

All members:

- ❖ Come already warmed up
- ❖ Leave your worries at the door
  - It can be challenging to set aside personal issues and stressors but the rehearsal will be much more fun and productive if your mind is focused on the music
- ❖ Review music ahead of time
  - Even a few minutes a day will make a difference
- ❖ Do daily warm ups to keep improving personal vocal skills
- ❖ Stay focused on the musical/visual leader out front
- ❖ Watch/listen to rehearsal recordings, if available, to improve ear training and overall skills

Musical Leaders:

- ❖ Members' time is precious, use it wisely
  - No "wasted" time
  - Have a plan but deviate as needed
  - Communicate ahead of time what will be worked on so members can prepare
- ❖ Create expectations
  - Majority need to buy in to be successful
    - Group goal setting
      - Achievable goals
      - Stretch goals
      - Discuss what it takes to achieve the goals, ensure members are on board
  - Stick to the expectations, refer back to goal setting session
  - Personal responsibility from every member!
- ❖ Keep advancing skill set
  - If unsure how to keep the skills from coaching sessions, discuss this with your coach or other directors
    - Structure rehearsals following coaching sessions to reinforce new techniques and changes in the music
    - Have a member (or one member from each voice part) take notes (preferably on the sheet music) and send out for everyone to review
  - Work on consistency with new skills so they don't get forgotten or partially engrained
  - As a director, are you good at coaching on the spot? If not, is there someone in your chorus who is? Work together!
  - Watch videos, take classes, take PVIs to learn new skills that can be brought to the chorus (this goes for members and musical leaders!)

- Record and watch/listen back!! This is the best way to improve ear training and overall skills
- ❖ Rehearsal ideas
  - Three parts sing on “v,” bubble, or raspberry while one part sings lyrics
  - Solo, duet, or trio works while the other part(s) audiate
  - Section leaders stand out, provide coaching to their section while the director provides overall chorus coaching
    - Helps to have everyone stand in sections
  - Listen to leads sing their line then all parts sing the lead line
    - Pay attention to:
      - The movement and dynamics within the line
      - Embellishments
      - Inflections
    - Leads listen to harmony parts to notice the same things
    - Everyone then sings their own part
  - Director or section leaders conduct section duets while the other sections sit out to observe and learn
  - Part circles
    - Each voice part sings in a circle, can put the section leader(s) in the middle to provide feedback
  - Half and half chorus performances
    - Audience provides overall feedback
    - Each person has a partner, they provide specific feedback/coaching to their partner
  - Visual night
    - Front row rehearsal at same time as riser visual rehearsal (in different rooms)
      - Need front row coach and riser coach
    - Rest of rehearsal focuses on visual plan, physicality, diving into the emotion of the song
  - Assistant director directs while director coaches
  - Director and visual leader both coach
  - Draw chorus member names to watch a full run through of a song or contest set
  - Send members out with section leaders if they still need to pass their music, director works with the rest of the chorus and provide more individualized feedback
  - Mini-PVIs
    - Four members stand out front while the whole chorus sings, director or coach spends 1 minute with each and provide feedback
  - Quartetting
    - Tag quartets/double quartets

- Draw names to create a quartet/double quartet that performs that night
- Each part lines up, first person in each line sings