

## **Characteristics of a Successful Choreographer**

**Understand Musical Priority** – Know that singing comes first and everything else is secondary.

**Be Highly Prepared** – Show respect for Director and peers by being totally prepared to teach, review and demonstrate choreography at all times. Be completely familiar with all four parts in any arrangement you are choreographing.

**Attend Rehearsals and Performances** – Understand that attendance is a vital link between the Choreographer and the visual product. Take leadership seriously and respect fellow members enough to be present whenever possible. If unable to be at a chorus function, make sure to appoint someone from visual team to step in and take charge.

**Develop Strong Communication Skills** - Demonstrate consistent and strong communication skills in front of the chorus and with the Director. Attend all pertinent meetings, and offer input that supports the advancement of the visual and musical product. Understand that it is important for the Director and Choreographer to have the same vision about the final product.

**Display a Positive Attitude Towards Director** – Display support for Director through a positive attitude and upbeat behavior at rehearsal. Understand that this example will be mirrored by chorus members, and can positively affect the outcome of the chorus rehearsal and performance.

**Clearly Demonstrate Choreography at Rehearsal** – Develop and maintain a clear, organized and consistent method for demonstrating choreography, characterization, physical expression and energy.

**Demonstrate a Flexible Attitude** – Understand that choreography is never perfect the first time it is taught. Be prepared to adjust the plan whenever the music calls for it. Know that the plan must enhance what the Director is teaching at all times.

**Utilize the International Judging Category Book** - Realize this manual contains all the information pertaining to the categories. Use it to learn from the comments on yearly contest sheets. When possible, attend Sweet Adelines events to observe current performance techniques and styles. Incorporate new techniques into your creative process and teaching style.