

Celebrations Around the World!

A Global Holiday Songbook featuring 14 unison songs
celebrating holidays in 13 countries

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Recording Orchestrated and Produced by Alan Billingsley

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Cover illustration: Charles Grace
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ISBN 0-7390-1714-4 (Book)
ISBN 0-7390-1715-2 (CD)
ISBN 0-7390-1716-0 (Book/CD Kit)

PERFORMANCE NOTES

CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD! is designed to teach young singers about other cultures, customs, languages and music. Use it to develop interdisciplinary study:

- Invite a geography teacher to talk about the different countries that are featured, the locations, hemispheres, longitudes and latitudes, major cities, topography, imports and exports, major crops, etc.
- Invite a language specialist to teach a few important words in each country's native language: yes, no, hello, goodbye, bathroom, count from 1-10, please, thank you, etc.
- Invite an art teacher to help students draw a map of the country, the flag, or even children wearing typical costumes of the country. Or have the teacher display art, crafts and folk art or works by famous artists from the country. Plan an art project or exhibit based on the particular art styles of the country or a specific region.
- Invite a history teacher to talk about past and recent developments in the country's politics, borders, rulers, etc.
- Invite a chef to talk about foods and perhaps cook a typical dish from each country.
- Invite a banker to show your students currency from each country and how it compares to your currency.
- Invite an ethno-musicologist to demonstrate musical instruments or play examples of folk music from each country.
- Invite a music specialist to talk about and play examples of the music of famous composers from each country.
- Invite a person from your community who was born in or lived in the country you are studying to come in and speak with your class. Prepare questions on cards.
- Invite a zoologist to talk about each country's native animals and what they eat.
- Invite a meteorologist to talk about each country's climate and typical weather patterns.
- Invite a travel agent to talk about the highlights of each country, things to see and do, how to get there from here. Maybe he/she can collect some travel posters for your hallways and classrooms.

Plan a CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD! International Day:

Each classroom can “become a country,” with small groups of students in charge of different stations around the room:

map	major cities
flag	costumes
foods	simple words/favorite expressions
currency	things to see and do
folk dances	climate

Have each student make a passport in art class. Then have an International Day — half of your class travels to the other classrooms, the other half stays to “man their stations” in your classroom. The next day, trade positions. The teacher stamps the passport after each student visitor has made his/her way around the classroom.

Invite parents and guardians in for an International Evening. Students should make a passport for each person attending. Serve fun finger foods in each room, reflecting the country’s cuisine. Meet in a common area to sing some of the songs, let the parents travel again for a while, sing some more songs. Or ring the school bell to have parents move to the next room/country, children sing their song right in their classroom to start off or end each period.

Create a CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD! International Program:

In order to make **CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD!** into a concert program, teachers may wish to incorporate the featured “About this Holiday” information as student readings before each song. These readings can be divided so more students can participate. Feel free to add or subtract countries as needed.



TITLE SONG

1. CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD!*

Words and Music by
SALLY K. ALBRECHT

With a driving beat (♩ = ca. 132)

PIANO

f (detached)

Csus4 C Csus4 C

The piano introduction consists of four measures in 4/4 time. The first two measures are marked with a forte *f* dynamic and a detached articulation. The first measure has a Csus4 chord, and the second has a C chord. The last two measures also have Csus4 and C chords respectively. The right hand plays chords in the upper register, while the left hand plays a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes.

5

f

Cel - e - bra - tions a - round the world. Come, join us and

F F/A B♭ C/B♭ F/A Gm7

This system contains the first line of the song, starting at measure 5. The vocal line begins with a forte *f* dynamic. The piano accompaniment features chords in the right hand and a rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. The lyrics are: "Cel - e - bra - tions a - round the world. Come, join us and".

8

(handclaps)

cel - e - brate! Cel - e - bra - tions a - round the world.

B♭/C Csus4 C F F/A B♭ C/B♭ F/A

This system contains the second line of the song, starting at measure 8. The vocal line includes a handclap symbol. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a rhythmic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "cel - e - brate! Cel - e - bra - tions a - round the world.".

