

HANDS ARE KNOCKIN', Pederson
SBMP 1802

Two-Part
piano, opt. djembe

Hands Are Knockin'

 by Kyle Pederson



Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Inc.

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About the composer

Kyle Pederson [b. 1971] is a Minneapolis-based composer, lyricist, pianist, and educator. He enjoys working at the intersection of the sacred and secular, and his lyrics and music invite the choir and audience to be agents of hope, grace, and compassion in the world. Kyle was awarded the American Prize in Choral Composition in 2019, and the ACDA Genesis Prize in 2020. Kyle's music has been commissioned, performed, and recorded by school, community, church, festival and professional choirs around the world. Kyle has an undergraduate degree from Augustana University, a Masters Degree in Education from University of St. Thomas, and an MFA in Music Composition from Vermont College of Fine Art. Additional information and links to Kyle's music can be found at KylePederson.com.

Composer notes

A Blessing of the Hands ceremony prior to the start of the school year proved to be a moving experience bringing to light the incredible power of our hands—hands that can heal, support, comfort, and give, and also hands that can just as easily hurt or push away. It is my hope that this piece might make those who experience it become more deeply committed to using their hands to offer hope and wholeness in the world.

About the piece

Hands are Knockin' was born from a collaborative effort with the Kindred Chamber Choir and their director, Melanie Brink, and staff members of the The American International School of Muscat (TAISM). The piece was commissioned to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the school's opening, and was premiered at the 16th annual TAISM Festival of Choirs in the Sultanate of Oman. Because the school and festival are nestled in the heart of the Middle East in Oman, where Arabic is the official language, it seemed appropriate to incorporate several beautiful Arabic phrases throughout. Alhamdulillah is a very common expression in Arabic and, like alleluia, used frequently to verbalize joy or gratitude in many situations. The juxtaposition of English and Arabic text throughout the piece is intended to reinforce the universality of the message—an invitation to all to open our minds, hearts and hands to each other.

Performance notes

The pianist should feel free to modify the accompaniment to suit their comfort/ability level. The most important thing throughout the piece is keeping the LH rhythm solid. Don't worry if you don't play all the running sixteenth notes in the RH exactly as written. The RH can be chorded, or notes can be omitted as needed. Play with confidence to support the singers.

- The piano and drum parts are meant as a guide.
The pianist and drummer are encouraged to add their personalities throughout.
- The drum can be a djembe or cajon or something similar.
- Inclusive text modifications:
Printed Text: Brother, will you let them in? Sister, will you let them in?
Option 1: Can you, can you let them in? Will you, will you let them in?
Option 2: Hear them...will you let them in? See them...will you let them in?

Translation

Naftahhu athhanana, alhamdulillah
We open our minds, thanks to God (Alleluia)

Naftahhu qulubana, alhamdulillah
We open our hearts, thanks to God (Alleluia)

Namuddu aydeeyana, alhamdulillah
We reach out our hands, thanks to God (Alleluia)

Pronunciation

- a = ah
- u = oo as in too
- i = i as in little
- ay rhymes with day
- ee rhymes with see



In celebration of the 20th anniversary of The American International School of Muscat opening its doors in the Sultanate of Oman

Hands Are Knockin'

Kyle Pederson

With joy! ♩ = 105-110

Djembe* (optional) $\frac{4}{4}$ *mf*

3 *rit.*

A *Freely* ♩ = 60-65

Opt. Solo or Small Group (Part 2)

5 *mf*

2 *mf* *opt. a cappella to m. 9*

Naf-tah-hu ath-ha - na-na, al - ham-du - lil - lah! *rit.*

Opt. Solo or Small Group (Part 3)

7 *mf* *accel.*

1 *mf* *accel.*

2 *mp*

Naf-tah-hu qu-lu - ba-na, al - ham-du - lil - lah! *rit.*

*If no Djembe is present, begin in m. 5.

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B With joy! ♩ = 105-110

9 (Tutti) *f*

Naf - ta - hu ath - ha - na - na, _____ al - ham - du - lil - lah! _____

(Tutti) *f*

Naf - ta - hu ath - ha - na - na, _____ al - ham - du - lil - lah! _____

(play) *f*

f

11

Naf - ta - hu qu - lu - ba - na, _____ al - ham - du - lil - lah! _____

Naf - ta - hu qu - lu - ba - na, _____ al - ham - du - lil - lah! _____

13

Na-mud-du ay-dee - ya-na, al - ham-du - lil - lah!

Na-mud-du ay-dee - ya-na, al - ham-du - lil - lah!

