

Bravo! Submissions

Bass Clef Choir R&S - Kelly Truax

I am very excited by these pieces and can't recommend them highly enough! The pieces are all ones that my choirs are either singing now or will sing for our spring concert . . . pieces that younger or less experienced men's choirs can handle. Please explore them; hopefully you'll find something you can try with your guys!

1. Journeyman's Song

Braeden Ayres

TTB Choir with piano - self-published. www.braedenayres.com

I can not put into words the absolute adoration my 9th grade men have for this piece! It is dramatic with full soaring harmonies that showcase everything that is great about young men's voices . . . and the text makes them feel both vulnerable and empowered. A truly remarkable piece for young men!

2. Mad

Timothy C. Takach

TB Choir with piano - self-published. www.timothyctakach.com

My 9th graders are also singing *Mad*, and they adore this piece! Commissioned by ACDA-MN for the 2014 State 7-8 Boys' Honor Choir, this piece tells the story of a boy who is mad at his mother and runs away . . . only to discover that he misses his mom and home. This glorious piece gives young guys the words to use to tell their mothers how much they love them. Have I mentioned that my guys love this piece? :)

3. Sarah

Newfoundland Folk Song - arr. Andrea Ramsey

TBB Voices with piano. Carl Fischer #CM9396

This folksong sits low; this piece is best suited for a choir that has a lot of baritones/basses and tenors who can sing F#-F#. It tells the story of a lad who gets caught trying to sneak in to see his beloved. A playful text, and a well-arranged song for developing choirs.

4. Sisi Ni Afrika

Christian J. "Ceej" Oliver

TBB choir, piano & percussion - BriLee Music #BL870

The parts are in great ranges for changing voices. The T1 part can be sung successfully by unchanged voices, and the middle part is more of a T2 type range. The chorus uses strong block-chord harmony, and the verses use a bit of vocal percussion. This piece could easily incorporate movement and staging.

5. Old Joe Clark

American Folk Song - arr. Matthew Armstrong

TTBB with piano - Lawson-Gould (Alfred) #43180

Extremely playful arrangement that incorporates percussive noises (*clk, ch, pft* :) The four-part harmony is accessible to young high school ensembles. Definitely an arrangement that you can have fun with!

And one piece for those who direct advanced men's ensembles —

6. Bound for the Promised Land

J. David Moore

TTBB A Cappella - Mark Foster Music #35030210

Commissioned by the Michigan Men's Glee Club, this arrangement combines three 19th-century melodies: the shape-note hymn "The Promised Land" and two Appalachian fiddle tunes, "Santa Anna's Retreat" and "The Temperance Reel." The fiddle tunes are treated like Celtic "mouth music" and make the piece incredibly rhythmic. This piece is exciting!