

Learning Dawson's "Ezekiel Saw De Wheel" online was a unique and innovative experience. Technology is something that is increasingly being integrated into academic curriculums; why not try it in a choral setting? I worked with a friend who was an alto, while I was a Soprano. We first listened to an overview of the piece, then watched videos of a couple of performances of that piece. After that, we heard each of our parts with the other parts at a lowered volume. I have not always been the sharpest sight-reader, and many of the students in our hour of seventy would have struggled to read the piece on their own even if they had an hour to read it. What ends up happening most of the time is that students with less sight-reading ability just listen and repeat what they hear more adept sight-readers singing, and they often do not read most of the music at all. With this method, students could hold themselves accountable for learning their own part with the help of the soundtracks. My alto friend and I really heard the harmonies between our parts making it easier to learn. When the whole choir finally any the piece through for the first time, the result was something that would have normally taken us many periods to get to. I can't wait to see how technology improves choral education!