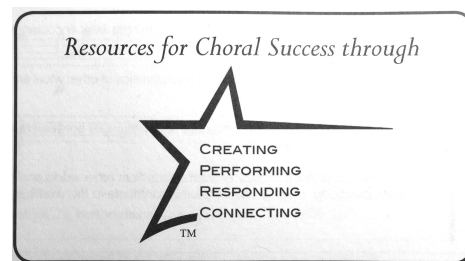


GLOSSARY of 'KEY VOCABULARY'



(6/1/16)

Accompaniment	underlying melodic, rhythmic, or harmonic part in the background or supporting a prominent part
Analyze	examine in detail the structure and context of a work
Arrangements	setting or adaptation of an existing work
Arranger; Arrangers	person who creates alternative settings or adaptations of existing work
Art Form	a form of human expression; includes dance, music, theatre, visual art
Articulation	words or symbols indicating treatment of sound, i.e. staccato, legato, marcato, pizzacato, etc. (see <i>Expression marks</i>)
Audience	those attending musical performances
Augmentation	a compositional technique which lengths the duration of a melody or rhythm from the original
Beat	underlying steady pulse present in most works
Call and Response	a musical idea (call) which is followed by a contrasting or complimentary idea (response)
Character	assuming and displaying characteristics expressive of or associated with the work being presented; being in the 'character' of the work(see <i>Non-verbal</i>)
Climax	the most important musical moment(s), sections or passages in a work
Commissioning	process in which an individual(s) is selected to create an original art work for a specific purpose
Composer	one who creates music compositions
Compositional devices	tools used by a composer or arranger to create or organize a composition or arrangement, such as tonality, sequence, repetition, instrumentation, orchestration, harmonic/melodic structure, style, and form
Compositional technique(s)	approaches a composer or arranger uses to manipulate and refine the elements of music to convey meaning and intent in a composition, such as tension-release, augmentation-diminution, sound-silence, motion-stasis, in addition to compositional devices (see <i>Elements of Music</i>)

Context	environment that surrounds a work, influences its understanding, provides clarity to its meaning, connects to an event or occurrence
Contrast	the musical difference between or within phrases or sections of a work (see <i>Phrase</i> and <i>Section</i>)
Diction	the clarity of enunciation displayed by individuals, small ensembles, or a choir during the presentation of a choral work
Diptych	two closely related yet individually separate drawings or paintings joined or hinged together to enable them being presented side by side
Dynamics; Dynamic markings	words or symbols indicating a level or range of loudness of a sound or sounds
Elements of Music	basic characteristics of sound (pitch, rhythm, harmony, dynamics, timbre, texture, form, and style/articulation) that are manipulated to create music
Expression marks	music symbols, terms, etc. notated within a work, helpful in conveying the intent of the composer, arranger, to performers (see <i>Articulation</i>)
Flat sign	Music notation symbol indicating the lower a pitch one-half step
Form	element of music describing the overall organization of a work, such as AB, ABA, rondo, theme and variations, and strophic form
Iconic notation	representation of sound and its treatment using lines, drawings, pictures
Imitation	a new musical idea different from but reflecting existing musical ideas (see <i>Variation</i>)
Improvise; Improvising	music created and performed spontaneously or “in-the-moment,” often within a framework determined by the musical style (see <i>Style</i>)
Intent	meaning or feeling of a work, planned and conveyed by a creator or performer(see <i>Word painting</i>)
Interpret; Interpretation	intent and meaning that a performer realizes in studying and performing a work
Introduction	a section within the overall form of a work; the initial or first section of a complete work
Key signature	set of sharps or flats at the beginning of the staff, following the clef sign, that indicates the primary pitch set or scale used in a work and provide clues to the resting tone and mode
Literary devices	used by writers to convey intent; ex. contrast, farce, imagery, metaphor, pun, repetition, sarcasm, verse, etc. (see <i>Compositional devices</i>)

