About Classroom Cantatas

Cantata Singers has valued underrepresented music since its inception—be it performing works by lesser-known composers, commissioning new music, or bringing vitally-needed music education to Boston's school children through the Classroom Cantatas program. Classroom Cantatas is unique in its commitment to creation over imitation. Instead of teaching children to reproduce the music and styles of another time and tradition, Classroom Cantatas gives students the tools to create and express themselves using their own musical voice. Residencies, which extend from November through April, begin with classroom teachers suggesting composition themes that are meaningful to the students and their communities; past topics have included Bullying, Mythology, Identity, and Diversity. During this initial phase, teaching artists give students lessons in music fundamentals, and then in small groups, often inclusive of special education and English language learners, children are guided as they use their newfound vocabulary to create tuneful and memorable songs. This second chapter is an intimate and collaborative process that inspires engagement in the classroom and beyond, as students are challenged to look at the world with nuance, creativity, and confidence by analyzing texts and developing meaning through the language of music. In the final phase of the residency, the students regroup as a unit to rehearse and perform their songs; which as a whole form their classroom cantata. After sharing their pieces with their school communities, the participants from residencies across the city come together for a special day of performance and celebration at the Boston Children’s Museum. The musical scores and performance recordings are preserved in our online library for all to enjoy.

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
Nick Adams, Executive Director
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To download audio files from the Classroom Cantatas Final Performances at the Boston Children's Museum, please go to:
http://www.cantatasingers.org/classroom-cantatas-2019

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I Am Special

I am so very special like a star up in the sky

You'll never find another me no matter how you try.

I am an individual I shine in my own way
and I like being who I am each and ev’ry day.
Rainbow
Nha, Hao, Johnny, Linden, and Dinh with Rafael Natan

Dan-cing sing-ing let's join hands, ev-ery child

un-der-stands, each one's co-lor is just right, to make our world, a rain-bow bright.

If you see a rain-bow take a pic-ture so we know, send it to your

friends at school, and then they'll know, you're real-ly cool Dan-cing sing-ing let's join hands
Rainbow

ev-ery child understands each one's color is just right, to make our world, a

rainbow bright
DANCING IS A LANGUAGE
Adapted from "A Different Language"

Author Unknown
By Bithyah Israel, David, Jason, Lyon, Thanh, Yvonne

Dancing is a language! (clapping)
Dancing is a

language! (clapping)
You can speak, you can speak, you can

speak with every one!
I met a little girl, who
came from another land. I couldn't speak her language, but I

took her by the hand. We danced together, we had so much fun!

Dancing is a language you can speak with everyone. Dancing is a
Dancing is a language!

You can speak, you can speak, you can speak with every one!

If desired, modulate up and repeat chorus!
Bouquet of People

Slow and Funky \( \frac{4}{4} \) = 76

Jaden, Thuy, Willy, Lisa, Thu, with Alex Lee-Clark, Cantata Singers

(Stomp stomp clap, ala We Will Rock You)

Voice

\( \text{Ooo} \)

(Stomp stomp clap, ala We Will Rock You)

To

Voice

\( \text{Ooo} \)

\( \text{Ooo} \)

(End Clap)

Voice

make the world a more beau-ti-ful place

(End clap)

Voice

To make the world a more beau-ti-ful place
We each have a different face.

We each have a different face.

Ooo Ooo Ooo Ooo
Diff'rent features diff'rent hair, some are dark and some are fair.

Eyes of green or brown or blue Skin of diff'rent colors too.
Just like flowers in colored array
Peo-ple make a love-ly bou-quet.

Just like flowers in colored array
Peo-ple make a love-ly bou-quet.

Ooo

Ooo

Ooo

Ooo