

CWU FALL CHORAL CLASSIC'S PHILOSOPHY

CWU's Fall Choral Classic is a non-competitive educational event which celebrates the fact that we can all learn from each other and recognizes the equal importance of the journey (rehearsal process) to the destination (performance). In a world where our students are exposed to confrontation, tactlessness and a lack of respectful dialog - this festival's purpose is to combine a positive experience for all the attending choirs in a supportive atmosphere. The fact that your students will spend more than 8 hours listening to Choral Music creates both challenges and opportunities: The biggest challenge is your students' attentiveness. The day may seem to go slowly at first, but as they get into the half hour rhythm of performance and clinic, it will seem to speed up. The festival experience is largely due to the cumulative effect of the entire day's activities. Please be vigilant about not allowing cell phones, ipods, and other devices which distract their focus. The opportunity is to settle in for the day, learn from the other 10 ensembles' which you will hear - as well as from the three master teachers working with the choirs. Although your choir receives a rating, it is more as a reference. There is no "winner"- or, more accurately, everyone wins.

IDEAS or ACTIVITIES

Here are some ideas you as a director might consider as you plan your trip:

- 1) An adjudication sheet for each choir that your students fill out and turn in to you (a sample sheet is available on the festival web site)
- 2) A list of the repertoire performed by each choir is available on the website. Consider either taking along copies of those pieces you own for the students to watch along with. If you don't own the music - give your students a little synopsis of the pieces you know, or something about the composer or style of music.
- 3) Go over the CWU Rules of Concert Etiquette with your students, downloadable from the festival web site. Let them rate themselves after every 2 or 3 ensembles on a form. Go over the Lynn Dupin Award specifications with them on the bus.
- 4) Have students jot notes from the clinicians' time with the other choirs on stage. Each group will have between 10 and 15 minutes of time to be worked with by one of our clinicians.

FINALLY

You will have an area of the concert hall assigned to you when you arrive. You may leave your things in the seats, since this is "your" area for the day.

The festival is designed for your students to remain for its duration -
8:15 a.m.-6:00.