

WARD AND STAKE CHOIR TUNE-UP

by Keri Hughes

In Tune - 1: In a state in which the correct musical sound is played or sung. *They rehearsed the tenor line until it was in tune.*

- A: The Strained Soprano
- B: The Absent Alto
- C: The Timid Tenor
- D: The Blasting Bass

2: In a state in which people agree with or understand one another. *The choir was in tune with the director.*

- A: Conducting cues
- B: Creating a Moment
- C: Variety and Energy
- D: Gratitude

3: In a state in which one thing agrees with or matches another. *The music was in tune with the Spirit.*

- A: Discuss the history/context of the song
- B: Connect the lyrics to scriptural and personal experiences
- C: Analyze how the music supports the message
- D: Why did the composer choose to....?

"If the singers' thoughts are primarily technical – if they are focusing on notes, phrasing, lyrics, dynamics, beauty of tone, vocal technique, et cetera – then these are the thoughts that will be communicated to the audience and this is the "connection" that will be made.

On the other hand, if the singers are genuinely connected at a meaningful personal level with the music and the lyrics, then their faces, bodies, hearts, souls, and voices express that connection ... and the audience can not help but be engaged likewise. When that happens, all involved are transported; the concert becomes a passionate celebration of shared humanity." ~ Tom Carter, Choral Charisma: Singing With Expression

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."
-- Colossians 3:16

"Inspiring music may fill the soul with heavenly thoughts, move one to righteous action, or speak peace to the soul."
-- President Ezra Taft Benson, *Ensign*, Nov. 1974, 67