

# NORTHWEST HARMONY CHORUS – SINGER’S CHECKLIST

January 2006

## **BASICS**

1. Do I sing all the correct notes and words?
2. Am I singing in tune: to the tonal center, within my section, and to the other sections?
3. Am I arriving on the primary word sound at the right time (i.e., not early or late)?
4. Am I staying on the primary word sound for its full value (i.e., no “migration”)?
5. Do I always know what the primary word sound is?

## **RESONANCE**

6. Am I singing all my word sounds in the same “warm air” space?
7. Am I singing every song with my own best (i.e., “warm”) resonance, or are there “holes” in the sound?
8. Am I employing good vocal production technique?

## **BREATHING**

9. Are my personal breaths in the right places?
10. Do I know when to take a rhythmic or “long” breath?
11. Am I observing all “No Breath Zones” (NBZs)?
12. Am I taking my Planned Personal Breaths (PPBs) in the same place every time?

## **ARTISTRY**

13. If I’m holding a note, am I doing the thing “holders” do?
14. If I’m singing a swipe, am I doing the thing “movers” do?
15. Do I know where the dynamic and texture changes are, and am I executing them?
16. Am I singing actively to the ends of the phrases?
17. Am I anticipating the tempo (downbeats in uptunes and the target words in ballads) so I arrive on time?
18. Am I singing my uptunes (and tempo-driven parts of ballads) with “back half emphasis”?
19. Am I putting my emotions into the performance of this song? That is, will I convince the audience that they should believe what I am telling them?
20. Am I putting my heart into every song for all to see?