

Essential Print Resources for the Choral Teacher

Books

These texts will give you a good starting point with all aspects of leading a choir.

Getting Started With High School Choir

Steven K. Michelson

MENC booklet

A good choice to read right after signing your first high school contract.

Things They Never Taught You In Choral Methods

Nancy Smirl Jorgensen, Catherine Pfeiler

Hal Leonard Publishing (#HL 08740014)

*This guide has hundreds of practical suggestions, **tips and ideas** for running a successful secondary choral music program. Discusses recruiting, discipline, rehearsal techniques, programming, and many other essential topics for the new choral teacher.*

The Complete Guide to Teaching Vocal Jazz (Including Pop and other Show Styles)

Stephen Zegree

Heritage Music Press (#30/1737H)

*Fundamentals of **vocal jazz**: stylistic considerations, rehearsal strategies, et al. Includes a demonstration CD.*

The Complete Choral Warm-Up Book

Russell Robinson and Jay Althouse

Alfred Publishing

*The many effective **vocal warm-ups** included in this book are placed into various useful categories: range, tuning, articulation, et al. The appendices lead you to warm-ups geared toward specific voicings (SSA, SATB, etc.), genres (the Jazz section can be especially helpful), and difficulty levels. Also useful are the suggested orders of warm-ups, which can save time and energy when planning a rehearsal, and helps the teacher get the most out of the first few minutes of class. Grades 7-12.*

Building Beautiful Voices

Paul Nesheim

Roger Dean Publishing (Theodore Presser)

*The first half of the book discusses the **basics of the voice**: what to listen for, what to look for, and how to teach it to individuals and groups. The second half is comprised of vocal warm-ups (with suggested accompaniments) that address specific issues in the developing voice. Best with high school and older.*

Group Vocal Technique

James Jordan

Hinshaw Music, Inc. (Text: HMB183 • Video: HNS.VH103)

*You just got your first teaching job, and it involves teaching choir...something you've never done before. One of the most important things you can do for your students is to learn about how to teach **voice in a group setting**.*

Cambiata Concept

Don L. Collins

Cambiata Press

*A primer for understanding and teaching the **changing voice**. If you find yourself teaching any grades 5-10, buy this book and read it!*

Anthologies

These can be valuable programming tools for the new choral conductor.

European Sacred Music

edited by John Rutter

Oxford University Publishing

The Essential Repertoire series

Hal Leonard Publishing

The volumes in this series are great sources for repertoire ideas. Additionally, each piece is preceded by a suggested warm-up, historical information about the piece/composer, suggestions about how best to go about teaching each work, et al. The series is comprised of 12 volumes, and is organized first by voicing, then by difficulty; buy the volumes you need (be sure to get the teacher edition).