

## Changing Voice Recommended Sources: An Annotated Bibliography

- Barharm, T.J. & Nelson, D.L. (1991). *The Boy's Changing Voice: New Solutions for Today's Choral Teacher*. Miami, Florida: Belwin Mills.  
A booklet containing suggestions for warm-ups and vocal techniques and clever comments about the personality of adolescent boys. It also contains a list of recommended octavos.
- Barresi, Anthony. *Barresi on the Adolescent Voice*. Videocassette. Produced by the Department of Continuing Education in the Arts Division of University Outreach. Madison: University of Wisconsin.  
A very practical guide to what to expect from changing voices. Individual singers exemplify each voice stage. Video shows demonstration vocalises and voice lessons with this age singer.
- Beery, L. (March, 1996). Appropriate voicings for middle school choruses. *Choral Journal*. 15-20.  
Practical suggestions for ranges and literature appropriate for middle school voices.
- Collins, Don L. (1999). *Teaching Choral Music*. Second Edition. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice Hall.  
This choral methods text has the most extensive practical information about changing voices of any of the choral methods textbooks. Highly recommended for anyone directing choirs of any age.
- Collins, D.L. (2006). Preferred practices in teaching boys whose voices are changing. *Choral Journal*, 47(5), 119-121.
- Cooksey, J.M. (1977). The development of a continuing, eclectic theory for the training and cultivation of the junior high school male changing voice. Part I: Existing theories. Part II: Scientific and empirical findings. Part III: Developing an integrated approach to the care and training of the junior high school male changing voice. *Choral Journal*, 18 (2, 3,4), 5-13, 5-16, 5-15.  
This is the seminal article upon which most subsequent information about changing voice is based. If you can read only one source, this should be the one.
- Cooksey, J.M. (1984). The male adolescent changing voice: Some new perspectives. In M. Runfola (Ed.). *Research Symposium on the Male Adolescent Voice* (pp. 4-59). Buffalo: State University of New York Press.  
Cooksey "fine tunes" his previous findings.
- Cooksey, J.M. (1992). *Working with the Adolescent Voice*. St. Louis: Concordia.  
This booklet is a summary of all Cooksey's findings. It also contains much practical information about music selection, auditioning, warm-ups, etc.
- Cooksey, J.M. & Welch, G.F. (1998). Adolescence, singing development and national curricula design. *British Journal of Music Education*. 18(1). Reprinted in Welch, G. F., White, P.J., Sergeant, D. C., & Cooksey, J. (1997). *Singing Development: Childhood & Change - An Overview*. Available from The Centre for Advanced Studies in Music Education, Faculty of Education, Roehampton Institute London, Downshire House, Roehampton Lane, London, UK SW15 4HT Series of studies involving development of voices from pre-school to adolescence. Includes comparisons of trained and untrained children's voices. A detailed review by Joanne Rutkowski is available at <http://www.paccd.ca.us/~menc/News24.htm#Review%20Research>

Cooksey, John (2000). Male adolescent transforming voices: Voice classification, voice skill development, and music literature selection. In *Bodymind & Voice: Foundations of Voice Education*. Revised edition. (Leon Thurman & Graham Welch Ed). St. John's University, Collegeville, MN: VoiceCare Network Publication. 821-840.

Addresses commonly asked questions. Suggests which voice categories might be able to sing two-part, three-part, four-part, and unison music. Summarizes the characteristics of each stage.

Cooksey, John (2000). Voice transformation in male adolescents. In *Bodymind & Voice: Foundations of Voice Education*. Revised edition. (Leon Thurman & Graham Welch Ed). St. John's University, Collegeville, MN: VoiceCare Network Publication. 718-738.

Explains more information from the California Longitudinal Study that followed 86 boys for 3 years. Results are not completely available, but appear partially in the Runfola document.

Cooksey, John & Welch, Graham. (1997). Adolescent singing development and national curricular design. In *Singing Development: Childhood and Change An Overview*. London: Roehampton Institute Press. 19-30.