15

Na-mud-du ay-dee - ya-na, al - ham-du - lil - lah! Na na

Na-mud-du ay-dee - ya-na, al - ham-du - lil - lah! Na na

17

na na na na na na na na na, al - ham - du - lil - lah! ___ Na na

na na na na na na na na na, al - ham - du - lil - lah! ___ Na na

19

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C

21

Al-ham-du-lil-lah!

mp

Naf-tah-hu ath-ha - na-na, al - ham - du - lil - lah!

mp

23

Al-ham-du-lil-lah!

mp

Naf-tah-hu qu-lu - ba-na, al-ham-du - lil-lah!

D

26

p

Hands are__ knock - in', hands are knock - in',__ hands__ are knock-in',

p light improvisation in piano
accompaniment

light knocking sound,
closer to rim of drum

mp

28

Hands are__ knock - in', hands are knock - in',__ hands__ are knock-in',

30

Musical score for measures 30-31. The score is in G minor (two flats) and 4/4 time. It features a vocal line, a piano accompaniment, and a bass line. The vocal line begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "Broth - er, will you let them in?__ Sis - ter, will you let them in?__".

32

Musical score for measures 32-33. The score continues in G minor and 4/4 time. The vocal line concludes with the lyrics: "Broth - er, will you let them in?_ Sis - ter, will you let them in? ____". The piano accompaniment and bass line provide harmonic support. The word *ad lib. fill* is written below the bass line at the end of the section.

PREVIEW

E

35

mf Al-ham-du-lil-lah!

mf Na-mud-du ay-dee - ya-na, al - ham-du - lil - lah!

mf

37

f Al-ham-du-lil-lah! Na na

f Na-mud-du ay-dee - ya-na, al - ham-du - lil - lah, Na na

f

39

na na na na na na na na na, al-ham-du - lil - lah! ___ Na na

na na na na na na na na na, al-ham-du - lil - lah! ___ Na na

f

f

41

na na na na na na na na na, al-ham-du-lil - lah! ___

na na na na na na na na na, al-ham-du-lil - lah! ___

F

44

p

Hands are__ knock - in', hands are knock - in',__ hands__ are knock-in',

p *light improvisation in piano accompaniment*

mp

46

hands are__ knock - in', hands are knock - in',__ hands__ are knock-in',

48 *mp*

Hands are__ knock - in', hands are knock - in',__ hands__ are knock-in',

mp

Broth - er, will you let them in?__ Sis - ter, will you let them in?__

mp

50

hands are__ knock - in', hands are knock - in',__ hands__ are knock - in',

Broth - er, will you let them in?__ Sis - ter, will you let them in?__

52 *mf*

Hands are__ knock - in', hands are knock - in',__ hands__ are knock-in',

mf

Broth - er, will you let them in?__ Sis - ter, will you let them in?__

mf

54

hands are__ knock - in', hands are knock - in',__ hands__ are knock - in',

Broth - er, will you let them in?__ Sis - ter, will you let them in?__

56

right hand forcefully knocks into open left hand

G

f

Na-mud-du ay-dee - ya-na, ___ al-

right hand forcefully knocks into open left hand

f

Na-mud-du ay-dee - ya-na, ___ al-

ff

f

58

ham-du - lil - lah, al-ham-du - lil - lah!

Na-mud-du ay-dee - ya-na, ___ al-

ham-du - lil - lah! ___

Na-mud-du ay-dee - ya-na, ___ al-

PREVIEW

60

ham-du - lil - lah! al - ham-du - lil - lah! Na-na - na na na na na na na na na, al-

ham-du - lil - lah! _____ Na-na - na na na na na na na na na, al-

62

ham-du - lil - lah! _____ Na na na na na na na na na na na na na, al-

ham-du - lil - lah! _____ Na na na na na na na na na na na na na, al-

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[H]

64 Optional Descant (solo or a few voices) *ff*

Na - mud - du ay -

1 ham - du - lil - lah! Na na na na na na na na na, al-

2 ham - du - lil - lah! Na na na na na na na na na, al-

66

dee - ya - na. Na - mud - du ay -

1 ham - du - lil - lah! Na na na na na na na na na, al-

2 ham - du - lil - lah! Na na na na na na na na na, al-

68

de - ya - na! Na - mud - du ay -

ham - du - lil - lah! Na na na na na na na na na na na na, al-

ham - du - lil - lah! Na na na na na na na na na na na na, al-

70

de - ya - na! Na - mud - du ay -

ham - du - lil - lah! Na na na na na na na na na na na na, al-

ham - du - lil - lah! Na na na na na na na na na na na na, al-

72

End Descant I

de - ee - ya - na!

ham - du - lil - lah! Na-mud-du ay - dee - ya-na!

ham - du - lil - lah! Na-mud-du ay - dee - ya-na!

74

1 Na-mud-du, ay - dee-ya-na! Al - ham-du-lil - lah!

2 Na-mud-du, ay - dee-ya-na! Al - ham-du-lil - lah!

