

FIX IT NOW!

Developing Ensemble Skills for Effective Rehearsals and Successful Performance

Robert Sheldon

Composer-Conductor-Clinician-Educator

Look at the BIG picture

Step back and assess – Sound, Appearance, Musicianship

Seating Placement

Consider the space, the music, and the needs of the players

Placement of principal players - Location of bass voices - Horn seating

Does it matter? It's all about tuning, precision and balance. Change it up!

Posture

Chairs: Ya gotta dance with what brung ya

The dreaded diseases: Individual instrument considerations (Flute-droop, Hunch-n-Scrunch, Instrumental Recline) Neck strap and mouthpiece considerations

No touching allowed! (elbows, legs, ankles)

I like to move it, move it.

Assessing the First Sounds

Ensemble tone and color - Open throat, teeth and ears! Listen/emulate/experiment

Balancing Act - Use of the pyramid four ways

Your reed is your friend – so use it!

Breathing

Deeply with focus

Where, when, how, why - In style/in tempo

Dynamics: air speed (velocity) vs. air volume (quantity)

Phrasing

What are you trying to say? - The conversations within

Cause and effect

Lean on it

Intonation

Using a tuner - Using your ears and your eyes

Ask a friend/ask the ensemble

Beats and vibrations ...

To conduct or NOT to conduct? THAT is the question!

When it is time to relinquish control

Making the players responsible

It's all about communication

Expression

Educational Learning Packets

Articulation: ping pong or bowling

Recordings

Become the music!

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