Notes from the Arranger

I originally wrote this arrangement of “Christmas Time is Here” for Pacific Chorale’s annual “Tis the Season” Holiday concert. We then included this arrangement on our “Christmas Time is Here” CD, released on the Gothic Label. Since then, it has fallen into the category of “favorites” for our holiday audiences, so we have performed it many times.

The original arrangement is scored for choir, brass, percussion, harp, piano and double bass. The full score and parts of the original version are now being made available through this publication. Also, as part of this publication, I have created a new piano-vocal score so that choirs can also perform the piece successfully with piano accompaniment alone.

I have notated specific parts of the soprano line as solo lines. I originally found it very effective to use a boy soprano on these short solo lines. However, this could also be done by a soprano soloist within the ranks of your choir, or by the whole soprano section.

A special note regarding the piano part:
You will find that the piano part is written at times in a bold format, and at other times in a smaller note format. The sections which are “piano solo” in the original orchestral version are in bold. In the sections that are written in smaller note format, the pianist should tacet when performing the orchestral version. For performances without orchestra, the pianist will play the full score with the exception of bars 46-52, which should be sung a cappella.

Finally, I hope you enjoy this arrangement, and that it puts a holiday smile on the faces of your choir and your holiday audiences. John Alexander

Artistic Director of Pacific Chorale since 1972, John Alexander is one of America’s most respected choral conductors. His inspired leadership both on the podium and as an advocate for the advancement of the choral art has garnered national and international admiration and acclaim.

Alexander’s long and distinguished career has encompassed conducting hundreds of choral and orchestral performances nationally and in 27 countries around the globe. He has prepared choruses for many of the world’s most outstanding orchestral conductors.

He is a board member and former president of Chorus America, the service organization for choruses in North America. Alexander also has served on artistic review panels for the National Endowment for the Arts, the California Arts Council, and the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

Alexander retired in spring 2006 from his position as Director of Choral Studies at California State University, Fullerton, having been awarded the honor of Professor Emeritus. From 1970 to 1996, he held the position of Director of Choral Studies at California State University, Northridge.

He is in demand as a teacher, clinician, and adjudicator in festivals, seminars and workshops across the United States. In 2003, Chorus America honored him with the establishment of the “John Alexander Conducting Faculty Chair” for their national conducting workshops.

Alexander is a composer of numerous works and has two choral series, one with Pavane Publishing and another with Hinshaw Music.
from A Charlie Brown Christmas

Christmas Time Is Here

Lee Mendelson

Vince Guaraldi

Arranged by John Alexander

\[
\text{Piano} \\
\begin{array}{c}
1 \quad j = 66 \\
2 \\
3 \\
4 \\
5 \quad mf \\
6 \\
7 \\
8 \\
9 \\
10 \\
11 \\
12 \\
13 \quad mp \\
14 \\
15 \\
16 \\
\end{array}
\]

(solo voice, small group or all sopranos)

\[
\begin{array}{c}
5 \\
6 \\
7 \\
8 \\
9 \\
10 \\
11 \\
12 \\
13 \quad mp \\
14 \\
15 \\
16 \\
\end{array}
\]

Fun for all that children call their favorite time of year.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
9 \\
10 \\
11 \\
12 \\
13 \quad mp \\
14 \\
15 \\
16 \\
\end{array}
\]

Snowflakes in the air, carols everywhere.

* Instrumental Ensemble Full Score and Parts (Brass, Percussion, Harp and Double Bass) are available separately, P9075

P1532

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Ah

Old-en times and an cien rymes of love and dreams to share.

Old-en times and an cien rymes of love and dreams to share

Brass/Perc.

Sleigh bells in the air, beauty ev'rywhere.
Sleigh bells in the air, beauty ev'rywhere.
Sleigh bells in the air, beauty ev'rywhere.
Sleigh bells in the air, beauty ev'rywhere.
Yuletide by the fireside and joyful memories there.

Ah

Christmas time is here, we'll be drawing near.

Oh, that we could always see such spirit through the year.
Christ-mas time is here, we'll be draw-ing near.

Christ-mas time is here, we'll be draw-ing near.

Christ-mas time is here, we'll be draw-ing near.

a cappella - piano for rehearsal only

Oh that we could see the spir-it through the year.

Oh, that we could al-ways see such spir-it through the year.

Oh, to see such spir-it through the year. end a cappella section
Christmas time is here.