

Below are repertoire recommendations made by the contributors to this article. These selections were utilized during the contributor's first year at their respective school. These songs can be used to teach vital musical skills or to build positive relationships with your new students. They are outstanding recommendations for first-year teachers.

**Unison/2-part**

Contributor	Title	Composer	Voicing	Benefits
Cammarano	The Arrow and the Song	Mary Lynn Lightfoot	Unison	Helps a beginning choir work on unison singing and listening to the ensemble. Has a Longfellow text that can be dissected as a class activity. Easy to learn, challenges students to sing as a group, and previews artistry that they will experience in more advanced choirs.
Cammarano	Swing Down Ezekiel	Greg Gilpin	2 part	Fast rhythms and memorable harmonies that are accessible. High school students will like having a "fun" song that does not sound like it was written for younger students.
Thompson	Chariot Ride	Mary Donnelly	2 part	Provides the opportunity to practice intermediate part-singing for beginning choirs. Repetitive and easy to learn but not recommended for a <i>very</i> beginning choir.
Thompson	Old King Cole	Dave and Jean Perry	2 part	Appeals to middle school students because it can be a funny song. Can be sung in unison if you need to modify, but is great in 2 part if you have the ensemble numbers.
Thompson	The Sleigh	Kountz Arr. Riegger	2 part	Not a hard song but has a fast tempo- which younger students often like. Can be used for winter concerts and isn't Christmas related.
Thompson	S'Vivon	Valerie Shields	2 part	Quick learn and then you can begin to layer on parts. Students find it intriguing because of the melodic minor mode.

**SA**

Boen	Medieval Gloria	Vijay Singh	SA	Great selection for building on tall, rounded vowels and placement within ensembles.
Tappa	Ose Shalom	Arr. John Leavitt	SA	Wonderful legato unison lines that blossom into 2 part accessibility. Hebrew text for variation within a program. Includes a violin accompaniment.
Tappa	J'entends le moulin	Mark Sirett	SA	French text which can introduce and teach vowel purity. Fast tempo for teaching accurate pronunciation and clear diction.
Winkler	Once I had a Sweetheart	Stephan Hatfield	SA	Ability to sing at an advanced level with only two voice parts. Good for teaching artistry- emotion, dynamics, tuning. Go back to something easier but set the bar higher. Sparse arrangement so the conductor can hear everything to fix.

**SSA(A)**

Boen	Snowflakes	Jackie O'Neil	SSA	Good for teaching a sense of line through legato singing.
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Johnson	Like A Tree	Arr. Lon Beery	SSA	Good first-year piece because it is composed in easy triads with a simple chord progression. Teaches the powerful and rounded vocal tone needed for spiritual arrangements.
Johnson	Weep no more	David Childs	SSAA	A beautiful piece that students fall in love with. Very natural phrasing through suspensions and resolutions.
Thompson	The Mouse Madrigal	Steven Porter	SSA	A lighter selection to balance out a serious program and students will talk about the experience for years. Consider adding hand movements and other elements that will make it comical for younger choirs. Teaches all ages about independent part singing and syncopated rhythms.

**TTB**

Tappa	Fillimiooriay	Lon Berry	TTB	Lots of enthusiasm and breath support required which makes it a good start for men of all ages. Teaches strong Tenor/Bass vocal tone and dynamic contrast for story-telling.
Tappa	Black is the Color of my True Loves Hair	Victor Johnson	TTB	Great musical lines for teaching phrasing and how to express emotion. Has beautiful piano and violin accompaniment.

**S(S)AB**

Anonymous	Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel	Roger Emerson	SAB	If men are few in number, SAB arrangements allow tenors and basses to combine and present a stronger section. This is an accessible arrangement of a very popular spiritual-students will enjoy singing something with a fiery feel.
Anonymous	Fa Una Canzona	Vecchi	SAB	Up-tempo, rhythmic selection that introduces a choir to singing in Italian. Wonderful for teaching ensemble unity in tempo and vowels.
Cammarano	Bring me little water, Silvy	Greg Gilpin	SSAB	Rewards advanced musicianship with percussion parts, has students moving and getting into the music. American history lesson on musician Huddie "Lead Belly" Ledbetter. Opportunity to sing with a deeper, richer timbre.
Cammarano	On Justice, Truth, and Peace	Amy F. Bernon	SAB	Stages part entrances so it is not too challenging right off the bat. Basses have the melody in the most complex segment so they can hold their own. Easy to piece together but sounds impressive. Vowels, phrasing, text meaning can be explored.
Thompson	Freedom is coming	Anders Nyberg	SAB	Parts repeat and you can layer each part in as needed. Bolsters singing confidence-students like it and learn it quickly. Good for MLK day assembly. You can choose which voice parts you want to do based on your choir needs. Unaccompanied.

Anonymous	That Lonesome Road	Arr. Deen Entsminger	SATB	Every choir loves this “feel good” song. Easy voice parts and ranges for all singers that will make them feel successful at the end of the year.
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**SATB**

Boen	April is in my Mistress' Face	Thomas Morley	SATB	Introduces text painting, encourages movement and acting out the text to get students into the musical expression.
Boen	Son de Camaguey	Stephan Hatfield	SATB	A lively Cuban folksong that will challenge students’ rhythm reading. A captivating multicultural addition to a concert.
Cammarano	The Autumn Moon	Jay Althouse	SATB	Teaches ensemble listening through frequent cluster chords. Students love the haunting sound of it and will sing it all the time outside of class. Gives you buy-in with students.
Cammarano	Rhythm of Life	Arr. Richard Barnes	SATB	Bridges the gap between traditional choral music and showier compositions that your students might want to sing. Works on tuning (parallel octaves) and linking up as an ensemble (fast moving text with 16th notes). Students will think it is really fun and impressive. A new teacher will get immediate buy-in with students.
Larsen	Salmo 150	Ernani Aguilar	SATB	A good selection for a first-year teacher because it is easy to teach, repetitive and encourages new/younger singers to project. Boys seem to really like it. (Especially basses)
Johnson	Gate Gate	Brian Tate	SATB	A rhythmically challenging piece, but is harmonically fairly easy. Introduces alternating time signatures.
Johnson	David's Lamentation	William Billings	SATB	Unaccompanied, simple work to build on phrasing and intonation.
Johnson	I am in need of music	David Brunner	SATB	A bit more harmonically challenging, but naturally so. Same with rhythms. Another beautiful song students will fall in love with.
Tappa	Omnia Sol	Randall Stroope	SATB	Teaches singing with a full sound and the importance of dynamic contrast. Kids always enjoy it. Macaronic text. Emotional meaning to the song to help bond students together.
Tappa	Wait on the Lord	Rosephayne Powell	SATB	Encourages a powerful and supported singing tone. Teaches contrasting articulations between voice parts. Quick learn- kids walk away singing it all day.