

## COMMUNITY: ACTIVITIES

- Beginning of the year:
  - Ice breakers (name games, favorite..., 2 truths & a lie)
  - Section activities: (building smaller communities)
    - Make an object
    - Physical challenges/competition (team building)
    - Skits

## COMMUNITY: ACTIVITIES

- Anytime of the year:
  - "Tap someone who..."
  - "60 seconds" circle
  - Show up!
    - Builds good will with other program leaders

## COMMUNITY: STUDENT LEADERSHIP

- Leaders greet students at the door (everyday)
- Student led bonding day/time
  - Retreat activities
- Big Bro/Big Sis (assign)
- Run physical warm-ups (partners)

## COMMUNITY: STUDENT OWNERSHIP

- Design choir t-shirt
- Senior song
- Student choreographer
- Officer organized activities:
  - Baseball tournament
  - Bowling
  - Game night

## COMMUNITY: FUNDRAISING

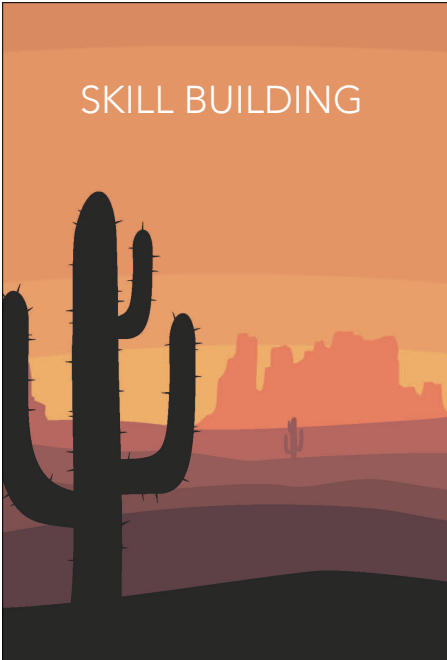
- Car wash
- Rummage sale
- Holiday greetings
  - At student houses, potluck
- Movie musical sing-a-long
- Non-singer participation, community event

## COMMUNITY: TRADITIONS

- Choir banquet
- Senior circle
- Four-year cord
- Secret snowflake (pumpkin, yentl, etc.)
- After concert hang-out
- Framed & signed concert posters

## SKILL BUILDING

## COMMUNITY BUILDING



THE FUTURE OF YOUR PROGRAM IS IN THE HANDS OF YOUR YOUNGEST AND LEAST EXPERIENCED STUDENTS. YOU HAVE NO "TOP CHOIR" WITHOUT YOUR BEGINNING ENSEMBLE.

## COMMUNITY: SKILL BUILDING

- Warm-ups!!!
  - "The First 10 Minutes"
- Rote-teaching (repetition & variety)
  - Repetition w/different affects (ask for their input)
  - "Take-a-step"
- Sectionals
  - Rotate corners (rhythm only, pitch only, etc.)
  - Fastest section

## COMMUNITY: WITHIN THE PROGRAM

- Major works performances
  - Everyone sings the same repertoire
  - Mix different ensembles together
- Solo/small group performances
  - Concerts, coffeehouse, cabaret, etc.
- Individual ensemble recognition

## RETENTION: PRODUCT



## REPERTOIRE

- Various levels of difficulty (for any ensemble)
  - Beginning (immediate success)
  - Intermediate (accessible with some rehearsal)
  - Advanced (stretches ensemble)
- *Meet them where they are & help them grow*

## REPERTOIRE

- Repertoire checklist (pick one or two, not all)
  - Vocal line (range, leaps, etc.)
  - Harmony
  - Rhythm
  - Divisi
  - Language/text
  - Movement (if applicable)

## REPERTOIRE

- YOU KNOW BEST!!!
- Program music that works for **YOUR** students
  - Music
  - Text
- Contemporary vs. historical

## RECRUITING



HAPPY & SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS WILL BE YOUR BEST RECRUITERS

## COLLABORATION & VISIBILITY

- Department-wide activities
  - Joint performances (not just with other choirs)
    - Orchestra, band, dance
- Art classes
  - Program cover/art gallery
- English, History, Foreign Language collaboration

## COLLABORATION & VISIBILITY

- On-campus performance opportunities
  - Rallies
  - Sporting events
- Back to School Night/Open House
  - Alma Mater/National Anthem
- Choir helpers ("Saints")

## COLLABORATION & VISIBILITY

- Off-campus performance opportunities
  - Combined performances w/feeder groups
    - Their concert and yours
- Feature different ensembles (treble & bass ensembles)
- District festival (one group from every school)
- Guest clinic/adjudicate at district events
- District wide commission project

## COLLABORATION & VISIBILITY

- Unified Curriculum Design: (within district)
  - Meet as a musical faculty
    - Staff development days
- Use same musical language
  - Solfege, numbers, etc.
- *Make it as easy as possible for students to transition between programs*

## RECRUITING: ACCESSIBILITY



ARE YOU CREATING UNINTENTIONAL BARRIERS TO JOINING YOUR PROGRAM

## ACCESSIBILITY: AUDITIONS

- What are they called?
- Where/when?
- Advertisements/flyers?
  - Can you have a non-auditioned ensemble sign-up?
- Informational meeting and/or audition clinic
  - Prepare new singers
- *"But I don't know how to sing."*

## ACCESSIBILITY: AUDIENCE

- Your audience may become your future students/advocates
  - Parents, community members, and other students
- What are they used to?
  - Sacred music, show choir, musicals, pop concerts
- What do they want to hear?
  - Ease audiences (and singers) into new experiences
- *Parents/teachers can be your biggest advocates (...or not)*

QUESTIONS...  
YOUR IDEAS...



THANK YOU!



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