

I've Gotta Be ME!

*Speed of Sound*

# Introduction

- Who are we?
  - We are Speed of Sound
  - 2016 International Queens of Harmony
  - 2014 Most Entertaining Award Winner
  - 2013, 2014 and 2015 Barbie award for Best Costume
  - A quartet known for its personality – both individually and collectively

Can you name this queen quartet?



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# Agenda

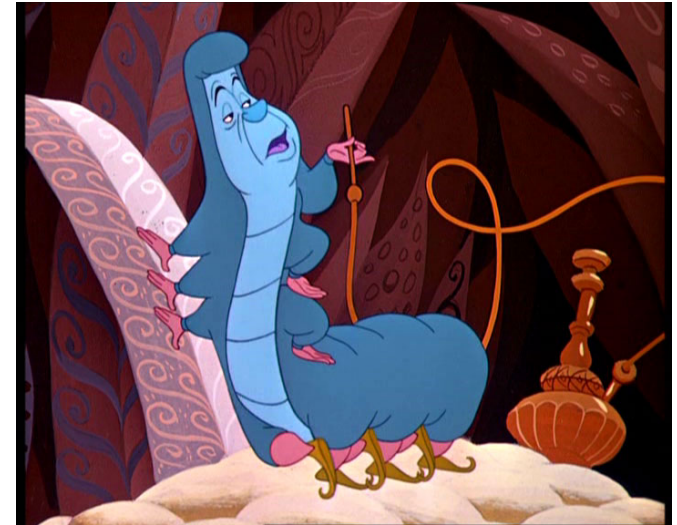
- The personality of your quartet and what makes it work.
- Being your own person and making your role in the quartet your own.
- Developing the personality of a quartet.

*View a sneak peak into how SOS did it and give you some tips on how YOU can do it too!*



# Whoooo are YOUU????

- Individually?
- Collectively?
- No, really...who are you?
  - Do you know?
  - Have you talked about it?
  - Who does your audience say you are?
  - Have you clearly defined your quartet persona?
- Who do YOU say WE are?



# The Individual

- Know yourself
  - What do you bring to the group?
    - Creatively
    - Musically
    - Administratively
    - On Stage
  - Be realistic about what you're willing to contribute
    - Time
    - Effort
    - Financially
    - Flexibility (in all areas)

