

STRATEGIES AND TIPS FOR A SING-ALONG

A sing-along is simply a group of people singing together in a much less formal setting than a choir. It can be effective with all ages and with people in any number of settings.

Musicians can often visit shelters, nursing homes, prisons, after-school programs or any other social services centre. It is a great source of fun, encouragement, healthy living and a good way to help individuals build relationships.

Things to keep in mind:

Contact staff of the facility you would like to visit to determine the best times to come as well as any additional requirements or limitations.

Choose music that is appropriate for the group you are leading.

Bring everything you will need.
(ie., instruments, music, lyric sheets, etc...)

Be flexible. You do not have to stick to an exact program. Sing more of the songs that people are enjoying.

Smile and offer words of encouragement. It will help people feel comfortable enough to join in.

Have a couple of people come with you as support leaders. They can handle any situation that may arise, allowing you to continue to lead the singing.

Prepare lyric sheets to hand out. Make the font clear and large enough to read. Be prepared to lead entirely by rote.

If the music choices you made were not successful, bring different songs for your next visit. Keep trying!