

Developing Choral Artistry in Young Singers
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At A Time Like This

Traditional, arr. by A. McKee

The musical score is written on two staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff begins with the tempo marking 'Happily'. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Chords G and (Clap) are indicated above the notes. The lyrics 'At a time like this, at a time like this, at a' are written below the first staff. The second staff starts with a measure rest marked '4'. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes. Chords C and D7 are indicated above the notes. The lyrics 'time like this, Oh! I need to watch the con-duc - tor!' are written below the second staff. The piece ends with a double bar line.

This is a great warm up not only for pitch accuracy and vowels, but also for learning to watch the conductor for cues, cut offs, entrances, and dynamics. This activity provides opportunities for students to experience conducting and watching other conductors. The fermata will be the focus of the conducting experience for students. First, holding the C and cutting off the group with an appropriate gesture (ie., "Wax On" or "Wax Off") . Then bringing the choir back in on the next phrase after whatever time the student conductor wants to allow on the rest.

This is also a cumulative song. Each time your repeat, add a new sound and movement. Repeat all movements twice, except for the final phrase of the song when you'll perform each movement only once. (ex: clap, stamp, wacka, nanu, gobble, boom!)

1. Clap, clap (speaking voice)
2. Stamp, stamp (speaking voice)
3. Wacka-wacka (middle voice)
4. Nanu-nanu (ala Mork/high voice)
5. Gobble-gobble (turkey voice)
6. Boom, boom (loud voice)

I use this form of the song for long rehearsals when choristers need a short break from intense rehearsal periods.

Where Do We Begin? Developing Choral Artistry in Young Singers

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Resource Books for Children's Choir Conductors

Circle of Sound, Doreen Rao, Boosey & Hawkes

Creating Artistry Through Choral Excellence, Henry Leck, Hal Leonard

Educating Young Singers: A Choral Resource for Teachers/Conductors, Mary Goetze, Angela Broeker, & Ruth Boshkoff, GIA

Lifeline for Children's Choral Directors, Jean Ashworth Bartle, Warner/Chappell

How to Lead Children's Choirs, Madeline Bridges, Lifeway

Shared Harmony: Canons and Ostinato Songs for Beginning Part Singing, Shirley W. McRae, Memphis Musicraft

Sound Advice: Becoming A Better Children's Choir Conductor, Jean Ashworth Bartle, Oxford University Press

Teaching the Elementary School Chorus, Linda Swears, Pearson

Sing Together Children, Madeline Bridges, Choristers Guild

We Will Sing! Choral Music Experience for Classroom Choirs, Doreen Rao, Boosey & Hawkes

