

REPERTOIRE PROJECT: Below you will find a description of hypothetical students (with age, voice type, absolute range, best tessitura, best vowels, various vocal problems, and language skills). Pick one of these students - you are asked to pick a 30 minute recital program for the student, selecting songs in Italian or Spanish, German, French, and English. A minimum of two selections on the recital should be composed by a composer from a group underrepresented in the typical canon (so a woman composer, an LGBTQ composer, an indigenous composer, a composer of color, etc). This will include selecting and specifying appropriate keys of songs for the student and putting the songs in a specific recital program order, keeping in mind such factors as singer endurance, what makes artistic sense as a group of songs (including the meaning of the poetry, the tempo of each song, the major or minor tonality), and audience satisfaction. You will need to be able to defend in your writing the choices you make. This assignment is XX% of your grade. HINT: Once you have choices narrowed down, please spend time looking at the scores of the songs. The rep books by Emmons, Doscher, Coffin, Boldrey, and others are great tools, but they are no substitute for looking at the score.

Student 1:

Treble voice, 28 years old, mezzo soprano, range E3-G5, best range C4-C5, best vowels [o, e, u]. Has great difficulty singing in the upper fourth of her/their voice, especially on more open vowels; has some deep seated misgivings about performing in general; not an outgoing personality and not athletically inclined; has taken diction courses but has never studied any languages. Likes being a choir singer, not a soloist. A good musician (fine keyboard skills).

Student 2:

TBB, 23 years old, probably a tenor (although the range is less of an indicator of this), range Bb2-G4, best range Eb3-Eb4, best vowels [a, o, e]; has sporadic/erratic success in singing the upper 3rd of his/their range; has difficulty on high notes on the typical “tenor-favored” vowels; outgoing personality and physically tense; has studied French and Italian languages and taken a German diction class. Likes musical theater and opera. Has a somewhat overinflated opinion of his/their musicianship. Has played clarinet as well.

Student 3:

Treble, Countertenor, 25 years old, range C3-G5, best range A3-D5, best vowels [i, e, u]. Has difficulty singing in the lower fifth of his/their voice, especially on front vowels; loves performing in general; intellectual personality; plays cello as well as sings; has taken Russian and Czech languages. Likes being part of an ensemble. A good musician.