

Building An Unified Worship Arts Ministry

Tools For Creating and Managing An Unified Worship & Arts Ministry

“Oh magnify the Lord with me, let us exalt His name together” Psalm 34:3

What's The Purpose For These Tools?

The purpose of these tools is to provide and put a structure in place so that it cuts down on disorganization, misunderstandings, miscommunication, and so many other distractions and keeps unity within your team. Regardless of the size of your worship arts ministry, the enemy would love nothing more than to create problems within this area of ministry, but if you communicate what is expected and hold people accountable, it'll keep problems out of your team.

These tools will include most if not all of the components that are used in this ministry's guidelines including things such as Vision, Leadership Roles, Guidelines, and Practical tools that are tailored to your worship arts ministry.

Use this as a foundation to build upon and watch how effective and unified your ministry will be.

1. Make sure it's in Black & White

Before putting people on the stage it's very crucial that they are familiar with the standards and expectations not just for the worship & arts ministry but also the church. Yes, you are grateful that they have expressed interest in being apart, but you as the leader have to be sure to give clear direction of what is expected & required of them.

Vision & Mission Statement

It's important that those who come to the worship & arts ministry know what the vision & mission statement is for the house as well as the auxiliary. It would also be a good idea to include a biblical mandate for your particular ministry. Always have Biblical support for your vision and mission statement.

Core Values

If your church has core values, make those values a part of the guidelines. It helps because it will make sure that everyone is on the same page with the house.

Guidelines

These are the standards that are set for your worship & arts auxiliary. Include everything such as spiritual lifestyle, dress code, practical expectations, etc. Please note this: THEY HAVE TO BE AS CLEAR & CUT AS POSSIBLE. This will keep everyone accountable and nobody would be able to say that they didn't know. It will also help to have them sign off on it as well.

Create A Leadership Team Around

To reduce your load as a leader and to prevent burnout, you should have at least 2-3 people around you to lift your hands up. No ministry runs off of one person. What should you look for? Don't just look for skillset only, but also watch their attendance, watch how they interact with other members of the team as well as the church. Most importantly, seek the Lord about who to have around you. Never base your leadership team off friendships and relationships because what happens is they'll start to see you as a peer and not as a leader. Meet and build a rapport with your leaders but be very mindful and wise in how you do it.

2. Provide All Necessary Tools So Everyone Can Move In Excellence

Planning Center Services

This app and system is a helpful tool that keeps everybody on the same page with everything related to the worship & arts ministry. It'll include all songs that you either do or potentially do. In this app, the band, singers, & dancers will be able to listen to certain parts & chord sheets for specific songs so that way when you come to service or rehearsal it can run smoothly.

Set Lists & Schedules

Do your absolute best to schedule songs and people a month ahead of time. Everybody's individual schedules differ and sometimes it's hard for people to move things around if you tell them what's going to happen a day or two before service. If you do it this way, it helps everyone plan out the schedule in advance when you schedule them and it decreases the stress level for you as the leader.

Create A Communication Thread

The most effective way to communicate is through text. So whether you do it through Planning Center's text message function or through some other app, create a thread that everybody can be involved in so that easy if there are ever changes that are made, someone calls out and needs a relief, or something has been added, everybody is notified whether they are on schedule for that week or not.

3. Running Rehearsal Schedule Week To Week

Rehearsal Schedules

To make sure that everybody has ample time with their families but you also have ample time to prepare for Sunday mornings as well, schedule rehearsal on a day that either is good for everyone or on a day that everybody is already at church. Try your best to keep rehearsal under two hours if possible unless its preparation for a conference, revival, or something else taking place where the worship & arts ministry is needed.

Choir Rehearsal

It can sometimes be challenging to have your choir minister every Sunday. With that being said, try to schedule them at least once a month to start out.

Childcare

Try to secure childcare during rehearsals, this will encourage your team members with kids to attend rehearsals without them worrying about who will watch their children.

Sunday Morning Rehearsals

Depending on the schedule for Sunday mornings in general, give yourself and your team enough time to run through the set list one last time before service and if you need to make any last minute changes, you can.

4. Top 5 Struggles Worship & Arts Ministries Face

1. **Volunteer Burnout**- This happens when you schedule the same people each and every week. Without rotation, you risk people feeling like they are being used and it'll cause them to want to step down.
2. **No Written Expectations**- When expectations aren't CLEAR & CUT, you create room for CHAOS & CONFUSION.
3. **Seeds Of Division**- Favoritism, gossip, and offense are just three things that plant division and when it's present it causes the oil not to flow.
4. **Early Elevation**- When people have not been proven and they are elevated too soon, you've put them in a position where they have to grow up fast.
5. **Lack Of Fellowship**- When you don't know those who labor among you and there's no fellowship, your team members becomes strangers to you as the leader and to each other.

5. Top 5 Solutions for Altar Team Growth

1. **Keep A Rotation**- This will keep your team members from being burnt out and it gives a chance for everyone to minister throughout the month.
2. **Write It Down**- Write the vision and make it plain so that those who read it will understand it. (Reference Habakuk 2:2)

3. **Address It Immediately-** Do all you can to make sure the division does not fester and build up in your team. Address the issue with love, but be very clear that it won't be tolerated in any part of your ministry. Always strive for unity more than gifts and talents.
4. **Take Your Time With People-** If you move them up slowly, you won't have to run them out fast. It protects you, them, and your ministry. Allow them proper time to mature before you elevate them.
5. **Create Times Of Fellowship-** By doing this, you'll be able to get to know your team's strengths and weaknesses and you'll be able to build a stronger team this way. Also, it makes your team feel appreciated and loved as well.

Closing Remarks

Every tool spiritual and practical that has been presented to you in this packet is here to help you build a strong foundation for your worship & arts ministry. You can use these tools but also add to it as well. Through help of the Holy Ghost and trusted leadership around you, your ministry will be fruitful, flourish and multiply. Always remember this, more than gifts and talents, always push and strive for UNITY. The kingdom of God is made of different parts and it's important to remember that every part is IMPORTANT.

If your worship & arts is built on the right foundation, it will stand through everything not just Sunday morning.

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.” (Psalms 133:1-3)