**Rehearsal Preparedness, Sheet Music, and the 2-Week Rule for New Music**

In Keeping with our goals of promoting excellence, BSC maintains a quick pace for learning music.

The chorus provides the learning tracks and sheet music to all singers.

**We encourage that you learn the notes and words to your music and be "off paper" in two weeks’ time.**

**The only members who will have music on the risers after 2 weeks are music staff and pitch pipers for reference (if necessary).**

It is the singers' responsibility to learn the notes and words *outside* of rehearsal.

Having sheet music on the risers is distracting to the director, surrounding singers, and inhibits freedom of movement which is necessary for expressive singing and can inhibit proper vocal production.

This protocol maximizes the time with our director to *connect*with us on higher-levels of vocal production, expression, and artistry. If a singer is reading music, they will miss cues, innuendo and coaching prompts for improved unit sound.

We understand that everybody has a different learning style and it can be challenging to learn music quickly. If you have difficulty learning music quickly, that's ok! Ask your evaluator for help. We provide sectionals, additional pocket work with evaluators and at times extra help outside of rehearsal time.

If you still need your sheet music after 2 weeks, that is ok.

You may come off the risers and sing with your music on the sides of the risers

OR

Just stand in your spot, and listen without the music.

The work we do during our rehearsals is a "recipe" which has many more ingredients than "notes and words". Come prepared with the basic ingredients so we can progress to higher levels of performance *together.*

**Wendy Pachter**

**Director, Boston Skyline Chorus**