

## I. Beginning of "child singing" movement

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- A. Lowell Mason
  - 1. "Father of Singing"
  - 2. Integrated singing into curriculum in Boston (1838)
- B. Francis E. Howard
  - 1. *The Child Voice in Singing* (1895)
    - i. Children should sing at a soft level
    - ii. Children should sing with a light, thin, head voice
- C. Zoltán Kodály
  - 1. Use of solfege and Curwen hand signs
  - 2. Natural progression of pitches based on how children naturally speak and sing
    - i. Sing while playing
    - ii. Natural intervallic movement of taunting and speech
- D. Frederick Swanson
  - 1. *The Male Voice Ages Eight to Eighteen* (1977)
    - i. Extensive look at boys' changing voices
- E. Ruth Krehbiel Jacobs
  - 1. *The Successful Children's Choir* (1948)
    - i. Recommends a solid knowledge of child vocal pedagogy
    - ii. Focus on posture and breathing as fundamental technique
- F. Other influences
  - 1. Jean Ashworth Bartle
  - 2. Doreen Rao
  - 3. Mary Goetze

## II. Five Components of Vocal Technique

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- A. Proper breathing
- B. Phonation
- C. Resonant tone production
- D. Diction
- E. Expression
  - 1. There need to be benchmarks for each of these elements for singers
  - 2. Each rehearsal should touch on each of these components

## III. Child Vocal Registers

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- A. Use of all three registers very important
  - 1. Lower: bass clef G to middle C
  - 2. Middle: middle C up an octave
  - 3. Upper: treble C to G
- B. Tendency to sing in only chest voice if not encouraged to sing full range
  - 1. Helps with transition in adolescence
- C. Vocal exploration very important
  - 1. Difference between singing and speaking voice/ loud and supported
    - i. Singing instead of yelling

## IV. Vocal Quality

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- A. Airiness from lack of pharyngeal resonance
  - 1. Larynx is set too high
  - 2. Doesn't allow much resonating space

- i. Physically stretching of neck and tense upper body
- B. “Ideal” tone is flute-like in the upper register
- C. Types of singers
  - 1. Pre-singers
    - i. Singers do not sustain tones/chant-like
  - 2. Speaking-range singers
    - i. Sustaining of tones in small chunks and sensitivity to pitch, but
- a. Still not sustained singing
  - 3. Uncertain singers
    - i. Sustained singing, but waver between singing and speech-like tone. Small range when using singing voice
  - 4. Initial-range singers
    - i. Singers who can sing up to the register change and then begin to have challenges
  - 5. Singers
    - i. Children who are able to sing through the register lift and have full use of their singing voices

## **V. Organization**

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- A. Repertoire
  - 1. Literature that supplements music education curriculum
    - i. Kodály sequence
    - ii. Music-history focus
    - iii. Theory concepts
    - iv. Focus on rhythmic elements
  - 2. Masterworks
    - i. Solo movements of masterworks
    - ii. True arrangements of masterworks
  - 3. Variety, but always quality
- B. Levels of singers
  - 1. Establishment of benchmarks
    - i. Voice for Life: Choir Trainer’s Book, Royal School of Music, G-6390
      - a. Expectations for each year
    - ii. Sight-singing, theory, independent singing, historical context
  - 2. Rewards
  - 3. Student Leadership

## **VI. Resources**

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Small, Ann and J. Bowers, ed. Strategies for Teaching: Elementary and Middle Level Chorus. Reston, VA: MENC, 1997.

Phillips, Kenneth. Teaching Kids to Sing. New York: Schirmer Books, 1996.

Rutkowski, J and M. Runfola. TIPS: The Child Voice. Reston, VA: MENC, 1997.

