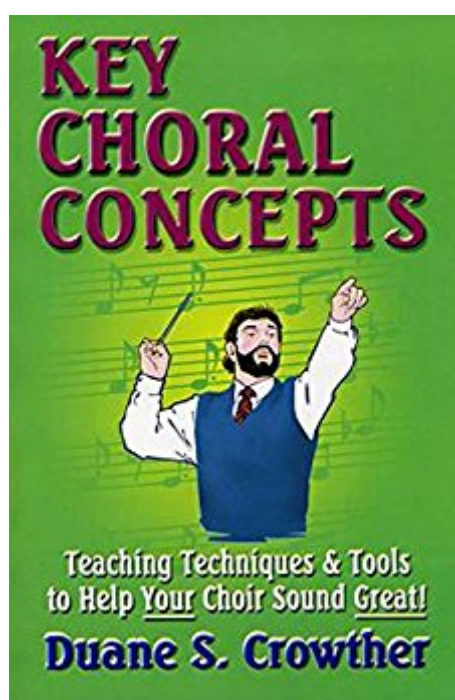


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KEY CHORAL CONCEPTS: Teaching Techniques & Tools To Help Your Choir Sound Great (Techniques For Teaching & Conducting High School & Adult Choirs Book 1)



Synopsis

KEY CHORAL CONCEPTS Key Choral Concepts is a goldmine of valuable information for choir directors and members of choral organizations. It draws from the resources of the author's Teaching Choral Concepts curriculum which has been used with great success by many high schools and university groups across the nation. The book includes basic principles for more than thirty essential aspects of choral singing, presenting them in a concise format that can be easily understood. Every page includes key concepts choir members should utilize to improve their personal singing abilities and musicianship.

UNIT 1 focuses on correct sitting and standing posture for singing; the breathing mechanism; controlled breathing; voice-part classifications; vocal ranges; the reed-flute tone continuum; change-of-color points; and audition preparation and techniques.

UNIT 2 covers the objectives of vocal training; the singing mechanism; open throat; personal warmup; care of the voice; vocal resonance; good singing tone; attacks and releases; and effective practice.

UNIT 3 deals with dynamic levels; extending vocal ranges; head resonance and head tone; humming; basic musical styles; correct phrasing; vocal flexibility; intonation, and use of the phonetic alphabet.

UNIT 4 discusses the concepts of balance and blend; lip and tongue positions for singing vowels; diphthongs; articulation; singing consonants; enunciation; and pronunciation. When the Teaching Choral Concepts curriculum was first prepared, valuable quotations from distinguished music educators were assembled on each of the above topics. Those indispensable quotations are reproduced in this book. Also, the extensive materials prepared for teachers to use in reviewing each of the four units has been reprinted here, as a help for those who are using this book as a personal study guide. Many of the materials presented are accompanied by valuable diagrams.

Every concept is an essential building block for constructing a fine choir, and this book presents them in a precise and orderly manner. It is obvious that Key Choral Concepts truly contains a wealth of valuable knowledge every choral musician should acquire!

The author, Duane S. Crowther, graduated with high honors from Brigham Young University with a Bachelor of Arts composite major in choral and instrumental music education. He completed the course work for a Ph.D. in music education from the University of Utah. His doctoral dissertation formed the basis for the popular Teaching Choral Concepts curriculum which is widely used in secondary schools and in church and community choirs across the nation. He also earned a master of Arts degree in Old and New Testament from BYU and an MBA from the University of Phoenix.

Mr. Crowther has taught music in the public schools, taught choral conducting on the college level, led high school and junior high symphonic bands and orchestras, coached student stage and dance bands, and directed a variety of choral groups ranging from congregational choirs and barbershop choruses to large massed

choirs and community choruses. As a music store owner and proprietor, he introduced hundreds of youth to their band and orchestra instruments, teaching each one personally to give all of them a solid start in music and performance fundamentals. He knows what basic knowledge is needed. Throughout his adult life he has successfully combine his love of music, his love of teaching, his business interest and acumen, and his unique ability to write with clarity and precision to benefit many thousands of people.

Book Information

File Size: 99069 KB

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Horizon Publishers & Distributors, Inc. (August 15, 2016)

Publication Date: August 15, 2016

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01KIMM5X4

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #419,313 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #7 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Conducting #63 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments & Performers > Voice #95 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Conducting

Customer Reviews

Key Choral Concepts is a condensed version of the 488 page curriculum guide compiled by Duane S. Crowther. Easy to read and comprehend, this book should be a necessity in every choral conductor's library. Methods and lessons are simplified (yet not watered-down) using both choral methodologies and vocal pedagogy in an affordable, no-nonsense presentation. This book would be ideal in a university education setting, providing choral educators-in-training with a convenient resource for reference. Bravo!

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