

WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN, Carlson
SBMP 1817

SATB
piano



We've Only Just Begun

by
Matt Carlson



Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Inc.

sbmp.com



About the composer

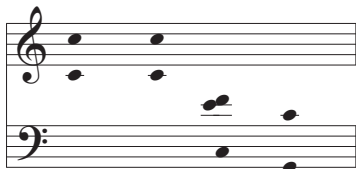
Matt Carlson (b. 1991) is an engaging and energetic conductor, teacher, composer, and vocalist. He taught in the Pennsylvania public schools for eleven years and has conducted choirs from elementary through college ages. He draws on this experience to compose works that are both musically enriching and accessible to singers of all ability levels. His music has been commissioned by school, community, and collegiate choirs and programmed for choral festivals across the nation.

Website: mattcarlson.co

Composer Notes

We've Only Just Begun was inspired by the singers of Gettysburg Children's Choir, and their reflections on why singing in a choir is so important. Students value the bond that they form with each other through singing. They feel a deep sense of belonging with both their peers and their audience, and they appreciate the opportunity to use music to connect with other people and cultures. Core values of empathy, diversity, and social justice also emerged from their words. As one student wrote, "what we're singing isn't just a pretty song. It's an important message." Students in this choir use their voices to make positive change in our world. This piece is dedicated to them, to all that they have done, and all that they will do. They have only just begun.

Ranges



S A T B



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We've Only Just Begun

Matt Carlson

Comforting, optimistic ♩ = 90

S
A

T
B

Piano

mf

So we're fi - nal-ly ___ to -

So we're fi - nal-ly ___ to -

mf

mf

Pedal harmonically throughout

3

geth - er, Back to- geth - er in one ___

geth - er, Back to- geth - er in one ___

mp

mf

5

___ place. ___

___ place. ___

And it feels ___ it's been for -

And it feels ___ it's been for -

mp

mf

mf

7 *mp* *mf*
ev - er Since we have shared a space...
ev - er Since we have shared a space...
p

9 *p* *mf*
Af - ter all that we have
Af - ter all that we have
mf *p* *mf*

11 *mp* *mf*
been through, Af - ter all that came be -
been through, Af - ter all that came be -
p

13 *mp* *mf*

fore, What a joy— it is to

fore, What a joy— it is to

mf

15 *f* *mf*

see— you, See you walk - ing through the

see— you, See you walk - ing through the

mf

17 *mp* *p*

door. Though the road that we have

door. Though the road that we have

mp *p*

mf *p*

20 *mf* *p*

trav - eled twists and turns, We re -

trav - eled twists and turns, We re -

mf *p*

23 *mf* *poco rit.*

mem - ber all the les - sons we have learned.

mem - ber all the les - sons have learned.

mf

26 *a tempo* *mp* *f*

We are strong e - nough. We're o - rig - i - nal. We are

We are strong e - nough. We're o - rig - i - nal. We are

p *mf*

29

ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing beau - ti - ful. When our

ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing beau - ti - ful. When our

31

voic - es rise and our hearts are one, We can

voic - es rise and our hearts are one, We can

mf

33

share our sto - ry, shin - ing like the sun.

share our sto - ry, shin - ing like the sun.

p

35

And we've on - ly just be-gun. —

And we've on - ly just be-gun. —

mp *mf*

37

mf *mp*

Close your eyes_ and I will guid you.

will

mf *mp*

PREVIEW

39

mf *mp*

Let the mu - sic lead the way.

guide the way,

mf *mp*

41

mf *mp*

S
May our har - mo-nies re - mind you

mf *mp*

A
May our har - mo-nies re - mind you

mf *mp*

T
May our har - mo-nies re - mind you

mf *mp*

B
May our har - mo-nies re - mind you

p *mf* *mp*

PREVIEW

43

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45 *p*

We've been wait - ing for this mo - ment for so

p

here to stay. wait - ing for this mo - ment for so,

p

here to stay. wait - ing for this mo - ment for so

p

here to stay. wait - ing for this mo - ment for so

48 *mf*

long. All our dif - ferent voic - es

mf *p*

we've wait - ed for so long, dif - ferent voic - es

mf *p*

long. dif - ferent voic - es

mf *p*

long. dif - ferent voic - es

51

f

gath - ered in one song. We are

f

gath - ered in one song. We are

f

gath - ered in one song. We are

f

gath - ered in one song. We are

mf

54

strong e - nough. We're o - rig - i - nal. We are

strong e - nough. We're o - rig - i - nal. We are

strong e - nough. We're o - rig - i - nal. We are

strong e - nough. We're o - rig - i - nal. We are

f

56

ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing beau - ti - ful. When our

ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing beau - ti - ful. When our

ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing beau - ti - ful. When our

ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing beau - ti - ful. When our

58

voic - es rise and our hearts are one we can

voic - es rise and our hearts are one we can

voic - es rise and our hearts are one we can

voic - es rise and our hearts are one we can

mf

60

share our sto - ry, shin - ing like the sun.

share our sto - ry, shin - ing like the sun.

share our sto - ry, shin - ing like the sun.

share our sto - ry, shin - ing like the sun.

share our sto - ry, shin - ing like the sun.

p

62

And we've on - ly just be-gun. To make new mem - o - ries,...

