

CREATING INDEPENDENT CHORAL SINGERS

Arkansas ACDA July 18, 2016

I. Establish Pitch Matching: VOICING THE MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR

ASK THEM QUESTIONS THEY CAN ANSWER (Respect Ranges)

Cooper placement adaptation for boys and girls: (jingle bells)

LOW: Isolate low octave, D major (accurate pitch)

HIGH: Isolate “unchanged”, G major (accurate pitch)

MIDDLE: Isolate accurate middle range singers, A major

OTHERS: Isolate best pitches for non-accurate pitch matchers (small groups)

GIRLS: Two equal groups of voices (to avoid specialists in belting and chest voice)

YOU ARE NOW READY TO REHEARSE YOUR STUDENTS ON
VOCALLY APPROPRIATE LITERATURE: SATB, HML (boys), or SSA

BUILDING INDEPENDENCE (while still matching pitch!)

1. Sing a melody (middle school mixed choirs: find phrases that fit each section, adapt treble music, sing as SATB)
2. Add an ostinato (rhythmic, melodic)
3. Use partner songs
4. Add a descant
5. Sing chord roots
6. Add vocal chording, as possible (sample I IV V, below)

MM// FF// MM// RR//

SS// LL// SS// SS//

DD// DD// DD// TT//

7. Sing phrases or sections of a round

8. Sing rounds and canons
9. Sing "Transition" pieces (elements from above appear in score)
Ostinato, Descant, Partner Song, Canonic entrances, Call/Response, etc.
10. Sing Part Songs---2-4 voices (time share, if boys on SAB parts)

Sample Unison Song for Pitch Matching: PHRASE METHOD

I WANNA GO HOME

I WAN-NA GO HOME I WAN-NA GO HOME I WAN-NA LEAVE THIS SCHOOL MY PEN-CIL PAP-ER AND BOOKS I'M
 5 TIRE D OF IT ALL I'M TIRE D OF IT ALL I'M TIRE D OF STU-DYIN' REC I-TA-TION QUEST-ION ING LOOKS I
 9 WANT MY V I-POD I WANT MY T. V. I WANT TO GET A-WAY TO GET A-WAY FROM IT ALL!

Resources

- Abrahams & Head. *Teaching Music through Performance in Middle School Choir*. GIA
- Choksy, Lois. *The Kodaly Context*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1981.
- Herrington, Judith and Clayton Miller. *Lame Brain Games*. Hal Leonard, 08301578
- Holt & Jordan. *The School Choral Program*. Chicago: GIA
- Kemp, Helen. *Where in the world*. Augsburg Press, ISBN 0-8006-4800-5.

Independent Singing in the Choral Rehearsal

LITERATURE EXAMPLES FOR DEVELOPING TREBLE SINGERS

Unison: Building Tone

Britten, Benjamin. The birds. Boosey & Hawkes, OCTB6524, unison
 Goetze, Mary (arr.) The little birch tree. Boosey & Hawkes, 6130, unison, with flute.
 Handel, George Frederick. (arr. 3). Care selve. Plymouth Music Co. HL-506.
 Handel, Georg Friedrich. Where'er you walk. E.C. Schirmer #426,unison.
 Handel, G.F. (ed. Bartle). Art thou troubled? Hinshaw, HMC1431, unison, strings.
 Leck, Henry, ed. Have you seen but the white lily grow. Ply. Music Co., HL-508, unison
 Schram, Ruth. The song that nature sings. BriLee, BL109, unison
 Thiman, Eric. The path to the moon. Boosey & Hawkes, 6114, unison
 Thompson, Randall. Velvet shoes. E.C. Schirmer, 2526, unison (2)
 Vaughan Williams, Ralph. Orpheus with his lute. Oxford Press, No. 55.140. unison.

Unison Language Pieces:

Bach, J.S. (Bartle). Bist du bei mir. Gordon V. Thompson, VG-183, unison
 Brahms, Johannes (Goetze). Marienwürmchen. Boosey & Hawkes, OCTB6521 unison
 Goetze, Mary (arr.) Dormi, dormi. Boosey & Hawkes, 6128, unison.
 Schubert, Franz (ed. Leck). Heidenroslein, Plymouth Music Company, HL-500.
 Schubert, Franz (ed. Rao). To music. Boosey & Hawkes, OCTB6366.

