

LESSON PLAN: 11th and 12th grade chorus 12/6, KRHS

Teacher Candidate: Elizabeth Montmagny **Date/Time of lesson plan submission:** 12/5/11
School: Kearsarge Regional High School **Grade Level:** 11 and 12
Coop Teacher: Ernie Mills **Date the lesson is to be taught:** 12/6/11
Enrollment: ~40 **Time/length of the Lesson:** 11:50-12:40

Focus: Why We Sing – Finding Emotional Connection in Music

Student Objectives:

- TSW sing “In the Bleak Midwinter” and “Ameno” with good technique
- TSW be respectful and open to different teaching techniques (yeah right)
- TSW participate in class and not be life-sucking zombies
- TSW learn some of Tichelli’s “Earth Song”

Assessment: Observational, non-graded “Why I Sing” notes at the end of class

Pre-requisite knowledge: Students should be familiar with the pieces we are rehearsing

Vocabulary: Common sense

Materials: Music cart (projector and screen set up), chorus folder with music, laptop, copies of Earth Song

Accommodations: N/A

Greeting: Please grab a folder and have a seat.

Share objectives: Today, I’d like to run “In the Bleak Midwinter” and “Ameno” for our warm-ups. Then I have planned a special lesson and I would like you to be open and willing to participate. I hope you will be respectful today and mirror the enthusiasm and energy I give to you.

The Lesson:

- Warm up: run “In the Bleak Midwinter” and “Ameno” (11:50-12:00)
- Why Do You Sing? (12:00-12:10)
 - I need 11 volunteers – please read the examples I’ve found online
 - Read quotes from friends
 - Read my story – why I sing
 - Allowing yourself to be vulnerable
 - Can’t hide – it’s just you!
 - Yeah, singing in front of your classmates is scary, but guess what? They’re not listening to you, they’re just as worried about their own voice as you are.
 - Support one another
 - You don’t have to be buddy-buddy and hang out outside of class, but there does need to be a certain level of trust and respect within any type of performance group.
 - That means allowing yourself and each other to make mistakes and learning and growing from them

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- Let your walls come down
 - I challenge you to lower your barriers, just for the 50 minutes of chorus each day, and allow yourself to feel and share your emotions through the songs you sing. Everyone needs an outlet; why not chorus?
- Teamwork: moving and breathing as one
 - We know you can sing; you proved that at the winter concert. But music isn't just about correct notes and good singing technique. You need to have a story, a reason, a feeling to accompany each and every song you sing.
 - Instead of being 50 people singing, think of it as one choir singing. When you lock into a connection like that, it's a powerful experience for both the choir and the audience.
- Earth Song (12:10-12:30)
 - Read lyrics, let sink in
 - Slide show – pictures taken from “45 Most Powerful Images of 2011”
 - What are your thoughts?
 - Explain why Earth Song is so powerful to me
 - Learn first few pages
- Again, why do YOU sing?
 - Take a minute to write your thoughts down
 - Hand them in without names