

## Put the best YOU in the Unit!

### The power of synchronization

Webster's defines unity as:

- the state of being in full agreement
- a way of combining the parts in a work of art or literature so that they seem to belong together

What is unit sound?

Unit sound occurs when tones are properly produced, accurately tuned, blended, and balanced (what we call "lock and ring"). Musical unity results when all members of the ensemble are singing vowels correctly and simultaneously, and are singing chords in tune and at the same time.

Other aspects of unity:

Unity strengthens characterization and emotional communication. Every technical and artistic element must be executed together in order to eliminate distractions and allow the listener to hear and understand the story.

Unity will be strengthened when the performers understand the lyrical message, deliver a unified tempo or pulse, cohesive interpretive plan, and unified dynamic plan.

The power of the individual:

Be it a chorus or quartet, YOU are critical to the success of the ensemble. Differences in any musical, vocal, visual, or artistic elements can be seen and heard by an audience. Energy is a critical factor in unity-be sure that you're not on auto-pilot, but allowing your energy to flow, and to connect to those with whom you are sharing the stage, as well as to your audience!

Vocal Skills:

Posture

Breath

Phonation

Resonation

Articulation

The grid:

Horizontal and Vertical synchronization

H: word sounds

intervals of part

dynamics

V: target vowels

Tempo/Rhythm/pulse

chord accuracy/balance

*Elements:* Musical, Vocal, Artistic ("Sweet Spot")