

VP Music Report

4 Nov 2017

- At District Contest of 21 Oct our average score was 66.7. Our placement was 14 out of 18. However, the 66.7 score was one of the top 4 scores for The Peninsulaires in a Division or District competition since 1997. The feedback from the judges during evaluations was focused primarily on areas where we, as a group, can achieve rapid and substantial improvement. These include bel canto breathing, forward placement and small oral aperture, and each man performing as if he had the starring role in a Broadway musical.
- To achieve the improvements as noted above there are three things each chorus member need to take personal responsibility to do:
 1. Learn the words and music from the Learning Tracks so that there is absolutely no need to teach words and music during regular rehearsal time.
 2. Be conscious of your own aperture and e-mold. This is, for most, a habit change that will require some attention.
 3. Watch Sean's hands.
- We are planning a Saturday rehearsal in early Q1 2018. The plan is to bring in a coach for each section so that our Section Leaders can be mentored. This will help our Section Leaders gain additional skills that will improve the chorus.
- The Music Team believes strongly that having more men involved in quartet singing will have a positive impact on the overall performance level of the chorus. Quartet singing increases the

sense within the singer that “It’s up to me” because there are no others singing his part. We believe this sense will increase the confidence and competence of each man on the risers. We realize that not every man will participate in an organized quartet so we are considering ways to incorporate more quartetting into a Thursday rehearsal.

- Regarding the taping program: Paul Eastman has received recordings from 14 members. We will continue to promote this activity and encourage men who have not yet done so to submit their recordings and personal evaluations. We will also encourage those that have submitted recordings to do so again. Doing a group recording action at a rehearsal is a good way to get people to do the recording. If we do this every 4 to 6 weeks, each guy should be able to hear for himself the improvement in his singing.
- We have secured the theater at San Jose City College for the Spring 2018 show. The date is Saturday, March 10.