Many details that are available in his other publications. Addresses the English curriculum. Very valuable reference list.

Crocker, Emily. (January, 2000). Choosing music for middle school choirs. *Music Educators Journal*. 33-37. Very usable suggestions for identifying singable, challenging and range-appropriate music for middle school singers.

Demorest, S.M. and A. Clements. (2007). Factors influencing the pitch-matching of junior-high boys. *Journal of Research in Music Education*, 55, 190-203.

Demorest, S. M. (2001). Pitch-matching performance of junior high boys: A comparison of perception and production. *Council for Research in Music Education Bulletin*, 151, 63-7

Friddle, D. (2005). Changing bodies, changing voices: A brief survey of the literature and methods of working with adolescent changing voices. *Choral Journal*, 46(6), 32-43, 46-47.

Overview of what has been speculated about girls' and boys' changing voice. Includes historical references as well as references to the thoughts of contemporary authors.

Gackle, Lynn. (1991). The adolescent female voice: Characteristics of change and stages of development. *Choral Journal*, 31 (8). 17-25.

Ages and stages of the female voice change.

Gackle, Lynn. (2000). Understanding voice transformation in female adolescents. In *Bodymind & Voice: Foundations of Voice Education*. Revised edition. (Leon Thurman & Graham Welch Ed). St. John's University, Collegeville, MN: VoiceCare Network Publication. 739-744.

Very clearly written summary of physical changes in female girls.

Gackle, Lynn. (2000). Female adolescent transforming voices: Voice classification, voice skill development,

and music literature selection. In *Bodymind & Voice: Foundations of Voice Education*. Revised edition. (Leon Thurman & Graham Welch Ed). St. John's University, Collegeville, MN: VoiceCare Network Publication. 814-820.

Addresses a comparison of male and female adolescent voice changes. Includes stages of female adolescent voice.

Groom, M.D. (1984). A descriptive analysis of development in adolescent male voices during the summer time period. In M. Runfola (Ed.). *Research Symposium on the Male Adolescent Voice* (pp. 80-85). Buffalo: State University of New York Press.

Tests the theory that boys' voices change dramatically over the summer.

Harrison, S. D. (2004). Engaging boys: Overcoming stereotypes - Another look at the missing males in vocal programs. *Choral Journal*, 45(2), 24-29.

Herman-Giddens, M.E., Slora, E.J, Wasserman, R.C., Bourdony, C.J., Bhapkar, M.V., Koch, G.G. & Hasemeier, C.M. (1997). Secondary sexual characteristics and menses in young girls seen in office practice: A study from the pediatric research in office settings network. *Pediatrics*, 99(4), 505-512.

Secondary sexual characteristics appear to be occurring earlier among these more than 17,000 girls. African American girls experienced earlier onset than did Caucasian girls.

Hook, S. (1998). Changing voice and middle school music: An interview with John Cooksey and Nancy Cox. *Choral Journal* 39 (1), 21-26.

Cooksey & Cox are interviewed regarding male and female changing voices. Many practical suggestions and cautions.

Hook, S. (2005). Hook, S. (2005). *Vocal agility in the male adolescent changing voice*. (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). University of Missouri, Columbia, MO.

The title explains it all. Good source of references.

Huff-Gackle, Lynn. (1985). The young adolescent female voice (ages 11-15): Classification, placement, and development of tone. *Choral Journal*, 26, 15-18.

If you work with adolescent girls, you should study this article. Contains information on ranges, tone quality and vocal maturation issues.

Killian, Janice N. (1997). Perceptions of the voice change process: Male adult vs. adolescent musicians and non-musicians. *Journal of Research in Music Education*.44(4), 521-535.

Contains results of interviews with 154 men and boys about what they remember about their voice change. For some it is/was a non-event. For others it was a major trauma.

Killian, Janice N. (Spring, 1997) What about those 5th and 6th grade boys? *Texas Sings! Official Publication of the Texas Choral Directors Association*. 13 (3)17-18.

This article is non-research-ese summary of findings when I began testing fifth and sixth grade boys for evidence of voice change.

