

## What Recruits and Retains Men in Choir?

- I. **Teacher**
  - A. Be open to the least of them
  - B. Have Fun
  - C. They need to be needed
  - D. Build Relationship
    1. Support
    2. Flexibility
  - E. Be patient with adolescent weirdness
  - F. Humor
    1. Passing Wind jokes are good
  - G. Encouraging crossing over from other social groups
    1. Feature Jocks, Goths, Preps, Geeks, and Nerds in performance
  - H. Have patience with the adolescent male demographic and yourself
  - I. You must have a Vision for Success
  - J. Understanding that attracting men may take years in a school
  - K. Be prepared to adjust literature on the fly. (Resist being Stubborn)
  - L. If you are a Female Teacher
    1. Great Teaching of Vocal Technique is Great Teaching Technique
    2. Use Resources for demonstration
      - a. Coaches
      - b. Adults in Community
      - c. Observing Students from Colleges and Universities
      - d. Former Students
  - M. Nurture Boys through Voice Change
    1. Explain range and timbre differences between female and male voice

2. Notice when changes happen in the guys voice and give positive reinforcement
3. Reduce Stigma of Change by explaining we all share in the process
4. Explain that if your voice falls between a D5 and C6 your voice is normal
5. Celebrate the Change
6. Be open and talk about it

N. Get them in the room and let them be themselves

1. Games are Good
2. Teach them to treat Women with respect and practice situation appropriate behavior
3. Physical Activity is very good
4. Competition in class

II. **Community**

- A. Recruit young men whose culture has a tradition of quality singing
- B. Bring in adult singers and feature them
- C. Barbershop
- D. Have a FACE concert at your School

III. **Your School**

- A. Form an extra curricular men's school group
- B. Get to know counselors really well
- C. Work with Administration
- D. Bring choirs to all school offices to sing for any and no reason at all
- E. Perform the National Anthems at School Events
  1. Select Groups
  2. Men's Choirs
- F. Seek opportunities to sing at district events
- G. Give your administration Excellence

IV. **Students**

- A. Recruit from other choirs

- B. Use Upperclassmen to recruit younger men
  - C. Attend Men's Festivals
  - D. Offer Bonus Points or Points towards lettering
  - F. Create written invitations to join choir written by students
  - G. Lunch time recruitment: bags of candy bars and get contact info
  - H. Capitalize on 2 girls to 1 every boy in choir
- V. **Use Marketing**
- A. Advertise in the school video
  - B. Use Current Students and Former Students
  - C. Get in the Press
  - D. Get a choir student to sign up for yearbook
  - E. Create a Buzz
- VI. **Seeing Success**
- A. You Tube (Seeing other successful HS men's choirs)
  - B. All State Choir DVD
  - C. Sing Off
  - D. Glee
  - E. Play and show Great Singing
  - F. King Singers
  - G. Les Mis.
- VII. **Food - If you feed them they will come**
- A. Mega Men's Night recruiting night @ Middle with HS guys and food.
  - B. Pizza Auditions
  - C. Donut Daze! Come to two morning rehearsals get a donut.
- VIII. **The Musical**
- A. For guys in drama: "This will only enhance your marketability as a triple threat"
- IX. **Recruit from instrumental departments**
- I. **Be sensitive to maintaining good relations with colleagues.**
    - A. Mutually beneficial musical development

X. **Trust**

- A. That you will not embarrass them.
- B. Keep expectations just above their ability.

XI. **Performance**

A. Literature Choices

- 1. Fast Moving or Rhythmically interesting
- 2. Entertaining
- 3. Romantic Pieces(Love)
- 4. English Art Songs
- 5. Choreography
- 6. Things that make girls scream
- 7. Celtic with instruments
- 8. Challenging
- 9. No bad music done seriously

B. Feature Men's Groups on Concert

- 1. Combining all men from all classes for one number

C. Develop Small Group

- 1. A Cappella Group

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