**Semi-structured interview schedule**

**Date: 12/06/22**

**Signature of researcher: JL**

**Name of participant: Ryan (Gr. 9 student)**

1. Briefly tell me about your choral singing experience. **Which choirs have you sung in** and **how long have you been a member in the Kearsney College Choir**?

Firstly, I **joined Kearsney in grade eight**, so this is my **second year** here. I started singing in **choirs since grade one**, my **mom was a music teacher in Joburg**. I was in the choir there and I have also been following the choir. In **grade six, 2019, we moved to Ballito at Reddam where my mom also taught**. I was singing there, and since she was a music teacher and my **dad a musician, he plays French Horn**.

1. Explain your initial reasons for wanting to join the Kearsney College Choir.

When I came to Kearsney, I have never actually heard about the school a lot before I came here. I then did a bit of research about coming here and **I saw that it actually had quite a good reputation for the choir.** From a music point of view, I could see that it was quite a **developed music department.** I have always **known that I am a good singer**.

1. What are some of the highlights (if any) of being a member of the Kearsney College Choir?

The **performances** are always fun. When you see those **lights that are shining on stage**, it just **feels special**. I have always been a performer and I love some of that **adrenaline** you get when you are singing on stage, and it also **sounds nice being together** and I just savor those moments.

1. How does choral singing make you feel? **Explain in detail**.

It gives you **a sense of performance**, just in my case. I am generally a leader within a group, and it **sort of makes me happier** about what’s around me. **It fulfills me**.

1. Do you have friends in the choir? If so, how important are these friendships to you?

Yea, many. I think it is more like I had friends, and then they were in the choir. It is not necessarily like I only made friends in the choir, **but I did make more friends in the choir**. My friends are important, but **by them being in the choir does not really change a lot**.

1. Do the members of the Kearsney College Choir share a unique brotherhood (separate from the rest of the school)? **Elaborate**.

Well, **there is always that sense of relatability**. There are always jokes that people that are only in the choir would get. **I think it is just a very nice group of guys**.

1. Do you think singing in a choir can bring diverse cultures together, and if so how, and if not, why do you think that is?

Definitely, **you learn to sing in other languages especially**. We sing in Zulu, Xhosa, and German and it really teaches us to appreciate all the different cultures. In our choir, it is not specific to one race or one type of person, **everyone from everywhere can sing**.

1. How do you experience cultural integration (if any) within the choir?

**Hearing the songs and learning different languages, is quite cool**, and hearing the different things.

1. Could you explain what you value most of being a choir member of the Kearsney College Choir? **Elaborate**.

**You learn something new every time you go to rehearsal.** **Putting in all this hard work, you can only look to greatness**, and **I know that if I come here that I am going to rehearse and I am going to learn great things and as a choir, we are going to improve so much and perform on an international level.** Which is where we will get.

1. Have you ever experienced personal negativity because of singing in a choir (Kearsney or other)? **Explain**.

**I sometimes get a bit frustrated when some guys aren’t trying as much**, or you could just see that they are out of it. I try to encourage them. **I am passionate about the choir, and I am always trying my hardest, but then you see other people in the choir in the same position as you, but they just don’t bring their part** or are just above par.

1. What are some of the benefits of singing in a choir for you?

**It brings people together**, and as you have mentioned before, **it brings diverse cultures together and everyone just comes together and sings the same songs in the same language**. I find that quite cool.

1. What are some of the disadvantages of singing in a choir?

**To wake up early in the mornings for choir camp.** I do not know. **At times your voice gets sore (vocal strain).** Also, it can sometimes **become a bit tiring**, it is a lot of effort you must put in. At school, we have a lot of projects to do, and it can become quite busy, and once you have finished your supper, you have to leave to go to choir and that becomes one thing that breaks the deal.

1. What motivates you to continuously participate in choral singing?

I have a **role in the choir**, **I’ve got a job to do and that is to sing to the best of my ability and to lead my group, the tenor ones**. We have a voice group leader, but he doesn’t do anything, not in a bad way, he is a good singer. But nobody leads the guys, so I try to take that responsibility. I **just love having to sing and have fun.**