

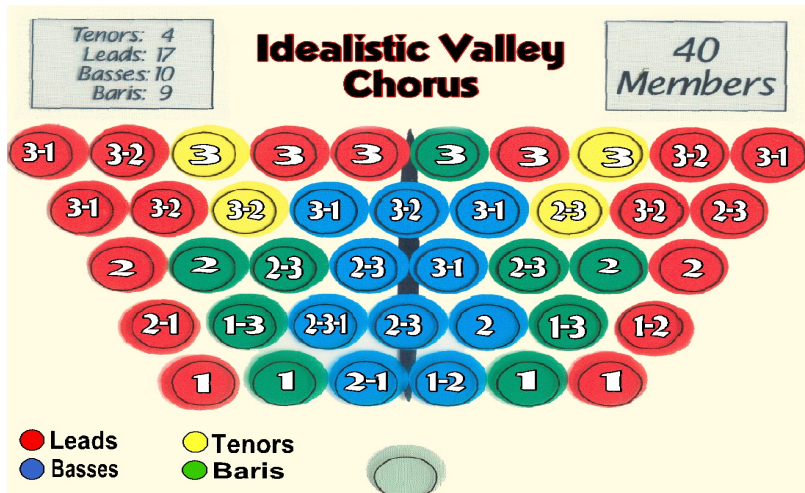
## Riser Placement Based on Singer Resonance

(Per Dr. Steve Jamison, Judge - Barbershop Harmony Society)

### *The science behind this concept...*

Humans possess directional hearing (*as do dolphins*) and it is selective in frequency. Additionally, we do not use just our ears to match tones. Properly placed singers resonate more freely and match tones, overtones, and formants (word sounds) more precisely.

"Why Do I Stand Here"  
Script: Diane Porsch



- 1. Mini-Mini-Mini-Mini Ming, Ming, Ming, Ming**
- 2. What-a-Pity, What-a-Pity, What, What, What, What**
- 3. Zoom, Zoom, Zoom, Zoom, ZAW**

- 1) Singers who resonate primarily in the mask (bright, thin) should stand near the front of the group.
- 2) Singers who resonate primarily in the area of the hard palette (ringy, clarion) should stand behind them.
- 3) Singers who resonate primarily in back of the head (mellow, dark) should stand in the back of the group.

Singers who resonate easily in a combination of these zones should stand in front of the 3's and behind the 2's.

This has to do with your ability match tones to that of another singer. If another singer resonates further forward in the head than you, then he should stand ahead of you. If he resonates the same as you he should stand in row with you. If he resonates further back in the head than you, then he should stand behind you.