## Children's Choir Repertoire

1. Canticle of Mary.....Jeffrey Ames and S. Scott Leaman  
Colla Voce 18-96830
2. Ich Folge dir Gleichfalls.....J.S. Bach, arr. Henry Leck  
Colla Voce HL-501
3. L'Amicizia (Friendship).....Faustina Hasse Hodges  
Treble Clef Music Press TC-199
4. Alleluia.....Paul Basler  
Colla Voce 36-20202
5. Gloria (Mass No. 6).....Gyorgy Orban  
Hinshaw HMB-223
6. Le Sommeil de l'enfant Jesus.....arr. Ron Jeffers  
earthsongs – catalog #?
7. Quando corpus morietur (Stabat Mater).....Giovanni Battista Pergolesi  
Hinshaw 311218
8. Psalm 23.....Z. Randall Stroope  
Alliance AMP 0463
9. Sacramento Sis Joe.....Jackson Berkey  
SDG Press 96-107
10. Jesu bleibet meine Freude (Cantata 147).....J.S. Bach  
Bärenrieter BA 1614790
11. Dixit Dominus.....Michael Haydn, arr. Cook Weber  
Alliance AMP 0280
12. The Palm, from *El Niño*.....John Adams  
Hendon Music/Boosey and Hawkes – catalog #?
13. Agnus Dei.....Einojuhani Rautavaara  
Franz/Warner KL 78.344
14. The Loving Mother (Yiddish Folk-Poetry Song Cycle).....Dmitri Shostakovich  
Musik Verlag Hans Sikorski, Hamburg Sikorski 2346
15. Muszelka.....Witold  
Lutos\_awski  
Polskie Wydawnictwo Muzyczne ISBN 83-224-2438-8
16. O sacrum convivium.....Don Michael Dicie  
Oxford No. 94.400

17. So many Angels!.....Gwyneth Walker  
E.C. Schirmer
18. The Shepherd to His Love.....Emma Lou Diemer  
Hal Leonard HL00007899
- 19, She's Like a Swallow.....Luigi Zaninelli  
Walton 08501136
20. As Fair as Morn.....John Wilbye, arr. Walter Ehret  
Hal Leonard MC4331
21. Beau Soir.....Claude Debussy, arr. Linda Spevacek  
Hal Leonard 08756903
22. Simple Gifts.....arr. Amy Dalton  
Santa Barbara SBMP 302
- 23.Lux Aeterna.....Z. Randall Stroope  
Alliance AMP0275
24. Come, Ye Makers of Song.....Ruth Watson Henderson  
Gordon V. Thompson VG-363
25. In the Beginning.....Imant Raminsh  
Boosey and Hawkes M-051-467297
26. Living in a Holy City.....Stephen Hatfield  
Boosey and Hawkes M-051-47276-5
27. The Lake Isle of Innisfree.....Eleanor Daley  
Oxford W154
28. Roger Bobo.....Brian Holmes  
Roger Dean/Lorenz 15/1736R
29. Homeland.....Gustav Holst, arr. Z. Randall Stroope  
Aberdeen Music #1106
30. De sancta Maria: O virga mediatrix.....Hildegard von Bingen  
Hildegard Publishing Co.
31. Wie will ich mich freuen, from *Cantata 146*.....J.S. Bach
32. A Ceremony of Carols.....Benjamin Britten  
Boosey and Hawkes
33. Nodle Kangbyon.....arr. Wallace Hornady  
earthsongs

34. John Saw Duh Numbuh.....arr. Andre Thomas  
Heritage Choral Series
35. Alleluia.....Charles Callahan  
Morning Star MSM-50-9457
36. The Lord is My Shepherd.....Antonín  
Dvořák  
Editio Supraphon Praha H1758
37. Hebrew Rounds for Peace.....arr. Nancy Grundahl  
Alliance AMP 0493
38. Goin' to Boston.....arr. John F. Campbell  
Santa Barbara SBMP 460
39. The Snow.....Edward Elgar  
The Boston Music Company, B.M. Co 7998
40. I Bought Me a Cat.....arr. Ken Straker  
Boosey and Hawkes 48003405
41. Dancing Song.....arr. Zoltán Kodály  
Oxford 54.942
42. Salve Regina.....Miklos Kocsar  
Kodály Institute H-6001
43. Mulligatawny Macbeth.....John Govedas  
Treble Clef Music
44. Mary Speaks.....Daniel E. Gawthrop  
Belwin GCMR03570
45. Punching the Dough.....arr. Alice Parker  
Treble Clef Music TC-119
46. Alleluia.....R. Woodward  
Cherbourne CH-503
47. Angelus ad pastores ait.....Claudio Monteverdi  
Mercury 352-00024
48. I Dance to the Stars and the Moon.....Cary Ratcliff  
Kairos Music Publishers
49. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei.....Antonio Vivaldi  
Roger Dean 15/1857R
50. The Softness of My Mother's Hands.....John Starr Alexander  
Colla Voce 20-96230

51. Eliyahu Hanavi.....Lee R. Kesselman  
Roger Dean 15/1575R
52. Can You Hear Me?.....Bob Chilcott  
Oxford BC19
53. I'm Part of the Rainbow.....Glenn McClure  
Roger Dean 15/1861R

