Choir Creative Process in Facing Regional, National, and International Competitive Levels

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Abstract. This study aims to determine the success of the Gita Pramawisesa choir in the creative process of vocal training in facing various levels of competition. This is important as a solution for problem of non-academic achievement that can be used as an example to other student communities at UNESA. The process of success requires capabilities that can be done to get optimal results. A qualitative descriptive method was used with an analytical approach in the Drama, Dance and Music Arts Department related to student community activities. Data sources were taken in the form of primary and secondary data. Data collection techniques include data sources in words and written actions from various studies. The results of this study were a strategic method of managing music material based on the creativity of song arrangements through maximum process activities. This process was generally conducted through various preparations in mastering the song material. Arranging songs requires creative skills in vocal and notation processing developed in the song so that it has a high level of difficulty, a high level of harmony, the development of varied dynamics, and various aspects of varied sound quality to achieve success in a choir competition.

Keywords: Creative process · Facing competition

1 Introduction

The process is an activity carried out to improve the ability in one of the areas to be achieved. The process takes time, effort, thought, and costs related to the target to be achieved. Every artistic activity always requires a process. The activity always supports improving ability and full mastery of the material. Every artistic activity also always requires a process. The role of the process also greatly determines the success of various things to be achieved. All activities that want to master a desire in skills must go through a process because the process can determine a person's ability to master a skill area or desired material.

Creative ideas are new ideas or someone's ideas that are used to develop a skill or material to be mastered. Creativity is needed when used in one of the areas of skill or material. Creativity always appears individually and in groups when carrying out the process of skills or material that will be developed according to the ideas used in a process. Process and creativity is ways to master a skill and material that is developed

according to the level of ability possessed by a person. The creative process is always a foothold to master material or skill to face competitiveness locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Every time facing a competitive event requires maximum creativity and process in order to be successful in the competition. So that the process and creativity or even integration in the creative process is the initial step to be competitive in the field of skills and materials to develop activities at the local, regional, national and international levels. Each level also has a different level. Lindstrom [1] stated that creative work has several dimensions depending on the competitive opponents faced in an activity. They adopt different stances or perspectives to harness cultural and social resources and pursue ideas for a period of time, allowing the problem sources to be identified and finding ways to solve them. These performance or process qualities can scarcely be measured objectively. Neither can we measure the 'beauty' or similar qualities of the finished product [1].

Previous research is choir acoustics, an overview of scientific research that elaborates on various choir studies that provide various findings. This study has many various things related to the choir. It explains acoustics, space, various things related to sound, solo sound in vibrations as measured through a chorus, simultaneous interval intonation in a song, acoustic preferences in small ensembles, Lombard effects in small scales and choral spacing [2].

This article adopts a choir group that does not doubt facing various competitive events conducted at the local, regional, national and international levels. The author chose a choir in the student activity community named Gita Pramawisesa that can compete internationally. The choir community has been able to compete competitively in various events followed at the beginning of the competitive event. Arif Hidajad gave input to compete in competitive events at the regional and national levels. This suggestion has become a whip for KKM coaches to form a community called Gita Pramawisesa whose potential is no longer in doubt. The beginning emergence of the choir was only used for campus needs in student graduation activities along with various KKMs in the Drama, Dance and Music Arts Department, Faculty of Language and Arts, State University of Surabaya. The KKM was also formed as an idea from Arif Hidajad to increase the hours of absorption of material outside lectures. These various KKMs can be formed after the establishment of the Theater KKM, which includes traditional theater, modern theatre, mime then followed by various KKMs, one of which is Gita Pramawisesa, which accommodates choir groups within the Faculty of Language and Arts.

Moreover, there is an activity called *mawapres* which stands for outstanding students. This activity accommodates all KKM activities in the Drama, Dance and Music Arts Department. *Mawapres* or all outstanding students always perform performances from various existing KKMs to welcome the arrival of new students, collaborating with all student activities in the Drama, Dance and Music Arts Department. This idea is positive, providing opportunities for students to explore their potential. Based on these various activities, young creators emerged following their field of ability. One of these KKM positively contributes to institutions, especially the Drama, Dance and Music Arts Department, the Faculty of Language and Arts at Unesa. Every activity that is followed must involve many students who take part in competitive choir events. If the level of the competition is at the local level, each student will get a medal individually. If there

are 30 students involved, the achievements obtained have reached 30 medals. This will support achieving the main performance, especially in the non-academic field at Unesa.

To achieve success that can compete at the local level, the choir must strive to the maximum. Due to various choir activities at the local level, there is some occasion that has stiff competition. Following the opinion of Kirrane [3], a choir is composed of an ensemble of singers who sing together with or without supporting instruments. Choirs typically blend different musical parts, with the traditional voices being a soprano, alto, tenor and bass. Choirs take many diverse forms. They can operate as informal, amateur groups or formal structures involving highly professional performers. Choirs can also be classified according to the social location in which they are rooted (e.g., community choir, church choir) [3]. The choir also has different types depending on the show's needs. Each event depends on the interest in the show. Each event related to the competition is also different, but at the same time, it depends on the competition's mission.

