

Judge Joan Boutilier

Region # 13

CHORUS OBSERVATION

JUDGING CRITERIA

VOCAL SKILLS

- Body Alignment
- Breathing/Breath Management
- Phonation
- Resonance
- Articulation

HARMONY ACCURACY

- Notes/Chords
- Tuning/Intervals
- Tonal Center/Key Changes
- Synchronization/Chord Alignment

ENSEMBLE SOUND

- Tone Production/Intonation
- Vowel Production
- Continuous Sound/Tone Flow
- Section Unity
- Barbershop Balance
- Ring/Overtones/Expanded Sound

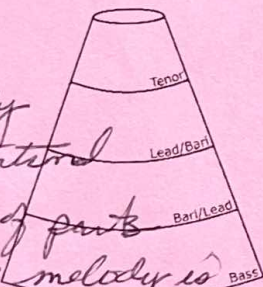
ARTISTRY & MUSICALITY

- Vocal Energy - *This is not*
 - Dynamic Flexibility *to be*
 - Vocal Style/Character *confused*
 - Artistic Sound *with*
- energy in the body, rather, breath power.*

Many need to lift all the way into a new key.

Each vocal part needs vocal & aural security and confidence.

Transfer of the melody needs intentional imbalance of parts so that the melody is not obscured.



PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Region 13's chorus contest was a delight to judge! There is so much going well! Here are a few observations to guide your future education.

Vocal skills are always an area to zero in on for all levels. The breath and breathing can be used to relax and open the resonating spaces. Many singers aren't aware of how to sing a complete sound, with both ring and roundness. The breath sets up the singer for this.

Baritone(s) need to have a deeper awareness of how their vocal and vocal part balance and tune with the Leads. This relationship is key to chord tuning.

Thank you for the privilege of judging your beautiful singers!

Signed: Joan Boutilier

Apr 25/26

CHORUS OBSERVATIONS

JUDGING CRITERIA

SONG & ARRANGEMENT

Merit as Barbershop Material

Song: Form/Melody/Lyrics

Arrangement: Harmonization/
Voicing/Creative Devices

Song 1 Most singing strong/good bbs. A few groups experimenting

Song 2 around the edges. Hopefully their sheets were helpful.

SUITABILITY TO PERFORMER

Song 1 Most groups choosing music that they can be successful

Song 2 with and/or grow into with some development.

PERFORMANCE

Vocal Skills

Harmony Accuracy

Barbershop Style

Tempo

Rhythm

Musical Unity

Phrasing

Dynamics

Musical Energy

Musical Artistry

lots of good work evident on always room to grow here at all levels

most groups could use more contrast, esp. leads

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

What a wonderful chorus contests. Region 13 is thriving with all of these wonderful choruses and it's great to see!

A few thoughts from this category on educational possibilities:

- musical energy - many groups at Band below are reserving / containing energy. BBS style asks us to vary energy to create drama, generate excitement and otherwise engage audiences in our musical stories. A clearer understanding of this would benefit most groups.

- melody transfers and other creative devices - teaching directors how to investigate the "goodies" in chorus music and how to bring them to life so that embellishments/solos/melody transfers are properly featured.

Judge

C Danielle

CHORUS OBSERVATIONS

JUDGING CRITERIA

(0-100 points)

TECHNICAL ELEMENTS

- Vocal Skills
- Synchronization/Unity
- Word Delivery
- Vowels
- Diphthongs
- Consonants
- Enunciation
- Musicality

mostly good to strong

need to continue to build a unit approach to the technical element

ARTISTIC INTERPRETIVE PLAN

- Lyric Flow
 - Phrasing
 - Forward Motion
 - Embellishments
 - Dynamics - more exploration
 - Tempo/Rhythmic Elements - pulse
 - Inflection
 - Energy - unify across ensembles
 - Finesse and Artistry
 - Characterization
 - Emotional Communication
- good designs & plans that need refinement in delivery*

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

It was a pleasure to hear the Region 13 choruses.

Main areas of focus:

Continue to build strength in vocal skills

Unity = in both energy & delivery of lyric

Energy: based in air flow and breath rather than consonant/word delivery

Thank you for a great weekend!

April 25, 2024 Spokane, WA

CHORUS OBSERVATIONS

JUDGING CRITERIA
(0-100 points)

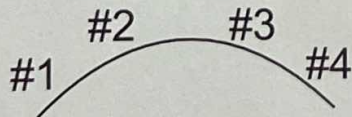
PERFORMANCE

- Vocal Skills
- Energy
- Characterization
- Physical expression
- Unity
- Body alignment
- Stage presence
- Audience connection
- Musicality
- Creativity
- Stagecraft

JUDGING CRITERIA

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

- Congratulations on having 50 many choruses in the B levels! This is a great accomplishment!
- Chorus singers seem to be very supportive of each other - Lots of love here in Region 13!
- Seems like directors at all chorus levels could use some education. Some need help with song choices, others need help with when to get out of the way and let the singers shine, some need coaching on how to drill small pieces of the music in rehearsals to gain better skills. Some directors are asking for the pitch while facing the audience, which can be done with a character move instead of pointing a finger in the air.
- Lots of choruses are ready for a higher level of creativity in visual plans and characterization to enhance visual delivery.



Thank you for the opportunity to share!
 Cheers, Becki Hine

Director _____