

RMD President's Concluding Message
Leadership Academy, January 2025

Today, I hope you've learned something new, thought of a new idea to try, or helped another chapter leader learn from your experience. As volunteers, we understand it's not about what you **get**, it's about what you **give**. While we know you all came to learn, we also know many of you have great experience and skill, and so we thank you for being willing to share those with other newer leaders in these forums.

In case you don't know, we host via zoom what we call Chapter Check-in on the third Sundays of the even-numbered months at 6 PM. This is a chance for you, both leaders and members, to join us to ask questions, get help, or simply get updated on what's going on in the district. We'll send reminders via email and Facebook about the meeting so everyone is aware.

Now, at the beginning, I stated that chapters are the lifeblood of the Society. To extend that metaphor, singers are the lifeblood of the chapter. And if singers are the lifeblood of a chapter, leaders are the heart, constantly working, continually sustaining and nourishing the entire system to keep it alive and thriving. With a passion for their chapter, their fellow chapter members, and their craft, leaders consistently and relentlessly give of their time, talents, energy, and often their means to sustain the chapter. It is to these leaders that chapter members owe their gratitude for having a location in which to rehearse, music to learn, a director to lead, places to perform, audiences to perform to, and money to pay for it all.

Thanks to all the presenters today!

Thanks to Bruce Sellnow for his many hours of effort in organizing this great academy!

We look forward to seeing many of you at Rocky Mountain Harmony College the first weekend of May where we'll have our quartet preliminary qualification contest as well as Brouhaha!, the 2023 champions of the SPPBSQSUS, who will also serve as clinicians.

Thank you, chapter leaders, for all you do to keep your chapters alive and thriving!

Have a great weekend, everybody, and we'll be in touch!