The choir relies on vocal abilities that are adjusted to the notation of the song arrangement. So preparation for competition requires high vocal skills. When selecting to enter the choir community, one must have high vocal skills and the ability to read maximum block notation. When facing inter-choir groups at the local level, they must be able to compete in technically vocal skills, song arrangements and expressions in bringing the song. The choir has various types of vocals that are in the choir group. The recruitment of participants is an important step in selecting prospective participants who will join the choir community. Students who are included in the group must be controlled and can know their vocal abilities. When it comes to providing competitive song material, students do not experience the basic problems faced by students.

2   Methods

This research used a descriptive qualitative method with a process analysis approach in the Drama, Dance and Music Arts Department related to community activities of student activities. Sources of data were taken in the form of primary and secondary data. The data includes writing, interviews, documentation, and observations. The data obtained from written sources can be clarified to the main informants so that the data obtained can be described in detail according to the perceptions of the main informants and from written sources that have been investigated by previous research. So that the data on the name of the performance and the description of the performance described is data that can be accounted for. This research also has an important meaning as a solution to the problem of non-academic achievement that can be used as an example to other student communities, both at the Surabaya State University and other universities. The results of this study can also be the result of recording tracks in the community of student activities in the Drama, Dance and Music Arts Department in achieving non-academic achievements.

Researchers used interviews to find data on the writing of ethnic traditional dance movements, which were the research subject from informants or resource persons from each ethnic tradition art. According to Maleong [4], an interview is a conversation with a specific purpose. The conversation was carried out by two parties: the interviewer who asked the question and the interviewee who answered the question [4]. The triangulation

used in this research is to use triangulation of sources, techniques and theories. The triangulation of sources that the researchers did was checking the results of identifying the data obtained in the field to be used as a foothold to obtain data validity.

A competition is an activity to choose the best group of participants. The best size can be determined by criteria that have been agreed upon by the jury and set by the committee. The best achievement provisions can be seen from the vocal abilities that match the notes in the song arrangement. The creativity of the arrangement also determines the quality of the performance of competitive performances that must be carried out optimally. As a basis for providing vocal skills, participants must follow the process of each part in the choir. According to the opinion of several experts written by Kiranne [3], this literature defines an effective team as one that is cohesive and composed of highly skilled members who endorse consensual norms of learning, shares knowledge and build high-quality interpersonal relations [3, 9, 10]. The maximum ability of each mastered song arrangement is an important requirement in participating in a choir festival. Each arrangement given to participants has a variety of songs according to the arrangement in the song that has been determined. The song provisions have been chosen from the committee's decision. However, the song arrangement is left entirely to the participants who participate in the festival or are competitive in the choir. So that the variations that appear in the song depending on the notes of the song that must be sounded. As a leader in a choir or conductor, he is able to distinguish each voice starting from a solmization that is raised one octave, or the form of a series of notations that is easily raised one octave as a basic process in knowing the vocal abilities of the participants. This will impact the participants on vocal abilities that are carried out to the highest and lowest octave. This technique can be used for group participants according to the vocal group in the choir.

The division of voices in a choir is that women usually have soprano and alto voices, while men have tenor and bass voices. Then each individual is provided with song notes arranged according to creativity in developing the desired song. Carriers of creativity can be processed through each type of sound according to the arrangement's song notes. After each individual performs a note step that is raised in one octave in each group in a team, proceed with the absorption process of competitive material. When the process of each group has been determined, the conductor must be careful in voicing the song notation that has been written in the song arrangement. The accuracy is not only memorizing the song itself but how it sounds a song based on the provisions of the tone in the song being sung. Each group must pay close attention to the tone of the soprano, alto, tenor and bass groups. Then each group has a form of arrangement that is in accordance with the composition of the song that is competitive according to the group in the choir team.

Every process in a choir team has a dream to win in every competition held, both at the local and regional level. The dream must go through the maximum process of each group in one team. All must realize the ability following the basis the conductor has shared in a choir team. Each group must be able to give their best performance from soprano, alto, tenor and bass. The team requires a unified performance that is processed through the arrangement of the songs sung. The song arrangements are indeed written by people who understand, know and can sing songs according to their expertise. Song arrangement is important to be used as a basis for song development through the creative ability of the

person who arranged the song. Then the arrangement is written through the sheet music, which each group must sing following the division determined by the conductor. The process was previously broken down through the sound field. The song arrangement is part of the participants' vocal processing strategy. So that the song arrangements also contribute to the success of the choir.

Each group in one team must process according to the specified vocal field. Participants split into groups to explore the previously arranged songs. The dynamics in the song must be followed according to the instructions for the song notes that have been written in the song arrangement. According to Bintarto [5], in his article, he stated that the beauty of the show that was enjoyed as the final result disguised the struggle process of the members along with the trainers and crew in a group and the various activities and efforts they had gone through. Many aspects of preparation and performance are often overlooked or have not been thought about optimally in achieving goals by the actors [5]. The division of groups in mastering the prepared song arrangements is a part that must be done optimally. Then each group explores the notation of the song to the maximum level of mastery. Sometimes there are tempo changes that occur in the arrangement of the song. Participants must always be guided by the determined tempo of the song arrangement. Then when to stop and start the song are done together in the group.