And we've on - ly just be-gun. To make new mem - o - ries,...

And we've on - ly just be-gun. To make new mem - o - ries,...

And we've on - ly just be-gun. To make new mem - o - ries,...

And we've on - ly just be-gun. To make new mem - o - ries,...

mp *mp* *mp* *mp*

mp *mf* *p*

64

mf

To cel - e - brate the peo - ple who ___ have shown ___ us how ___ to lead..

mf

To cel - e - brate the peo - ple who ___ have shown ___ us how ___ to lead..

mf

To cel - e - brate the peo - ple who ___ have shown ___ us how ___ to lead..

mf

To cel - e - brate the peo - ple who ___ have shown ___ us how ___ to lead..

mp

mf

66

mp

We've just be-gun ___ to prac - tice em - pa-thy, -

mp

We've just be-gun ___ to prac - tice em - pa-thy, -

mp

We've just be-gun ___ to prac - tice em - pa-thy, -

mp

We've just be-gun ___ to prac - tice em - pa-thy, -

p

p

68

To lis - ten to the world and all the dif - ferent things it needs...

To lis - ten to the world and all the dif - ferent things it needs...

To lis - ten to the world and all the dif - ferent things it needs...

To lis - ten to the world and all the dif - ferent things it needs...

mp *mf*

70

It takes all of us to make our mes - sage heard.

It takes all of us to make our mes - sage heard.

It takes all of us to make our mes - sage heard.

It takes all of us to make our mes - sage heard.

mp

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74 *mp*

So we're sing - ing for who - ev - er out there needs to hear these

mp

So we're sing - ing for who - ev - er out there needs to hear these

mp

So we're sing - ing for who - ev - er out there needs to hear these

mp

So we're sing - ing for who - ev - er out there needs to hear these

p

77 *rit.* *mf* **To the audience** ♩ = 80 *mp*

words: You are strong e - nough. You're o -

mf *mp*

words: You are strong e - nough. You're o -

mf *mp*

words: You are strong e - nough. You're o -

mf *mp*

words: You are strong e - nough. You're o -

mp *p* *mp*

poco accel.

80

rig - i - nal. You are ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing

rig - i - nal. You are ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing

rig - i - nal. You are ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing

rig - i - nal. You are ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing

Tempo I, full and vibrant $\text{♩} = 90$

82

f beau - ti - ful. When our voic - es rise and our hearts are one, We can

f beau - ti - ful. When our voic - es rise and our hearts are one, We can

f beau - ti - ful. When our voic - es rise and our hearts are one, We can

f beau - ti - ful. When our voic - es rise and our hearts are one, We can

mf *f* *mf*

85

share our sto - ry, shin-ing like the sun. We are strong e - nough. We're o -

share our sto - ry, shin-ing like the sun. We are strong e - nough. We're o -

share our sto - ry, shin-ing like the sun. We are strong e - nough. We're o -

share our sto - ry, shin-ing like the sun. We are strong e - nough. We're o -

88

rig - i - nal. We are ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing

rig - i - nal. We are ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing

rig - i - nal. We are ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing

rig - i - nal. We are ca - pa - ble of mak - ing some - thing

90

beau-ti-ful. When our voices rise and our hearts are one we can

beau-ti-ful. When our voices rise and our hearts are one we can

beau-ti-ful. When our voices rise and our hearts are one we can

beau-ti-ful. When our voices rise and our hearts are one we can

93

share our story, shining like the sun. Be a beacon for the hope of days to come...

share our story, shining like the sun. Be a beacon for the hope of days to come...

share our story, shining like the sun. Be a beacon for the hope of days to come...

share our story, shining like the sun. Be a beacon for the hope of days to come...

mf *p* *mf* (b)



molto rit.

96

We will make a bet-ter world for eve-ry-one. And we've

We will make a bet-ter world for eve-ry-one. And we've

We will make a bet-ter world for eve-ry-one. And we've

We will make a bet-ter world for eve-ry-one. And we've

p *mf* *mp*

PREVIEW

99

on - ly just be-gun. *rit.*

on - ly just be-gun.

on - ly just be-gun.

on - ly just be-gun.

on - ly just be-gun.

p *mf*