

# Taking the BHS THINK! Program to Your Chapter



BHS's THINK! program was designed by the Leadership Operations Project Team (LOPT).

For questions or concerns contact us at [leadershipopt@barbershop.org](mailto:leadershipopt@barbershop.org) or call 800.876.7464

## Introduction

The Barbershop Harmony Society believes that the success of our organization rests in large part on the health of our diverse array of chapters. Healthy chapters mean a strong membership pipeline, a higher level of artistry and musical credibility. For the majority of our members, the local BHS Chapter is the single most significant point of contact with the Society.

For this reason, and in partnership with Harmony Foundation International, we've created the Barbershop Harmony Society's Healthy Chapter Initiative. This curriculum is a product of the BHS Healthy Chapter Initiative created and designed through the BHS Leadership Operations Project Team (LOPT).

**For more information about the Healthy Chapter Initiative visit:**  
[www.barbershop.org/healthychapters](http://www.barbershop.org/healthychapters).

**Society Chapter Leadership & Education team, email us at**  
[chapters@barbershop.org](mailto:chapters@barbershop.org) or call 800.876.7464

## Registering Your Interest with the Barbershop Harmony Society

1. The first step to engage with the BHS THINK! Program, is to register with the Healthy Chapter Initiative at Society HQ. If you haven't already done so, please email [leadershipopt@barbershop.org](mailto:leadershipopt@barbershop.org) with the following information:
  - a. Your Chapter Code
  - b. Your Chapter Name
  - c. Your Primary Chapter Contact Name and their best contact information
2. Based on your interest and availability of our facilitators, we will assign a BHS Certified Leadership Facilitator to guide you through the BHS THINK! process.
3. Your facilitator will reach out and discuss the plan and timeline, specifically designed with your chapter, to implement the three main portions of the BHS THINK! Process:
  - a. Identity "Sticky" Exercise
  - b. Music Program Survey
  - c. Analyzation, Results, and Planning for your Chapter

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## Identity “Sticky” Exercise

If you'd prefer to facilitate this portion on your own or a BHS Leadership Facilitator is not available, these are the next steps for you to execute this exercise with your chapter.

### 1) Plan for 20 minutes during a chapter meeting with a majority of active members present

#### 2) Materials Needed/Advance Preparation

- a) Post-it Notes – enough for three post-its for each member
- b) Pens to borrow and share
- c) A flipchart with at least seven or eight pages
- d) Masking Tape
- e) Write one identity category in large letters at the top of each flipchart page.

Below are the recommended categories but you may wish to add or modify for your specific chapter:

- |                           |                                  |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| i) Singing                | v) Fellowship                    |
| ii) Director / Music Team | vi) Community Service / Outreach |
| iii) Performing           | vii) Other                       |
| iv) Competition           |                                  |

### 3) Leading the Exercise

- a) The flipcharts should NOT be visible to the members yet. We don't want the categories to influence their answers. Either hang them in an adjacent room before the exercise begins or hang them on a side wall, not in the line of sight of the members, while they are writing their answers.
- b) Hand out post-its (three per member) and pens
- c) Explain to the members that you are beginning an exercise to re-examine the chapter's identity and this exercise will assist in that process
- d) Ask each member to think about the three things he loves most about your chapter or loves most about being a member of your chapter.
- e) Have them write just one of the things on each of the three post-its. One item per post-it.
- f) Have them rank the three and write a 1, 2, or 3 on each post-it.
- g) While they're writing, count and note the number of members participating

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- h) Now direct the members to walk to where the flip chart pages are hanging. Ask them to read the categories and place each post-it on the category that it best fits.
- i) Once all the post-its are placed, you and the members will see immediately which categories received the most items
- j) Roll up the flipcharts and take them home to document the results

#### 4) Documenting the Results

- a) Populate three columns in an excel spreadsheet with one row for each post-it
  - i) Category
  - ii) Rank (1, 2, or 3)
  - iii) Comment - Exact words on the post-it
- b) Some category selections made by members not make sense to you. For now, just document based on where they placed it.
- c) *Sample:*

Category	Rank	Comment
Fellowship	1	Lifelong Friendships
Singing	2	Singing and getting better
Director/Music Team	3	Our Great Director

#### 5) Submit the results

- a) Submit your spreadsheet to [leadershipopt@barbershop.org](mailto:leadershipopt@barbershop.org). Include the following information in the email:
  - i) Chapter/chorus name
  - ii) Date exercise was conducted
  - iii) Number of members participating
  - iv) Your name and phone number
- b) A member of the BHS "THINK!" team will review and categorize your results
- c) Allow 1-2 weeks for evaluation
- d) The BHS "THINK!" team member will contact you, discuss the results, and answer your questions

#### 6) Present the Results to your chapter

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## Music Program Survey

The BHS THINK! Music Program survey is around 25 questions that analyzes the musical product of your chapter. This survey can also provide perspective from the non-musical leaders of your chapter, only board members, and everything in-between!

- 1) Based on knowledge of your chapter members decide whether to have the members complete the survey online, on hardcopy, or a combination.
- 2) If you would like the online option, email [leadershipopt@barbershop.org](mailto:leadershipopt@barbershop.org) to request a *SurveyMonkey* "collector" for your chapter.

Include in the email:

- a) Your Chapter Code
- b) Your Chapter Name
- c) Your Primary Chapter Contact Name and their best contact information

We will send you the link to send out to your members.

- 3) Either email the survey link to your members and have them fill it out on-line themselves,  
or
- 4) Hand out hard copies of the survey to members to fill out, collect the forms, and one person go to the link and enter the results.

**If you conduct both exercises the same night, conduct the Identity "Sticky" Exercise before having your members fill out the Music Program Survey.**