Merging between groups into one choir team that has mastered the songs of each group. This one-team process must be controlled through the voices of each group and the quality of the voices that must follow the provisions of the arrangement of the songs sung. Each group is already a unit in songs, according to the notes. Suppose the ability maintain the song's quality by the song arrangement notes. In that case, it will be carried away by the notes of other groups so that the sound that is sounded is not under the demands of the song on the written arrangement of the notes. Each must remain guided by the determined song notes according to the group in a choir team. Accuracy in reading song notes, carefulness in targeting the sound of song notes and maintaining control over the tempo provisions in the arrangement of sung song notes [8]. The provision has become a totality for the participants who participated in the choir.

When they are all together in the choir team, they must have a plan to complete the mastery of the arranged song material. The planning for the processing of each group must have responsibility for the songs sung. Determining the sound quality according to the signs in the song arrangement is the formation of the song's dynamics as a result of creative ability in arranging songs. Bintarto [5], in his article, emphasized that another fact shows that learning to process sound in a choral framework is mostly learned through appreciation of other groups' performances directly during performances and competitions. Achievement is situational because various factors influence the process, from preparation and training design to implementation on the D day. Consideration of various details of preparation and appearance becomes a means to increase the opportunity to achieve the best peak performance results [5]. Based on this opinion, the process in the choir team must be able to plan optimally regarding mastery of the determined song arrangement material. The selection of arrangements also supports the team's success in the competitive implementation of the competition. A maximum process also follows the plan to achieve maximum results. The result of the process that has been passed is also the ability to master the material. So that the achievement of success also depends

on the planning process carried out by the choir team. The process's independence also helps improve the ability to process vocals to support the team's success to win.

3   Results and Discussion

Every competitive choir activity at the local, regional, national and international levels must prepare participants with good vocal abilities. Basic vocal ability is an important requirement for mastery of the song material that has been determined. The search for participants must go through the selection of maximum vocal abilities. This requirement is to facilitate the trainer in the process of mastering the material to be contested. Students can follow recruitment in the Faculty of Language and Arts Unesa. The screening is very strict through various forms of vocals, exemplified by senior students who have technically mastered vocals and have maximum voice quality abilities [7].

Then given the song notes that must be read by the participants of the Gita Pramisesa choir recruitment. The speed of reading the notes with voice keys is a requirement that must be mastered by participants who will enter the choir team. Mastery of reading song notation is decisive for fluency in exploring songs that participants must master. The song notes contain various symbols that the participants must understand. Fast, slow, faster, slower, stop, loud sound done, soft voice done, louder, softer are all written with symbols in sung song. The goal in mastering song notes is to make it easier when the process is to master the song arrangements that have been determined.

The creativity of the song arrangement is very decisive in the competitive choir at the local, regional, national and international levels. Song arrangement is the basis for performing well-arranged songs. Arranging songs requires creative skills in processing vocals, processing the notation developed in the song so that it has a high level of difficulty, a high level of harmony, developing varied dynamics, and various aspects of varied voice quality. If the arrangement meets some of the song's criteria, it can achieve maximum success. Associated with creative abilities must be able to find ideas in processing songs, sounds, dynamics and tempo playing in a song. New ideas in processing vocals will lead to a form of creativity in a song arrangement [6].

Groups carry out the process of mastering song material by the specified vocal field. This is to avoid vocal clashes between groups that influence each other. The grouping process must be able to master the arranged song notes. Mastery of songs that have been arranged must be followed according to the symbols of the song so that they can carry out the song arrangements to the maximum. Before mastering the song material, you have to warm up your vocals through the song notation that is raised in one octave. The goal is to increase the notes of the song by one octave so that participants are sensitive to the terms of the song, the price of notes and the basic notes that have been determined in the song. This process is the basis for every process of mastering song arrangements.

The merging of each group into a unified whole in the choir team. The merger is to see the integrity of the songs that have been arranged. They master the arrangement of the song material with a dynamic tempo playing which brings out the beauty of a song in the choir team. A merged group requires an iterative process to determine the suitable level of singing songs following the provisions of the arrangement. Notation reading skills support mastering the song material so that the level of truth in performing

the performance does not occur any errors. So, success in mastering song arrangement material is very decisive.

4   Conclusion

The search for participants must go through the selection of maximum vocal abilities. This requirement is to facilitate the trainer in the process of mastering the material to be contested. The song notes contain various symbols that the participants must understand. Fast, slow, faster, slower, stop, loud sound done, soft voice done, louder, softer are all written with symbols in sung song. Song arrangement requires creative ability in processing vocals, processing the notation developed in the song so that it has a high level of difficulty, a high level of harmony, developing varied dynamics, and various aspects of varied voice quality. Notation reading skills support mastering song material so that the level of truth in performing performances does not occur.

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