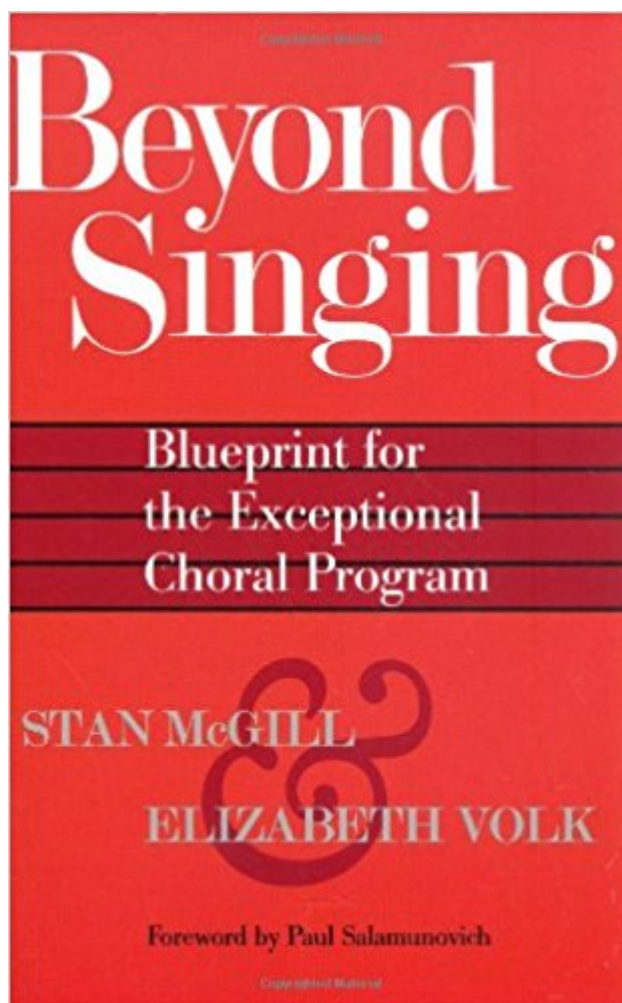


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# Beyond Singing: Blueprint For The Exceptional Choral Program



## **Synopsis**

(Methodology Chorals). Excellence is not something stumbled upon by accident. You won't achieve great things while flailing about in paperwork nor partake of true musical artistry by folly. Success requires a concrete plan of action: a big-picture plan followed by all the little details that, together, create a complex mosaic that forms a beautiful and intricate picture of choral excellence. This practical text offers a wealth of information for running a choral program. The two successful veteran teachers offer advice for dozens of solutions to issues facing the choral director. Includes a CD-ROM of bonus material, an introduction by Paul Salamunovich, and these chapters: 1. GET READY... The Calendar for the Year, The Choir Handbook. 2. GET SET... Preparing for Class, Herhearsal Structure and Techniques, Selecting Literature, Blueprint for Teaching Choral Literature, Effective Classroom Management. 3. GO! Conducting Concert Dos and Don'ts, Memorization, Contests and Festivals, Programming Themes and Variations, Enrichment Opportunities for Students, The Blessing of Added Extras, Identifying Prospective Audiences. 4. AFTER ALL, THEY DO CALL YOU A TEACHER! Grading Policies, Paperwork, Teaching Sight-Reading and Music Literacy. 5. TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS Copyright Law for the Choral Director, The Art of the Interview, Teacher Observations and Evaluations, Professional Resources. 6. HOW TO GET ALONG AND PLAY WELL WITH OTHERS Building Your Support System, The Recruitment and Retention of Choir Students, Effective Publicity and Public Relations. HOW TO DO STUFF Fund-Raising, Uniforms, Music Library Organization and Maintenance. 8. HOW TO KEEP THE TAIL FROM WAGGING THE DOG Show, Pop, Jazz, and Swing Choirs, Chamber Singers and Madrigal Groups. 9. WHO SAYS CHOIR IS BORING? Choir Traditions, Fun and Games, Trips, Tours, Parties, and Banquets. 10. ALL THE REST THAT'S FIT TO PRINT... Topics Overlooked in MusEd 101, The Great Miscellany of It All. 11. VAULTING INTO THE BIG LEAGUES VIPs of the Profession, "You Are Cordially Invited...", International Travel Epilogue, Table of Contents for CD Appendix, Index

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## Customer Reviews

great timing and great book

I have been teaching chorus for 5 years in high school. I wish I had this book the first year! It has forms, letters and all sorts of practical knowledge. How to prepare for class, sample grading policies, how to handle festival, travel, starting traditions, etc.... It is like having a veteran chorus teacher/friend who has great ideas and advice to share whenever you find the time to pull it off the bookshelf. It even comes with a CD appendix so that you can print forms, great time saver. The advice is straight forwarded and useful. If you have already been teaching for a while, the book is great for making you feel better about what you already do and it might change your mind and help you find a way of doing the same thing better.

I find this book a great resource in working with younger teachers and a wealth of good reminders for veteran directors alike. Full of Liz Volk's humor, it's an easy read, and gets directly to the point of each topic, ala Stan McGill. The included CD gives every form you ever wished someone had provided when you began teaching! Worth every penny and then some! Thanks to these two accomplished directors for the insights into some of the reasons for their great successes that can help us all.

For anyone who has been working in choral music, this text holds little new information or inspiration. Some of the writing is choppy and some advice sounds patronizing. ("They do call you a teacher" is the title of the section on grading) I recommend this for beginners in the field.

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