

# Six Appeal

## VOCALBAND

### THE SIX APPEAL EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

There are many musical groups around the country that appear in schools. How many of them do any real teaching? Six Appeal pursues its passion for learning with the Six Appeal Educational Experience. With members carrying degrees in K-12 Vocal/Classroom Music and in Vocal Performance/Pedagogy, Six Appeal uses real educators to administer proven teaching strategies designed to educate the musician and ignite ambition. The Six Appeal Educational Experience doesn't subject students to a boring lecture, it provides an opportunity for students to interact with a professional vocal band where they will have hands on experiences to develop skills such as critical listening, healthy vocal technique, intonation, and rhythm.

The instructors in Six Appeal guide students through a cappella's rich and dynamic past, following the different paths it has taken throughout music's history. Each era is supplemented with a live performed example of the style. Six Appeal teaches students homophony through Barbershop, polyphony with Palestrina, and explain how Vocal Jazz came about. Students will hone rhythm skills learning how to beatbox, and get a chance to sing real music with the group. An in-depth version of the Educational Experience is perfect for a multi-session residency, or it can be condensed to a half-hour overview. Built with the instructor in mind, the modular format of Six Appeal's Educational Experience allows instructors to select different topical components that are presented to students. In a time where state budgets can't always support arts programming, Six Appeal is proud to aid teachers in curriculum-based instruction, and to empower students. A residency or clinic with Six Appeal is more than just a promotional event for a professional performing group... It is an Educational Experience.

**"Since your appearance, the halls have been buzzing with excitement. I have been asked every day when I'm going to invite you all back. Teachers have stopped me in the hall to congratulate me on such a successful day, and students I've never seen before have been thanking me for bringing you to Eisenhower. Your visit has been the single most important thing I have done for my program thus far. My Glee Club's men's section doubled in size after your concert. Thank you for everything!"**

Laurel Cawley | Choral Director, Eisenhower High School, Yakima, WA



## ABOUT THE GROUP

Six Appeal began as a collegiate hobby. In 2006, the founding members decided to start singing together at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. It was a diversion from studies, fun with friends, and yes, maybe a way to break the ice with girls. Starting with a strong choral background and classical roots, they expanded their repertoire to the music of today, breaking new grounds with original arrangements of hit songs spanning the decades. Within three years, those former college freshmen were performing concerts around campus, winning a cappella competitions, and touring around the Midwest. By their senior year, they realized that when you have a good thing going with your best friends, you stick with it. In 2010, Six Appeal moved their home base to Minneapolis in order to turn hobby into passion. They began touring the country, delivering electrifying performances and teaching a new generation about a cappella with their curriculum-based Educational Experience. The Six Appeal roster now includes musicians from all walks of life and the young men continue to make friends and find fans where ever they travel.

Despite their cheeky group name, the antics of these six young gentlemen provide a good-natured atmosphere for their electrifying performance. A Six Appeal show will split your sides, feed your musical sweet tooth, and leave you wondering how in the world they pulled it off just with voices. In the spring of 2012 Six Appeal achieved the title of National Champion at the National Harmony Sweepstakes A Cappella Festival in San Rafael, CA. In addition to their 1st place win, they also won the awards for Best Original Song as well as the coveted Audience Favorite award. In early 2013 Six Appeal appeared on ESPN to sing the National Anthem at the All-State Sugar Bowl in New Orleans, LA.

With members formally instructed in singing, music education, composition, and over 80 combined years of musical training and experience, Six Appeal brings a diverse arsenal of style and entertainment to the stage. In addition to performance, Six Appeal has a passion for spreading their knowledge of a cappella music to every audience, and an essential aspect of their mission is to empower young singers in their educational outreach program. What makes these Six stand out from the crowd? *Their Appeal.*

# LYCEUMS AND ASSEMBLIES

Exposing all students to the arts can be a challenge. Six Appeal has developed a short format all-school assembly program to educate students about the basics of a cappella singing in a fun and engaging way. A typical lyceum is 35-60 minutes and can be adapted for any age group, K-12, and will be selected from the following elements:

## What Is A Cappella?

- Brief discussion of the meaning, origin, practice of a cappella music as a whole

