

Men's Choir

Rehearsal Etiquette

May 7, 2020



Men's Choir May 7th, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

The Student will learn common practices in regards to the rehearsal process.



Warm Up

On a separate piece of paper, answer the following in regards to your experiences in choir:

1. Do rehearsals go as quickly and smoothly as you expect them to on a normal basis?
2. Does everyone stay focused on the goal of the rehearsal?
3. What do you think are the strengths and weaknesses of your rehearsals?



Know Your Role!!!!

As a choir member, it is essential that you know what your defined role is in the group. You may feel like all you have to do is just show up, but that's not the case. You are in charge of a lot that could make the rehearsal either really smooth or really unfocused.

The director's role is to clearly set the procedures and expectations to the choir. Directors also have a set plan of what to accomplish during the rehearsal. How well that plan gets enacted is based upon a partnership between choir and teacher.



How Does A Great Rehearsal Happen?

Many things factor into a great rehearsal. One of the easiest things that you can control is keeping distractions to a minimum. You need to be there and need to be focused. If you need to leave the room during a lesson, you will miss so much of the lesson. If you shift your focus away from the music, you will derail a lot of the class because you won't know what directions were given or where to start in the music. The other big thing that is solely in your control is talking. In a strong rehearsal, all questions are asked to the director unless otherwise directed. When in transition between one activity to the other, unless directed to, you should go quickly between things. The big sign of it being time to sing would be when the directors hands are up and about to conduct. That should be the sign that we are focused and ready to go.



Be Prepared

“I lost my music” “I can’t find my folder” “I can’t be at the concert” “What measure are we at?” These are all things that are in your control. You know when the concerts are, you have a set place for your folder, whether it be your backpack or a folder cabinet. It is a common expectation that you have a pencil in your folder and you actually use it to mark in your music. Memorize your music! The faster you memorize it, the better the music will sound because we will get to work on more than just notes.



Cooperation is Key

When working in a group setting, the most important thing to realize is that what you do affects others. There is a certain pace that your director is trying to keep and the slower the lesson goes, the more you feel like it drags on and the less overall progress we can make. Everyone as a group must allow the progress to happen and not stop the natural flow of the lesson.



Individual Practice

Here are a couple recordings of rehearsals. Based on the information you have learned, what went well and where can they improve?

<https://youtu.be/U3U1wsc1FNw>

<https://youtu.be/lgRmevPkmxQ>



Additional Practice

Find a choir rehearsal on youtube and make a list of what they do well and what could be improved.



Reflection

After this lesson, consider the following questions:

1. If you could change one thing about your class rehearsals, what would you change?
2. What do you think you do well when it comes to lessons?
3. How will you personally change going forward when we get to have classes together?