

## **Music VP Report**

### **4 March 2017**

- The Music Team met on Thursday, Feb 23.
- Division Convention – Twenty-four singers are registered as “Will Attend.” 4 Tenors; 5 Leads; 5 Baris; 10 Basses. There are 2 Leads noted as “Maybe.” They will be last minute decisions as to availability. Adding two more Lead voices will be helpful. There were no other action items for the Team relating to Division Convention.
- The 18 Feb Coaching Session was deemed very successful. Feedback from chorus members was extremely positive. During ongoing rehearsals Sean will continue to refer to the points. Section Leaders can assist in two ways. 1) If they observe something with a member of their section they can address it directly. 2) For something more general they will get Sean’s attention by raising a hand and either asking a question or making a comment. The objective is to reinforce the learnings from the coaching session.
- Sectionals will commence the rehearsal after Contest. During the sectional a repertoire song will be used as the platform for voice matching. The Primary Objective of Sectionals is to unify the target sound of the section. To do this section members will be directed to “sing into the sound” of another member’s voice. The Music Team has identified model voices for each section. Sean and Paul Eastman will rotate between sectionals to help facilitate the exercise and to help train the Section Leaders in the process.
- It was re-emphasized that we need an Assistant Director. The Team agreed that the Assistant Director should come from within the chorus. Our hope is that we will recruit new members who might be able to fill that slot. At present, Sean identified Chuck Borrecco and Dave Kocharhook as reasonable candidates for the position.

Sean is also the responsible party for the District’s Director Training program. Working with an Assistant Director within the chorus will help support Sean’s contribution in that area.

- Planning for the May 6 Quartet Coaching Session is proceeding. Two Chapter quartets are now confirmed to participate: In Flux and Boomerang. Metro Gnomes and Technically Sound (Mark Tabry’s quartet) cannot participate. Bascom Ave 4 and Never Too Old 4 are as yet undecided.

We currently have five coaches confirmed for the event: Sean Able; Paul Eastman; Randy Meyer; Paul Engle; and Gabe Caretto.

Dave K will begin reaching out to other Chapters to see if they have quartets interested in the opportunity: VIH; Walnut Creek; Santa Cruz; Redwood City.

- The Coaching Tape program was further discussed. We realize that past recording programs had some negative repercussions. The team is optimistic that the manner in which this program will be presented and implemented can be successful. The program will be optional; not mandatory. We will start with a few people and use their positive experience to interest others in the program. Initial users will be Section Leaders and at least one other person within each section (who is invited to participate).

The singer will record himself during rehearsal. He'll listen to the recording and write up his comments about what he hears and where he thinks he may need improvement. The recording and notes will be uploaded to Groupanizer. Paul Eastman will review and provide coaching tips. Those coaching tips will be returned directly to the singer.

When speaking with members, emphasis will be placed on the concept of "free vocal coaching." In addition, we will position the process as an extension of the individualized sessions Paul Eastman began in 2016. All members of the chorus were supportive of that activity. The recording program will be explained as a way to accelerate that process as well as enable the singer to take advantage of the coaching multiple times rather than once a year.

The process of getting the recording and document onto Groupanizer is not yet fully understood. Dave K asked Terry Moore to figure out how this can be done and report back.

There will likely be some technical questions about how to capture the recording and how to convert the recording to a file that can be uploaded to Groupanizer. Dave K spoke with Jerry about this and he has volunteered to assist anyone with the process.

- 2017 Spring Show planning is behind schedule. Guest performing groups have not yet been confirmed. We have not yet committed to two shows with the theater. The script is in process but not complete. The budget will be submitted to the Board by the March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Timing is getting extremely tight for marketing and ticket sales. The Show Chairman is being encouraged to secure additional helpers.