Working With Young Singers - Volume 1, Melissa Mills, GIA



Some Suggested Choral Repertoire for Young Singers

Composition	Composer/Arranger
<i>A Jubilant Song</i>	Mary Lynn Lightfoot
<i>A New Year Carol</i>	Benjamin Britten
<i>Ah, Poor Bird</i>	Traditional, arr. Shelly Cooper
<i>Alundé Aluia</i>	Margaret C. deGard
<i>Animal Imagination</i>	Tom Shelton
<i>A Spring Morning</i>	Carey, arr. Rao
<i>Al Shlosa D'Varim</i>	Alan Naplan, 2-pt.
<i>Art Thou Troubled?</i>	Handel, arr. Jean Ashworth Bartle
<i>Bandicoot from Menagerie of Songs</i>	Carolyn Jennings
<i>Be The Light</i>	Franklin Willis
<i>Bist Du Bei Mir</i>	Bach, arr. Rao
<i>Bhombela</i>	Traditional Zulu, arr. Will Skaff, ed. Keylock
<i>Break Forth Into Singing</i>	Eugene Butler
<i>Cameroon</i>	Dorothy Masuka, arr. Scott
<i>Chatter With The Angels</i>	Spiritual, arr. Charles Collins
<i>Clouds</i>	Cynthia Gray
<i>Come With Hearts and Voices</i>	Bach, arr. Scott
<i>Corn Song, The</i>	Whittier/ Gustav Holst
<i>Da Pacem Domine</i>	Franck, arr. Goetze 3-pt.
<i>Dance of the Willow</i>	Victoria Ebel-Sabo
<i>Dodi Li</i>	arr. Doreen Rao
<i>Doraji</i>	Traditional, arr. By Audrey Snyder
<i>Dormi, Dormi</i>	Italian Carol, arr. Mary Goetze
<i>Duérmete, Mi Corazón</i>	Bolivian Lullaby, arr. Judith Herrington
<i>Fairest Lady</i>	Nick Page
<i>Farewell to Tarwathie</i>	Shelly Cooper
<i>Fox, The</i>	Traditional English Folk, arr. Richter & Shaeffer
<i>Galop from Solfege Suite</i>	Ken Berg
<i>Good Night</i>	Dimitri Kabalevsky, arr. Rao
<i>Haida</i>	Chassidic Round, Gerber/Leck
<i>Hand Me Down My Silver Trumpet</i>	Spiritual, arr. Bartle
<i>Hodie/Kyrie</i>	Brian Busch
<i>How Beautiful Are The Feet of Them from Messiah</i>	Handel, arr. Rao
<i>How Can I Keep From Singing?</i>	arr. By Denise Bacon
<i>I Will Bring You Brooches</i>	Ruth Boshkoff
<i>Jubilate Deo</i>	Praetorius, arr. Rao
<i>Kookaburra</i>	Traditional, arr. Keylock & Friedersdorf
<i>Little Birch Tree</i>	Russian Folk, arr. By Goetze
<i>Manx Lullaby</i>	Manx Folk Song, arr. Lori-Anne Dolloff
<i>Marienwürchen</i>	Brahms, arr. Goetze
<i>Moon, The</i>	Andy Beck
<i>Moonlight On Snow</i>	Richard E. McKee
<i>Music, Like A Radiant Light</i>	Mark Patterson
<i>My Caterpillar</i>	Marilyn E. Broughton
<i>New Year Carol, A</i>	Britten
<i>O Music</i>	Lowell Mason, arr. Rao
<i>Old John Muddelcombe</i>	W.H. Parry

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<i>Oliver Cromwell</i>	Suffolk Nursery Rhyme, arr. Benjamin Britten
<i>Pie Jesu</i>	Tom Shelton & Marybeth Yoder-White
<i>Pie Jesu from Requiem</i>	Faure, arr. Rao
<i>Riding in the Car on a Rainy Day</i>	Richard E. McKee
<i>Risseldy Rosseldy</i>	Traditional, arr. Jay Broeker
<i>Sally Gardens, The</i>	Irish Tune, arr. Britten
<i>Seasons</i>	Betty Bertaux
<i>Shanty Boys, The</i>	American Lumberjack Song, arr. Ruth Dwyer
<i>She's Like the Swallow</i>	arr. Bartle
<i>Shine On Me</i>	Traditional Spritual, arr. Rollo Dillworth
<i>Shojojee</i>	Japanese Folk Song, arr. B. Wayne Bisbee
<i>Simple Gifts</i>	arr. Aaron Copland
<i>Simply Gregorian</i>	Gregorian Chant, arr. By Donald Moore
<i>Sing a Song of Nonsense</i>	B. Dardess
<i>Skylark and Nightingale</i>	Audrey Snyder
<i>Song That Nature Sings, The</i>	Ruth Elaine Schram
<i>Spin, Spin, Spin</i>	Michael & Jill Gallina
<i>Stopping By Woods On A Snowy Evening</i>	Frost/V. Kistler
<i>Suo-Gan</i>	Welsh Lullaby, arr. Rowley
<i>This Little Light of Mine</i>	arr. Berg
<i>Tongo</i>	Greg Gilpin
<i>Ton Thé</i>	Traditional French, Gilmore, arr. By Brumfield
<i>Tree Toad and Lone Dog, The</i>	Jean Ashworth Bartle
<i>Trolls</i>	Clifford Crawley
<i>Under My Command</i>	Roberto Dias Silva/ Mary Goetze
<i>Velvet Shoes</i>	Wylie/Randall Thompson
<i>We Will Sing For Joy</i>	Scarlatti/ arr. By Helenclair Lowe
<i>When Sweet Winter Comes Again</i>	Cynthia Gray
<i>Who Can Sail?</i>	Swedish Folk Song, arr. Carl-Bertil Agnestig
<i>Yonder Come Day</i>	Georgia Sea Island Song, arr. Tucker