



ACDA Webinar Revitalizing Elementary Choirs

Workshop Title: Be The Light: Cultivating a Safe Space Through Music Selection

Presenter: Mr. Franklin Willis

What is a safe space in our classrooms?

Holley and Steiner (2005) propose a safe space is:

“The metaphor of the classroom as a ‘safe space’ has emerged as a description of a classroom climate that allows students to feel secure enough to take risks, honestly express their views and share and explore their knowledge, attitudes and behaviours.”

4 Tips to Build a Safe Space:

1. Establish a Connection With Students
2. Create a Sense of Community
3. Practice What We Preach
4. Honor Student Voice & Choice

Inclusive Teaching:

Inclusive practice can be defined as attitudes and methods that ensure all learners can access mainstream education. Teachers work to make sure all learners feel welcome and valued, and that they get the right support to help them develop their talents and achieve their goals.

Music Selection: Before we hand out a piece of music, really sit with and reflect on what we want students to learn through studying this music. What musical concepts can we teach with this repertoire? How can we connect the music to the everyday lives of our students? How will student voice and choice be honored and valued during the learning process?



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Elementary Choir Song Recommendations

Song Title	Composer	Source
Joy in My Heart	Rollo Dilworth	https://www.jwpepper.com/Joy-in-My-Heart/10011715.item#.YXAratnMJQI
Stand By Me	Kingdom Choir Arrangement	https://www.musicnotes.com/sheetmusic/mtd.asp?ppn=MN0185070
Rise Up	Audra Day (arrangement Baltimore Cardinal Shehan School)	https://youtu.be/IEGEovFX534
Joshua Fought The Battle of Jericho	James Desjardins	https://www.jwpepper.com/Joshua-Fought-the-Battle-of-Jericho/10192321.item#.YXAr_gnMJQI
The Song That Natures Sings	Ruth Elaine Schram	https://www.jwpepper.com/The-Song-that-Nature-Sings/3081940.item#.YXAsFtnMJQI
I Can Be	Anthony Richardson	Email transquinn@aol.com
I Am His Child	Moses Hogan	https://www.jwpepper.com/I-Am-His-Child/3219094.item#.YXAsfdnMJQI
Be The Light	Franklin Willis	https://flat-books.com/product/be-the-light/
This Is Me	Benj Pasek & Justin Paul/arr. Audrey Snyder	https://www.jwpepper.com/sheet-music/search.jsp?keywords=this+is+me&suggest



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		ed=department-filter&pageview=list-view&departmentDescriptions=Choral
Spiritual Medley	Rene Boyer	https://www.amazon.com/Expressions-Freedom-African-American-Spirituals-Instruments/dp/0634029215
The Champion	Carrie Underwood feat. Ludacris arr. Mac Huff	https://www.jwpepper.com/sheet-music/search.jsp?keywords=the+champion&suggested=department-filter&pageview=list-view&departmentDescriptions=Choral
Don't Take My Music Away	Teresea Jennings	https://www.musick8.com/html/current_tune.php?songorder=1&numbering=13

References:

https://www.ucl.ac.uk/teaching-learning/sites/teaching-learning/files/bame_awarding_gap_toolkit_2020.pdf

<https://www.weareteachers.com/safe-spaces-in-classrooms/>

<https://www.mvorganizing.org/what-is-a-safe-place-in-the-classroom-2/>

<https://www.allfie.org.uk/definitions/what-is-inclusive-education/>