Killian, Janice N. (February, 1998). Characteristics of successful choirs in a contest setting. In R. Duke (Ed.), *Texas Music Education Research 1998*. Austin, Texas: Texas Music Educators Association. 39-44.

Data indicating that music selection (SA vs. Three Part Mixed; Three Part Mixed vs. SATB) is highly correlated with contest success.

- Killian, Janice N. (August/September, 1998). In the middle: Selecting music for middle school choirs *VocalEase*. 3(5), 16-22.  
Title says it all. Emphasis is placed on music for changing voice boys.
- Killian, Janice N. (April, 1998). Boy crazy: Middle school boys. *VocalEase*. 3(3)10-14.  
Practical hints for working with middle school boys.
- Killian, Janice N. (February, 1999). Music Selection of Successful Choirs at UIL and Non-UIL Contests. In R. Duke (Ed.), *Texas Music Education Research 1999*. Austin, Texas: Texas Music Educators Association, 51-56.  
Data further examining the effect of music selection on contest ratings among middle school mixed choirs.
- Killian, Janice N. (1999). A Description of Vocal Maturation Among Fifth and Sixth Grade Boys. *Journal of Research in Music Education* (47(4), 357-369.  
This paper describes the results of testing the voices of 99 fifth and sixth grade boys and placing them into the Cooksey classification system. The data strongly suggest that boys' voices are changing earlier.
- Killian, Janice. N. (2000). The relationship between music selection and contest ratings: A third year report. In R. Duke (Ed), *Texas Music Education Research 2000*. Austin, Texas: Texas Music Educators Association.  
Data based study in which the relationship between contest ratings and music voicings (SATB, SAB, Three-Part Mixed) is explored.
- Killian, Janice N. (2003). Director self report of accommodations made for changing voice boys in choral settings. In R. Duke (Ed), *Texas Music Education Research 2003*. Austin, Texas: Texas Music Educators Association.  
Directors from 8 states indicated how they work with changing voices. Results are discussed in terms of specific strategies used and the need for further information. Of particular interest were the numbers of people who ask boys to sing melody at the octave or participate in non-singing activities.
- Killian, Janice, O'Hern, Michael & Rann, Linda (1998)*Essential Repertoire for the Young Choir: Tenor Bass 2nd Edition*. Emily Crocker, Editor. Milwaukee, Wisconsin: Hal Leonard Corp.
- Killian, Janice, O'Hern, Michael & Rann, Linda (1998)*Essential Repertoire for the Developing Choir: Tenor Bass 2nd Edition*. Emily Crocker, Editor. Milwaukee, Wisconsin: Hal Leonard Corp.  
These two volumes contain 37 pieces selected specifically for changing voice boys. The teacher's editions contain warm-ups, vocal techniques and suggestions for working with this age group on each particular piece of literature.
- Killian, Janice N. & Moore, Melanie C. (1997). The vocal ranges of fifth- and sixth-grade boys: A preliminary report. 31-34. In R. Duke (Ed.), *Texas Music Education Research 1997*. Austin, Texas: Texas Music Educators Association.  
This research displays the results of a teacher survey regarding the changing voices of their upper elementary boys and compares their opinions with the auditions of fifth and sixth grade boys.
- Killian, Janice. N., & Wayman, John. (February, 2008). Descriptive study of vocal development

among middle school instrumentalists. Research poster session at the Texas Music Educators Association annual convention. San Antonio, TX.

