

U-SING Child Voice Class
Utah – Singing Instruction for a New Generation
2016-2017

* A pdf of this presentation will be available on the UMEA website.

Welcome to U-SING, a six-week distance learning course designed to promote healthy singing skills for elementary aged children through group instruction, skill-building activities, and learning quality heritage materials. Any adult who does group singing with children may participate.

Course materials are available electronically and teaching “assignments” may be completed on a schedule that is convenient to you. There is no baseline performance expectation. Your participation in this pilot program will provide valuable feedback for USU Extension as they begin to explore arts as part of their Discover 4-H program.

There is no course fee or grade. If you currently hold a Utah teaching license, relicensure points may be issued through the Utah State Board of Education at the end of the six segment course and upon completion of all assignments plus an evaluation to assess the course content, delivery, accessibility, and application to your individual teaching requirements.

Cache Children’s Choir is the demonstration group for video content. Artistic Director Claudia Bigler has designed all instruction.

Participants must have access to the internet and the ability to view and upload short videos. In addition, parents or guardians of participating children must have agreed to the use of video recording for educational purposes. Names of individual students will not be released. Most schools will already have a blanket agreement of this nature.

Course content includes short video demonstrations of the instruction of specific singing skills that are easily accessible for elementary aged children. After applying these techniques to your own work with children, participants are asked to reflect on the process of preparing and implementing new skills. Assessment includes informal before and after video recordings of the subject group(s). Interactive Q & A sessions with Claudia may be arranged face-to-face or through video-conferencing.

Want to get started? The first assignment is to record a video of your target group singing one verse of “My Country ‘Tis of Thee,” unaccompanied. The text, notation and historical information can be found at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My_Country,_%27Tis_of_Thee .

An informal video using phone or tablet is fine for this purpose. Upload your recording as a private video to YouTube or your Dropbox account and send an email to invite me leslie.timmons@usu.edu to view and download. You will be given access to the course modules upon receipt. Please feel free to email us with questions.

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