### Other Recommendations

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1. El cielo canta alegria.....Pablo Sosa, arr. Roger Bergs  
Boosey and Hawkes: CME 48018824  
2 part treble (also SSA and SATB) with Piano
2. My Heart Soars.....Ruth Watson Henderson, ed. Jean Ashworth Bartle  
Hinshaw: HMC1238  
2 part treble with keyboard and flute
3. Cindy.....arr. Kirby Shaw  
Hal Leonard: 08564118  
Two part treble with Piano
4. Cradle Song.....W. A. Mozart, arr. Michael Burkhardt  
Morningstar: MSM-50-1451  
Unison Voices with C instrument and piano  
Introduction to German language
5. Ave Maria.....J.S. Bach/Charles Gounod, arr. Jim Leininger  
Alliance: AMP 0083  
SA with keyboard
6. Wayfarin' Stranger.....arr. Lee R. Kesselman  
Boosey and Hawkes: M-051-47446-2  
2 part treble and viola or cello (additional sop. part in spots)
7. I Bought Me a Cat.....Aaron Copland  
Boosey and Hawkes: M-051-47258-1  
Unison voices with piano
8. I Am Come Into My Garden.....Lee R. Kesselman  
Boosey and Hawkes: 48018699  
SA with piano
9. Prints of Peace.....Rollo Dilworth  
Hal Leonard: 08744629  
2-part treble (with optional descant) with keyboard
10. This Little Light of Mine.....arr. Ken Berg

Colla Voce: 20-96460

Unison voices with cello and keyboard

11. All My Heart this Night Rejoices.....J.G. Ebeling, arr. Patrick Messick  
Augsburg Fortress Press: 0-8006-7748-X  
Unison voices(optional descant) with keyboard
12. Pie Jesu.....Gabriel Fauré, arr. Doreen Rao  
Boosey and Hawkes: M051466313  
Unison voices with keyboard
13. Jim-Along Josie.....arr. Reginald Unterseher  
Oxford University Press: ISBN: 0-19-386658-7  
SA and piano
14. Shenandoah.....arr. Jeff Funk  
Warner Bros.: SV9979  
2-part treble with keyboard
15. Out of the Morning.....Daniel Hall  
Walton Music: WJMS1043  
SA with piano
16. Arruru.....arr. Dwyer/Gerber  
Plymouth Music Co.: HL-519  
2-part treble and keyboard
17. Sarasponda.....arr. Ruth Boshkoff  
Santa Barbara: SBMP 303  
2-part treble with keyboard
18. Who Can Sail Without the Wind.....arr. Herrington and Glick  
Pavane Publishing: P1223  
2-part treble with piano and clarinet
19. Over the Sea to Skye.....arr. Michael Jothan  
Beckenhorst Press, Inc.:BP116  
2-part mixed (if you have some changing voices) with keyboard
20. The Owl and the Pussycat.....Stephen Owens  
Fostco Music Press: YS0417  
SA and keyboard
21. Laudamus Te, from *Gloria*.....Antonio Vivaldi, arr. Mason Martens  
Hal Leonard: HL08501171  
2-part treble with keyboard
22. The Happy Wanderer.....Friedrich W. Moller, arr. Kirby Shaw  
Warner Brothers: CHM030353  
2-part treble with keyboard and clarinet

23. Kang Ding Flower Song.....Victor C. Johnson  
Heritage Music Press: 15/1827H  
2-part treble with keyboard and flute
24. Yo le Canto Todo el Dia.....David Brunner  
Boosey and Hawkes: M-051-46932-1  
2-part treble and keyboard
25. To a Lambkin.....Arthur Baynon  
Elkin: 2218  
Unison with keyboard
26. Five Little Mice.....trad. English Folk Tune  
Novello: NOV 490386-03  
Unison with keyboard
27. Aiken Drum.....arr. Christy Cary Miller  
Hal Leonard: 08551809  
2-part treble and keyboard
28. Care Selve, from *Atalanta*.....G.F. Handel, arr. Leck  
Colla Voce: 21-20506  
Unison with keyboard
29. Gloria, from *Twelfth Mass*.....W.A. Mozart, arr. Russell R. Robinson  
Warner Brothers: SVM00004  
2-part treble with keyboard
30. Music from *Les Choristes*.....Bruno Coulais
1. Vois sur ton chemin  
Hal Leonard: 08744850  
SA with keyboard
  2. Caresse sur l'océan  
Hal Leonard: 08744851  
SSA with soloists and keyboard
  3. Cerf-volant  
Hal Leonard: 08744852  
SSA with keyboard
  4. Lueur d'été  
Hal Leonard: 08744853  
SSA with keyboard
  5. Compere Guilleri  
Hal Leonard: 08744854  
SA with keyboard

## **Publisher Information**

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