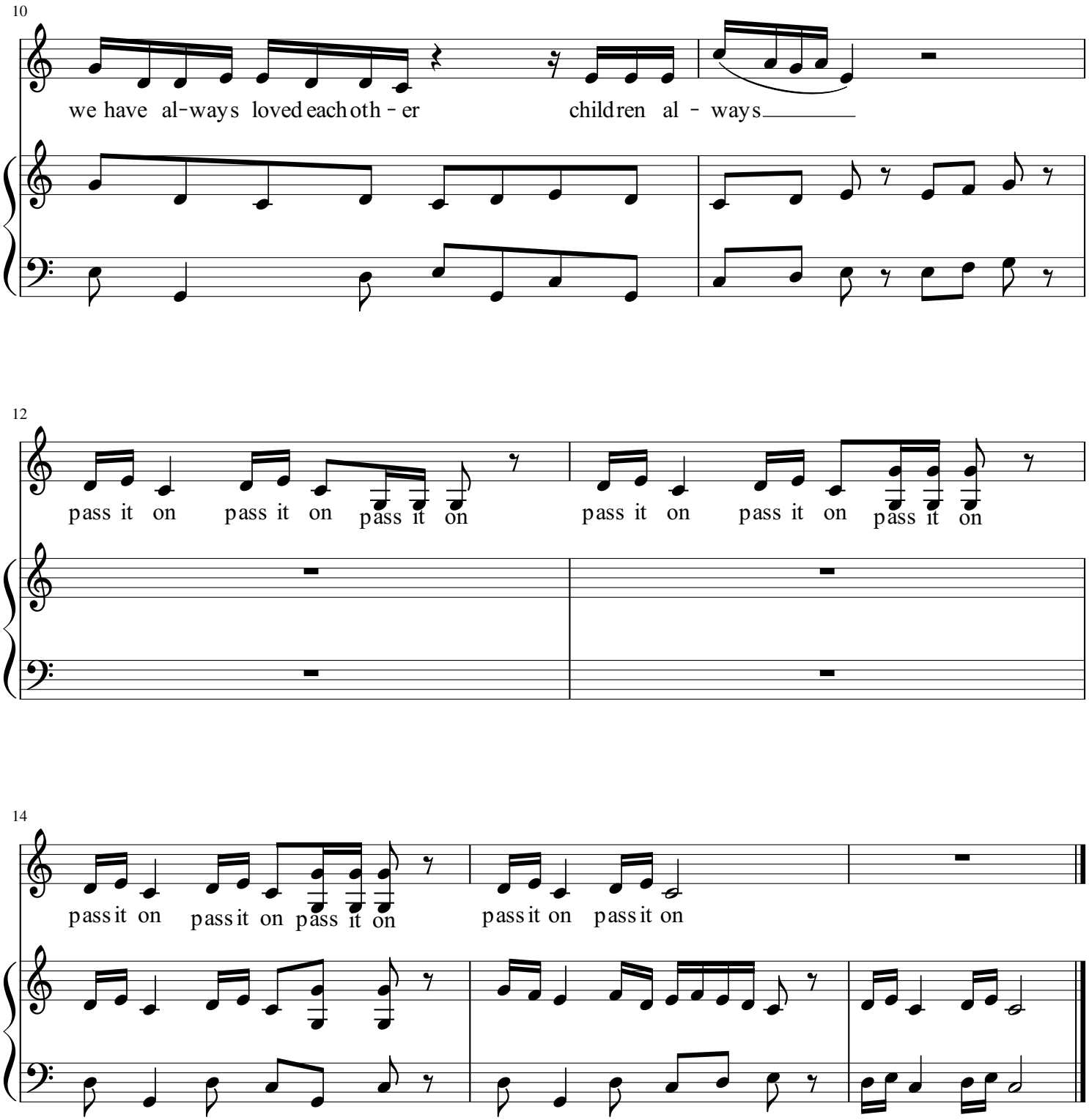
From Poem by Lucille Clifton

Ava, Bea, Dylan, Leon, Onaxys
with James Dargan, Cantata Singers

♩ = 70



Cantata Singers, 2017


10
we have al-ways loved each oth - er
chil dren al - ways
12
pass it on pass it on pass it on
pass it on pass it on pass it on
14
pass it on pass it on pass it on
pass it on pass it on