

THE BIG FOUR, plus ONE!

Activities for enhancing the VA - **L** - UE of your singing.

VOCAL SKILLS -

- *humidified air*
- *tall hall*

ACCURACY -

- *intervals*

UNITY -

- *doot*
- *Jim-speak - lhd - eed*

ENERGY -

- *vowel destination - traveling sound*
- *front half vs. back half*

“Create an emotional overtone.”

LYRICAL AND EMOTIONAL COMMUNICATION

- *sensible breath plan tied to the lyrics*
- *breath lengths which enhance the story*
- *vowels make the ‘sound’*
- *consonants make the ‘sense’*
- 1. *overemphasis of unimportant consonants*
- 2. *anticipation of consonants*
- 3. *dropped consonants*
- 4. *noticeable use of wrong consonant sound*
- *diphthongs provide forward motion and unity*
- *proper word stress with emphasis on musical beats*
- *sincere lyrics*
- *dynamics which stay in the context of the lyrical message and your ability*

“Sing to express, not to impress.”

MUSICALITY REIGNS!

1. Choose music within the ensemble's and the individuals' skill set
2. Avoid gimmicks
3. Put the pitch in the center of the target!
4. Quality, not quantity - never, ever, ever over-sing
5. RING!
6. Test the limits, then refine
7. Steady air flow and steady air speed
8. Sing with heart and from the heart
9. Sing complete phrases vs. notes or intervals
10. When you repeat something, make it different

“Some days there won't be a song in your heart.”

EMOTIONAL UNITY

1. Eyes closed
2. Back to back
3. Share the story with each other
4. Stay connected - harmony in friendship promotes harmony in music

“Don't practice until you get it right. Practice until you can't get it wrong.”