

Potential Challenges

1. Solfège (they may have always sung on words)
2. Sheet music (they may have always been taught by rote without a score)
3. Sight-reading (May be completely foreign)
4. Maintaining an arched soft palate (It feels weird to sing like this)
5. Tongue placement (what is this?!))
6. Classical literature (unfamiliar with the style overall)

Potential Solutions

1. Build relationships (make it personal and not general)
2. Music literacy (find fun ways to teach music literacy skills)
3. Begin with rote teaching, if that is the method, they are most familiar with
4. Creative programming (collaborating with orchestra, band, dance, or theater)
5. Ask for song suggestions (be careful here, you may choose one selection)

Andre Thomas Hierarchy of Teaching Music:

1. Rhythm and Pitches
2. Intonation and tone quality
3. Diction
4. Precision
5. Phrasing and Expression
6. Dynamic Contrast

Bookmark These!

1. Rote teach with the score in students' hands

2. Fun Music Literacy Segments:

- Bring out some instruments
- Singing Games
- Partner songs
- Backing tracks for sightreading, which is an amazing idea I learned from Dr. Burch & Dr. Conway's session on using technology to spark passion.

3. Converse with each student independently to build a solid relationship

Summer Choral Camp Ideas:

- A. Note Values & Rest Values
- B. Linear motion of score reading
- C. Explain the various staves in the score

- D. Introduction of Composers
- E. Performance Recordings

Please check out the article and the two podcasts for more details!

[An Unconventional Approach to the Urban Chorus Classroom for the New Choral Director \(choralnet.org\)](#)

[Choral Connectivity: A People-First Approach to Singing: Episode 18: An Unconventional Approach to the Urban Chorus Classroom on Apple Podcasts](#)

[Choralosophy: Episode 86: All Students DESERVE Music Literacy with Odell Zeigler IV on Apple Podcasts](#)