## The History Of A Cappella

- Explaining the very beginnings of Western Music and its vocal roots
- Exploring the Medieval environment that birthed *Gregorian Chant*, with a performed example
- Discussing the cultural climate of the Renaissance, with a performed *Polyphonic Motet*
- Transitioning into homophonic singing, with a performed example of *Barbershop*
- Illustrating the impact of American Jazz on world music, showcasing some *Vocal Jazz*
- Demonstrating the endless possibilities of “instrumental” singing with *Vocal Play* and *Scatting*
- Highlighting the use of the voice as a background instrument with a *Doo Wop* performance

## Build A Song

- Dissecting a Six Appeal song in real time, highlighting all the different parts
- Responsibilities of a bass singer, involving foundation, groove, and performance practice
- Responsibilities of a mid-range/baritone singer, involving blend and filling chords
- Responsibilities of tenors/treble voices, involving texture, range, and balance
- Responsibilities of Vocal Percussion, involving tempo, groove, and beat structure
- Responsibilities of a Soloist or “Lead”, involving interpretation and mood
- Tying it all together, and showing all parts functioning simultaneously

## Beatbox Breakdown

- Introduction to the basic elements of Vocal Percussion
- Using verbal exercises as a Vocal Percussion primer
- Isolation of the different sounds, and their function within a beat
- Call and response of basic beats with increasing difficulty
- Advanced classes can include some basic “scratching” along with accompanied exercises
- Showcasing an accomplished Vocal Percussionist in action

## Learn A Song

- Showing how accessible it can be to sing a cappella
- Implementing group vocalises to prepare students to sing part of a cappella
- Instruction of individual vocal lines using solfege or numbers
- Guided combination of parts
- Combining all parts, and transitioning from solfege syllables into performance syllables
- The students sing along with Six Appeal as they perform a song

## Q&A

- Six Appeal shares knowledge and experience about being professional musicians

## MASTERCLASSES

In addition to all-school assemblies, Six Appeal can also work one-on-one with students, choirs, and select vocal ensembles. This personalized approach can leave a lasting impression with students and instructors by providing a more in-depth and immersive experience.

### **Applied Vocal Preparation and Vocalises**

- The students are led in warm-ups and shown the benefits of different types of vocal exercises
- Six Appeal discusses how properly preparing a voice is essential for personal growth and safety
- The students are led through varying difficulties of ear training and chord blocking

### **Instruction of Contemporary A Cappella**

- Six Appeal rehearses the student ensemble on a new a cappella arrangement
- Students are shown tips on phrasing, balance, intonation, and tone
- If they achieve technical proficiency, the students are taught texture, performance practice, form
- Teachers have the option to use a Six Appeal arrangement for their ensembles
- A song may be taught to the students by ear using solfege and critical listening

### **Instruction of Choral Repertoire**

- The ensemble rehearses a piece to be sung at an upcoming contest, concert, or community event
- Six Appeal highlights the performance practices associated with the genre
- Members of Six Appeal work on specific sections of the music to improve the choir's performance
- Instruction from an outside source can be essential to highlighting what choral directors have been teaching on a day-to-day basis and really reinforces what has already been taught
- A new perspective enhances confidence and helps the ensemble reach new heights
- This instruction is truly hands on, collaborative, and personalized to each group's needs

## ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Six Appeal's Artist in Residence format enables students and teachers to get the most value from bringing Six Appeal to their community. Whether it lasts two days or two weeks, the Artist in Residence option allows Six Appeal to go in depth on a variety of aspects of musical performance. A residency can be for a single ensemble or expanded to an entire district. Daily interaction allows students to maximize their growth through repeated exposure to the concepts and the heightened learning atmosphere. Six Appeal provides extended sessions involving but not limited to:

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|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Basic Music Theory | • Song Writing        | • The Business of Music     |
| • Ear Training       | • Solo Interpretation | • Performance Practice      |
| • Critical Listening | • Riffing and Belting | • Choreography              |
| • The Changing Voice | • Live Sound Mixing   | • Advanced Vocal Percussion |
| • Musical Arranging  | • Recording           | • Individual Voice Lessons  |

## CONTACT US

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