

Knowing What and Knowing How

Region 9 Winter Wondersland

January 26 & 27, 2024

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Objective: To assist directors in determining what they know and how they can build on that, and what they don't know and offer them tools and resources to improve in those areas.

Resources

Director Certification Program Modules

The Perfect Blend - Dr. *Timothy Seelig*

Principles of Adult Learners

Adult Learners usually approach learning differently than younger learners.

- They are more self-guided in their learning.
- They bring more, and expect to bring more, to a learning situation because of their wider experience- and can take away more.
- They require learning to “make sense” – they will not perform a learning activity just because they are told to.

Adult learner Characteristics

- Adults have years of experience and a wealth of knowledge
- Adults have established values, beliefs, and opinions.
- Adults expect to be treated as adults.
- Adults need to be self-directed.
- Adults have increased variation in learning styles.

Thinking Styles

- Reflective Thinkers
- Creative Thinkers
- Practical Thinkers
- Conceptual Thinkers

Learning Styles

- Visual Learners – process new information best when it is visually illustrated or demonstrated.
- Auditory Learners – process new information best when it is spoken.
- Kinesthetic Learners – process new information best when it can be touched or manipulated.
- Environmental Learners – process new information best when it is presented in surroundings that match learning preferences (room temperature, lighting, seating, etc).

Attributes of a Good Director - from *The Perfect Blend* - Dr. Timothy Seelig

Director/Singer Rapport – Our singers won't return if there is no connection and it is not fun.

Diagnosis & Prescription – Know how to diagnose problems and know how to fix them. Your chorus must be able to hear the difference when you diagnose a problem and when you fix it. They should also be able to feel the difference in how they produce what you are asking them to change.

Specificity of Language – if you can carefully communicate with your chorus what it is you want and be consistent with that, it will assist you in succeeding.

Efficient use of time – this is HUGE! You owe it to your chorus to NOT waste any of their time. Efficient use of rehearsal time is crucial.

Measurable results – what reflects success for you and your chorus? Competition scores? Number of local performances? Growth in membership? The joy of performing?