Ostinato songs

Billings, William. When Jesus wept.
 Chass, Blanche. Hanerot halalu. Mark Foster, MF 877.
 Leavitt, John, arr. Simple gifts. CPP Belwin SV9227.
 Silvey, Philip, arr. Nine Hundred Miles. SBMP 438

Partner Songs:

Goetze, arr. Old joe clark. Boosey & Hawkes, 6125, 3-pt treble
 Horman, John. Plenty good room. Somerset Press, SP 815
 Page, Sue Ellen. My lord, what a morning. Hinshaw, HMC-266. SSA
 Schuman, William. The orchestra song. G. Schirmer, No. 9212,6 pt.
 Wagner, Douglas E. Seasoned Spirituals. (collections)

Descants:

Bertaux, Betty (arr.). The may day carol. Boosey & Hawkes, OCTB6358. (3 pt piece).
 Bertaux, Betty (arr.). To music. Boosey & Hawkes, OCTB6573 (optional string parts).
 Brumfield, Susan, arr. Salangadou (Creole Folk Song). Plymouth, HL-253. 2-4 pts)
 Holst, Gustav. The corn song. E.C. Schirmer, No. 1898.
 Schram, Ruth Elaine, arr. Peace like a river. BriLee BL175

Transitions to 2 part songs--easy harmony success:

Cavalier, Debbie, arr. Take time in life. Carl Fischer CM8636
 DeCormier, Robert, arr. The erie canal. Alfred, 52073, 2 part.
 Herrington and Glick. Sleep, my little one (duermete, niño) Pavane Publishing, P1047.
 Kistler, Vera. Stopping by woods on a snowy evening. CPP Belwin SV9106

Leck, Henry (Nyberg, Anders). Freedom is coming. Walton, W1149. 3 part
 McRae, Shirley. Old dan tucker. Plymouth, 3 pt., percussion, flute
 Miller, Cristi Cary, arr. Tinga Layo. Hal Leonard 08551447
 Rickards, Steven. Come, let us sing to the lord. CPP Belwin, GCMR3565, 2 part
 Rogers, Wayland. O give thanks. Boosey & Hawkes M-051-47087-7
 Schram, Ruth. All my trials. BriLee BL167 unison, 2 part
 Strang, Timothy. Answer to a child's question. Santa Barbara Music SBMP 98
 Vance, Margaret (arr.). The gypsy rover. G. Schirmer, 12511.
 Varner, Joan. We are the dreamers. Alliance AMP 0382

Canons/Rounds/Polyphony:

Boyce, William. Alleluia round. G.I.A. Publications, Inc., G-2494. 3 voice canon with instr.
 Franck, Melchior (Goetze). Da pacem domine. Boosey & Hawkes, OCTB6187, 4 pt
 Praetorius, Michael (DePue, arr). Sing dem herrn. CPP Belwin, SV8640, 2-5 parts

Part Songs:

Artman, Ruth. All the pretty little horses. Studio, SV7932, 2 part
 Baker, Barbara (arr.). The storm is passing over. Boosey Hawkes, OCTB6841
 Harper, John. Psalm 150. Oxford Press 40-030. 2 part, with organ
 Leck, Henry, arr. South african suite. Plymouth, HL-200. 3-4 parts
 Peterson, Oscar. Hymn to freedom. Walton Music, WW1135, 3 part

LITERATURE EXAMPLES FOR DEVELOPING MIXED SINGERS

Unison (Skill Building)

[Phrase method] Get-Away-From-It-All Blues, AND Appropriate Unison Repertoire (see treble lists)

Ostinato Songs

“Camp Songs” (Saturday Night, I Love the Mountains, Ifca’s Castle, etc.)

SOLFEGE

Descant Songs

Guthrie. W. (arr. Rooker, descant Tutelman). This Land Is Your Land. Ludlow Music, 1958.

Rote Instruction: Let the Sunshine (Hair), The Lion Sleeps Tonight,

WHATEVER YOU CAN FIND

SOLFEGE

Partner Songs

Butler, Eugene. Don't Let the Music Stop. Heritage Music Press, No. H6511.

Horman, John. 3 pt. Plenty Good Room. Somerset Press SP 815

Schumann, William (arr.). The Orchestra Song. (also in Wilson canons)

Wagner, Douglas. Seasoned Spirituals I & II. Shawnee Press. EA-41

Canons/Rounds/Polyphony Songs—see treble list

Transitional Songs

Allaway, Ben. Sahayta. Mark Foster, YS0510 (SSA)

Berg, Ken, arr. I'm going to sing! Hal Leonard 08551488 (SSA)

Brumfield, Susan, arr. La Violette (4 pt treble). Plymouth HL-251
Gill, R. (arr.). Pretty Saro. (satb) Santa Barbara Music Pub. SBMP 91.
Handel-Liebergen. O Praise the Mighty Lord. satb Carl Fisher CM8384.
Lang, Rupert. Sanctus (from Mass for Many Nations). Boosey & Hawkes M-051-47192-8
Leavitt, John. Kyrie (satb). CPP BelwinSV8904

Part Songs

Donato-Meredith. All Ye Who Music Love. satb. Kjos ED 8745.
Lightfoot, Mary Lynn. The River Sleeps Beneath the Sky. Heritage, 15/1506H (satb)
Porterfield, Sherri. Laudate Dominum. Alfred Publishing, 11315. (satb)