- Killian, Janice N. & Wayman, John. (April, 2010). Description of vocal development among male adolescents enrolled in band or choir. *Journal of Research in Music Education*.
- McKenzie, D. (1956). *Training the boy's changing voice*. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press. Of historical interest. Many ideas; somewhat dated.
- Moore, M. C. (1995). *The adolescent male changing voice: A study of age and attitudinal comparisons*. Unpublished master's thesis. Texas Woman's University.  
Results of a study which tested the voices of 60 seventh grade boys at the beginning and ending of the year. Moore concluded that voices may be changing earlier.
- Nelson, Charles, Austin King, Jon Ashby (no date). *The Voice*. Videotape by Voice Institute of West Texas. Abilene Christian University. Box 8058, Abilene, Texas.  
Videotape of general information about the voice. Shows actual video of the inner workings of an actual voice while singing.
- Power, A. (2008). What motivates and engages boys in music education? *Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education*, 175, 85-102.
- Runfola, Maria. (1984). *Research Symposium on the Male Adolescent Voice*. Buffalo: State University of New York Press.  
This is a proceedings of the above symposium. It contains much research about the changing voice which is not available anywhere else.
- Rutkowski, Joanne. (1981). The junior high school male changing voice: Testing and grouping voices for successful signing experiences. *Choral Journal*, 22, 6-12.  
This how-to article contains many helpful tips on arranging groups of voices so they can easily be placed into voice parts without auditioning individually. It is a great way to get them all singing before you have had a chance to hear each voice.
- Rutkowski, Joanne. (1984). Two year results of a longitudinal study investigating the validity of Cooksey's theory for training the adolescent male voice. In M. Runfola (Ed.). *Research Symposium on the Male Adolescent Voice*. (pp. 86-96). Buffalo: SUNY Press.  
Rutkowski followed a small group of boys from sixth through eighth grade, testing their voices monthly and classifying them according to the Cooksey system.
- Sergeant, Desmond & Welch, Graham. (1997). Perceived similarities and differences in the singing of trained children's choirs. In *Singing Development: Childhood and Change An Overview*. London: Roehampton Institute Press. 31-34.  
Addresses the perceived differences between male and female trebles in song and speech. Very detailed with many valuable references.
- Shields, C. (2001). Music education and mentoring as intervention for at-risk urban adolescents: Their self-perceptions, opinions and attitudes. *Journal of Research in Music Education*, 49, 273-286.  
Data regarding the psychological aspects of the voice change.
- Small, Ann. & Bowers, Judy. (1997). *Strategies for teaching elementary and middle-level chorus*

Reston, Virginia: Music Educators National Conference.

Music methods textbook with many helpful suggestions for testing and working with changing voice boys.

Welch, Graham. (1997). The developing voice. In *Singing Development: Childhood and Change An Overview*. London: Roehampton Institute Press. 3-13.

Detailed and precise. Recommended reading regarding child to adult physiology. Many references.

White, C.D. & White, D.K. (2001). Commonsense training for changing male voices. *Music Educators Journal*, 87(6), 39-43,53.

The title says it all. Contains many helpful tips and suggestions.

Williams, Bonnie Blue. (1991). A comparison of self-perceptions of the singing and speaking voice of two groups of girls: pre-menarchial and post-menarchial. Paper presented at Texas Music Educators Association state convention, San Antonio, Texas.

Bonnie Williams and Lynn Gackle seem to be among the very few people publishing information about the characteristics of the girls' changing voice.

### Recommended Videos

Archembault, Charlene. (1995) *Daily warm-ups for a beautiful voice*. Santa Barbara Press.

Great use of movement with warm ups. Valuable for the director. Not as useful for students to watch.

Freer, Patrick. K. (2005). *Success for adolescent singers: Unlocking the potential in middle school choirs*.

Waitsfield, Vermont: Choral Excellence Inc.

Video of working with 20 middle school voices who do not know him. Warm ups; ideas for getting reluctant middle schoolers to sing; philosophy of meet the child where he/she is. Highly recommended.

Leck, Henry. (2001). *The Boy's Changing Voice: Take the High Road*. Hal Leonard.

Demonstration of working with highly skilled treble singers as they develop a voice change. Uses falsetto as the way to find singing ranges for the changing boys' voices. Includes videos of moving vocal cords in various stages of change.

Nelson, Charles. (1995). *The Voice*. Abilene, TX: Abilene Christian University.

Demonstration of vocal cords while singing. Good information regarding vocal anatomy and vocal health. Appropriate for viewing by middle and high school students.