Major scale	Series of eight consecutive pitches organized in the ascending and descending steps of whole, whole, half, whole, whole, whole, half. Contrasts with other scales particularly the natural minor scale.
Measure; Measures	an organizing principle for Western music; a set of beats existing between two bar lines
Melody	linear succession of sounds (pitches) and silences moving through time; the horizontal structure of music
Meter	grouping of beats and divisions of beats in music, often in sets of twos (duple meter) or threes (triple meter)
Minor scale	Series of eight consecutive ascending-descending pitches organized in the natural minor scale according to whole, half, whole, whole, whole, whole, half.
Modulation	a change from one tonality center to another
Mood	over-all feeling that a section of or a work conveys
Musical criteria	objective basis by which musical work(s), music performance(s) may be evaluated
Natural sign	music notation symbol indicating a changed pitch is to be returned to normal
Non-verbal	the actions, facial features, posture, etc. displayed by an individual, ensemble, or choir before, during, and following presenting a work (see <i>Character</i>)
Notational; Notation	visual representation of musical sounds, i.e. pitch, dynamics, articulation, tempo, etc.
Octavo	a term labeling a bound choral work
Onomatopoeia	using the voice to imitate sounds
Part-singing	singing of two or more independent parts at the same time
Phrase	musical segment with a clear beginning and ending, comparable to a simple sentence or clause in written text
Pitches	tones or notes with respect to highness or lowness (i.e., frequency)
Poetry	text serving as the basis for developing a choral work (see <i>Text</i>)
Refrain	repeated section containing basically unaltered music and/or text
Repeat; Repeated; Repetition	same rhythm, pitch, pattern, section, etc. being used more than once within a work; same or similar text being used more than once within a work
Rubato	changes in the speed of the underlying rhythm
Section(s)	one of a number of distinct segments that together comprise a composition; a section consists of several phrases
Select	act of choosing a work for a specific purpose, ex. studying, presenting, arranging, etc.

Soprano	the highest female voice
Soundscape(s)	an atmosphere or environment presenting sounds organized for a purpose or need; may be independent or included in a work
Structure	totality of a musical work
Style	label for a type of music possessing distinguishing characteristics and often performance practices associated with its historical period, cultural context, and/or genre
Style word	descriptive word(s) provided in a work by the composer or arranger; included to assist performers in interpreting a work (see <i>Interpret</i>)
Syncopation	A metric, rhythmic, accent change from the regular characteristics present in a work
Technical challenges	requirements of a particular work that stretch or exceed a performer's current level of proficiency in technical areas such as timbre, intonation, diction, range, or speed of execution
Tempo	rate or speed of the pulse in a work or performance
Text	words, story, poetry in and of a work (see <i>Poetry</i>)
Text setting(s)	manner in which words, story, poetry are emphasized and used by the composer or arranger
Tonality	tonic or key tone around which a work is centered
Tone; Tone Color	an element of music describing the unique sound of a voice or instrument
Unison singing	multiple voices singing the same pitch at the same time
Unity	presence of structural coherence within a work, generally achieved through the repetition of various elements of music (see <i>Variety</i>)
Unity and Variety	qualities in a work which both unify and sustain as well as provide musical interest and contrast (see <i>Unity</i> , <i>Variety</i>)
Variations	a compositional process in which a musical idea is presented and then changed while still maintaining properties of the original idea (see <i>Imitation</i>)
Variety	presence of structural contrast within a work for the purpose of creating and sustaining interest, generally achieved through utilizing variations in the treatment of the elements of music (see <i>Unity</i>)
Venues	physical setting(s) in which a musical presentation takes place
Verse	text or lyrics which change each time the same music is repeated (see <i>Text</i>)
Visual art	art form which takes place in space as contrasted with music which takes place over time
Vocable(s)	audible sounds and/or nonsense syllables used by vocalists to convey musical ideas or intent (see <i>Intent</i>)

Word paint(ing)

a compositional technique involving the manipulation of elements of music in an attempt to reflect, represent or depict the literal meaning of a word or text (see *Intent*)

