

## Advice for Vocalists:

### Memorizing New Song Material

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#### Learning the Words

- Write lyrics on paper in poem form
- Paraphrase and summarize meaning on paper
  - Write the main message conveyed by the songwriter/lyricist
- Read the lyrics aloud with expression, phrasing and accentuation
  - Expression: communicate action / feeling
  - Phrasing: where to breathe when singing
  - Accentuation: primary syllables of words

#### Learning the Music

- Listen to accompaniment without singing
- Tap out the rhythm
- Chant the lyrics rhythmically with breaths, emphasizing the vowels of each word
- Sing melody vocalizing "Yah" syllables to warm up the jaw and execute vocal line smoothly
  - Vocalize: sing on "nonsense" syllable consisting of vowels and consonants
    - "Yah" moves the jaw and opens the throat
- Combine melody with words and practice a cappella
  - Rehearsing a cappella assists in developing a strong sense of the vocal line independent of the music bed

