

## Music VP Report July 2019

- We have secured the charts and learning tracks for three of the four new chorus songs:
  - Mandy Lee
  - Each Time I Fall In Love
  - Fit As A Fiddle

Now that the Vocal Clinic is over, we will begin working on these songs. Please note that the chart for Each Time I Fall in Love came as hard copy. We will distribute the chart to the men at the first July rehearsal.

The chart for Mandy Lee came as a digital copy and is on Groupanizer for the men to download and print.

- The chart and tracks for Fit As A Fiddle were not in alignment. The chart has fewer lyric lines for basses and more “bum bums” where the track has more lyrics. We have updated the chart to conform to the tracks. This will be uploaded to Groupanizer and the men will print their own copy.
- An additional change is being made for Fit As A Fiddle. Sean would like to bump the song up a half step so we are adjusting the tracks accordingly.
- The fourth new song is If I Could Write a Song. For this one we had to submit for permission to use the arrangement and perform. We already have the tracks (part of the Shawn Gavin Thomas collection). It turns out that the difference between purchasing 50 copies of an approved chart and getting approval plus having fifty copies is only \$50 to \$75 dollars so we opted to go for a song that would fit well with the current level of the chorus and forego an additional search.

Once the approval process is completed the chart and tracks will be uploaded to Groupanizer. That should happen before July 15, 2019.

- The Vocal Clinic was a great success. Kudos to Jerry and his team. The June 27 Open House/Performance went extremely well. Students, guests and all performers had a good time. Hopefully the three choruses represented will secure additional members from the Clinic students.
- For the Peninsulaires, there appear to be several possibilities: Joe (tenor) and Vu (bass) are two names I remember. But I believe there was at least one other tenor prospect (who could possibly be a lead) and one baritone (not the intern at Ames). I believe VP Chapter Development has the names and contact info of all the prospects.
- Paul Frudenthal did a fantastic job at making sure there was ample food and beverage for everyone (not just on the 27<sup>th</sup> but throughout the Clinic).
- The process of getting additional risers to and from Cubberley was accomplished with the help of Larry Valencia, Roman Avila and Blaise Gassend. Many thanks.
- With the help of many members, clean up after the event went smoothly. (A special thanks to Ed Warner for jumping in to do the vacuuming.) And the interaction by our members with students, guests and other performers during the social time was excellent. Well done to The Peninsulaires for being excellent hosts.
- Looking to the future, the biggest challenge for the chorus as a whole (from the perspective of the Music Team) is replacing old

habits and muscle memory with new habits and muscle memory. The craft sessions we have every rehearsal are about creating new habits. Replacing habits is never easy. We experience this at every rehearsal when the Director has cause to remind people to do things that have been demonstrated and practiced for months. Section Leaders have been charged with the responsibility to “remind” members of their section if/when they hear or observe something non-conforming from one of their members.

A broader objective is to empower and encourage every man to help his fellow chorus member by pointing out when an old habit has returned. We have not yet presented this concept to the men in this way, but now that the Clinic is over – and given the one week break due to 4<sup>th</sup> of July – the first July rehearsal is a reasonable time to do so.

- If you refer to the Chapter Program document sent by the Director before each rehearsal you’ll see a number of Thursday coaching dates identified. We’re trying to have more coaching actions during already scheduled days rather than relying solely on Saturday special coaching rehearsals.

Our two primary coaches are Mike Cating (performance) and Chris Hebert (music/singing). As we confirm availability of a coach we will advise the chorus in advance.