*Use this title song as an opener or closer if assembling a program.

2. THANKSGIVING

Words and Music by
SALLY K. ALBRECHT

About this Holiday...

The "First Thanksgiving" in 1621 was actually a traditional English harvest festival. The Pilgrims invited a few helpful *Wampanoag* (wahm-pah-noh-ahg) Indians, and told them to bring their families along for the three-day feast. The Pilgrims planned to negotiate a treaty to secure the lands on the Plymouth Plantation. The Indians brought their extended families, over 90 people, and much of the food. Over 240 years later, in 1863, Abraham Lincoln proclaimed *Thanksgiving* as an annual event to be held on the fourth Thursday in November.

Light swing (♩ = ca. 120) (♩♩ = ♩³) *mf* 3

1. The year was six - teen - twen - ty - one, -
2. The Wam - pa - no - ag* In - dian tribe, -
A D A

4
Thanks - giv - ing was be - gun. — Oh, yes, the
with fam - 'ly by their side, — had come as
D A

7
Pil - grims and the In - di - ans — came to - geth - er to have some fun. —
friends to sign a trea - ty, — for the land they would di - vide. —
D A Bm/E A E A E

*Wahm-pah-noh-ahg

CANADA

3. REMEMBRANCE DAY

Words and Music by
SALLY K. ALBRECHT

About this Holiday...

Remembrance Day is celebrated each year in Canada to commemorate the end of World War I in 1918. In Canada, as well as other countries, it is observed with two minutes of silence at 11:00 a.m. on the 11th day of November, the 11th month. Since the early 1920's, red paper poppies have been sold and worn in memory of all who served during wartime. These poppies help raise funds for children in war-torn countries and to support war veterans and amputees.

Pensively (♩ = ca. 92) *mp* 3

1. Re - mem - ber _____ to wear a
2. Re - mem - ber _____ to wear a

PIANO *mp*

4

pop - py on Re - mem - brance Day. _____
pop - py on Re - mem - brance Day. _____

Em C6 C

Detailed description: This is a musical score for the song 'Remembrance Day'. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The tempo is 'Pensively' with a quarter note equal to approximately 92 beats per minute. The dynamics are marked 'mp' (mezzo-piano). The score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part is written in grand staff notation. The first system shows the beginning of the piece, with a key signature change to G major and a 4/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment starts with a G chord. The vocal line begins with a rest, followed by the lyrics '1. Re - mem - ber _____ to wear a' and '2. Re - mem - ber _____ to wear a'. The second system continues the piano accompaniment and the vocal line. The piano part includes chords Em, C6, and C. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'pop - py on Re - mem - brance Day. _____' and 'pop - py on Re - mem - brance Day. _____'. The score is numbered '4' at the start of the second system.

8. RAMADAN*

Words and Music by
LOIS BROWNSEY and
MARTI LUNN LANTZ

About this Holiday...

Ramadan is a Muslim holiday celebrated in the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, which is a lunar calendar consisting of 354 days. The Muslim faith is based on the Five Pillars of Islam:

1. The belief in Allah, one God,
2. Prayer,
3. Giving to the poor and helping others,
4. Fasting,
5. Making a pilgrimage to Mecca, located near the Red Sea in Saudi Arabia. Fasting takes place each day from sunrise to sunset for 29 days.

Smoothly (♩ = ca. 112)

DRUMS†

VOICE

(Recorder, flute or oboe may double melody through m. 6)

5

7 *mp*

1. Do not eat or drink, un -
2. Fast - ing is the way, and

9

til the sun goes down. When you bow and pray, your
it takes dis - ci - pline. Sun - rise to sun - set, the

13

face must touch the ground. Go - ing
spir - it glows with - in. Twen - ty - nine

16

to the mosque: it's where the fam - 'ly prays, or
sa - cred days when ev - 'ry - one takes a part. It's

*Rah-meh-dahn

†Drum rhythm may also be played by students tapping on their legs.

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