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## Theses

1. **Small instrumental programs** (like pro ensembles) have the flexibility and freedom to produce highly creative concerts that are unique to each ensemble.
2. **Directors of small programs** can be creative leaders in the wind band field.
3. **Transcend standard problems** by thinking first about what's creatively possible with your musicians.

## Ideas, Links, and Resources

**Recruiting:** Create something unique that musicians want to be a part of, and you'll be able to connect with them on a more meaningful level. Inspiration: [Doc Nix and the Green Machine \(GMU Pep Band\)](#).

**Programing and Instrumentation models:** Let your creative programing guide your instrumentation choice (i.e. will you add professional helpers to bolster your ensemble?). Possible categories include:

### Standard:

- Use varying difficulty levels
- Pieces with electronics: ex. Alex Shapiro, Steven Bryan, Allison Loggins-Hull, (and many more)
- Works with Piano: ex. Percy Grainger, Giovanni Santos

### Flex

- Look to old AND new works
- Create interesting colors with your orchestration
- Grainger's Tone Strand "chosen gems." Ex. *Prelude in the Dorian Mode, O Mensch Bewein Dein Sunde Gross*.

### Open

- Open scoring works can be a unique and rewarding challenge that ensures your program wont all sound and look the same.
- Some examples: Reily's *In C*, Vriezen's *Ensemble*, Noble's *Circle of Fifths*, Nelson *Resonances I*, DBR's *Hip Hop Etudes*

### Chamber

- Incorporate chamber music (for all of your students' ability levels) into your full concert program. This fills out the concert, and highlights your students progress.

**Concertizing:** Your concert programing should reflect and showcase your students, your space, and your location. Program accordingly! Think:

- Inside the Gymacafatorium (match your music to your space)
- Outside the Gymacafatorium (Atrium, Library, Hallways)
- Outside your campus (Church, armory, historic building)
- Outside! (Forest, Field, Bluffs, Park, Barn)

## Resources:

### Finding Repertoire

- Murphy Music (Flex, open, and traditional options, easy to navigate)
- IMSLP
- Creative Repertoire Project
- Windrep.org (a fantastic place to search for anything)
- And We were Heard
- Institute for Composer Diversity
- *An Annotated Guide to Wind Chamber Music* by Rondey Winther

### Finding Inspiration

- The New York Times Music Section (really! See what the top is playing!)
- *The Art of Possibility* by Benjamin and Rosamund Zander
- *The War of Art* by Steven Pressfield