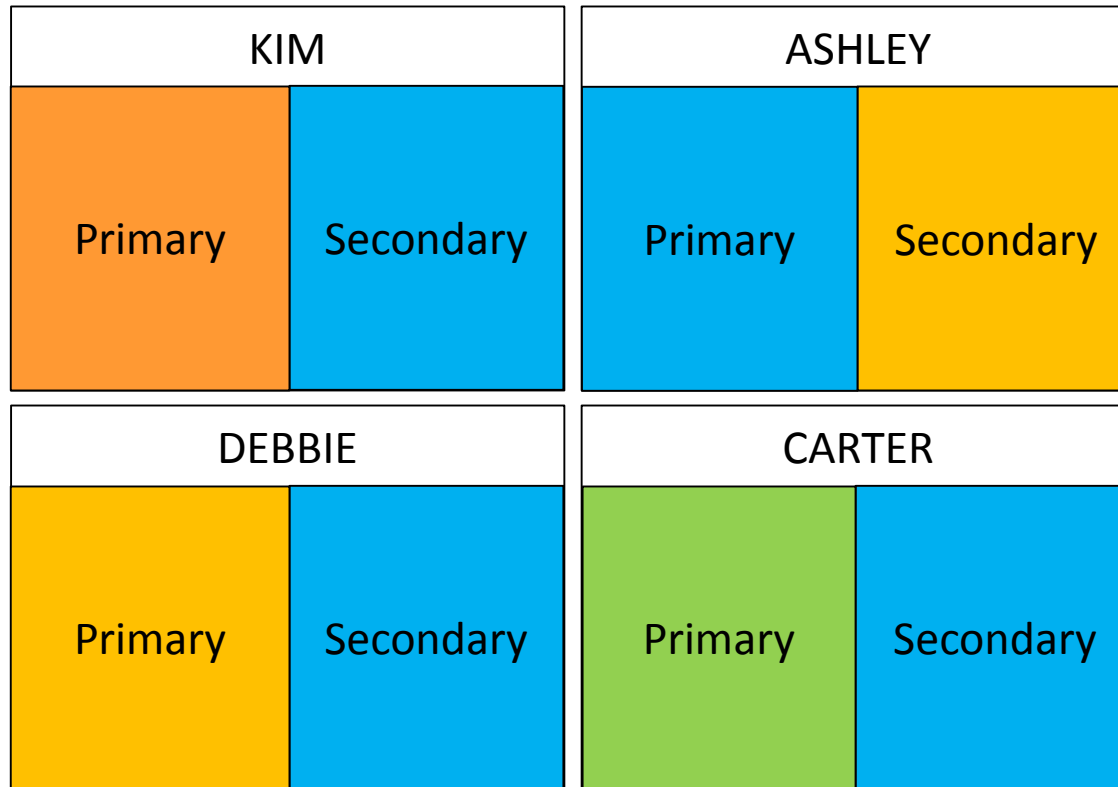


# Individual Personality – *What's your color?*

- Personality differences
  - To have 4 totally compatible women in a quartet is a MIRACLE!
- True Colors Personality Assessment

Blue	Gold	Orange	Green
<b>I see myself as:</b>			
compassionate, idealistic, affectionate, empathetic, caring, nurturing, a communicator and value feelings	consistent, goal-oriented, traditional, realistic, prepared, dependable, loyal, responsible and having leadership ability	flexible, easy-going, playful, clever, open to change, having many interests, courageous, assertive and independent	confident, mentally strong, logical, inventive, having high expectations, knowledgeable and enjoy my own company
I flourish with encouragement rather than competition	I believe that work comes before play	I enjoy freedom and independence	For me, work is play
<b>In relationships:</b>			
I seek harmony, warmth and romance	I am serious and tend to have traditional, conservative views of love and marriage	I thrive on physical contact and enjoy people who share my interests	I am uneasy when my emotions get the best of me and want to establish relationships that allow me to focus my energy on my career
<b>As a child:</b>			
I was imaginative and creative	I understood and respected authority and wanted to follow the rules	I learned better by doing and experiencing rather than listening and reading	I constantly had questions and found it necessary to respect a teacher before I could learn from them

# Understanding is the Key!



Differences can/will bring BALANCE to an ensemble!

# Who you are: ON STAGE vs. OFF STAGE

Shy, Hopeless Romantic,  
Passionate, Expressive,  
Perfectionist

← ASHLEY →

Shy, Hopeless Romantic,  
Passionate, Lacks Confidence,  
Perfectionist

“The Funny One”, Crazy,  
Nutty, Expressive, Out of  
Control, Spastic

← CARTER →

Quiet, Earliest to bed,  
Passionate, Calm

Emcee, In Charge, The Mom,  
Confident, Teacher

← DEBBIE →

Chatty, Sarcastic, Nutty, Lacks  
Confidence, Hard-working,  
Passionate, Mom

“The Cool One”, Poised,  
Chill, Sarcastic

← KIM →

Life of the Party, Hard-working,  
Passionate, Feng Shui, Sarcastic,  
“The Cool One”



# Assessing the Unit Dynamic

- Understand that you all come from different personal backgrounds, as well as different performance backgrounds.
- Define personal goals before defining unit goals
- Know that being flexible and understanding is KEY.
- Don't lose sight that everyone has strengths as well as weaknesses.
- Honesty at all times is always the best way to go!



# Create the Stage Persona

- An exaggerated perception on one or two self-based characteristics blown out of proportion.
- You, yet not TRULY you.
- In essence, a caricature...



# So what do YOU have?

- Once you realize you have something that really grabs the audience's attention, RUN WITH IT!
- It doesn't HAVE to be funny – focus on the entertainment value.
- You can build a quartet persona around ONE person's personality.
- You can build an entertainment set around a particular song that you're known for.

# LEAD on!

- A great place to start is with your Lead!
  - Many times your personality falls naturally to the Lead
- Music selection
- Costume selection



# Now build it!



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# Branding

- Be bold and market yourself using your strengths
  - Social media is a great place to start
  - Be creative in your photos
  - Note the artist's rendering of his perception of our quartet:
    - The Coffee
    - The Crown
    - The Gown



# Branding (cont.)

- You are your “character” when you are in public with your group, NOT just when you are on stage.
  - People remember you for what they see on stage, not the real you!
- Don't be afraid to fail!!!
  - We've thrown out MANY ideas that just didn't work.
  - Move on to the next one until you find what works!

# Summary

- Recognize that what you have could be gold.
  - DO something with it! Build it!
- Recognize that what you THINK is gold...may not really be gold.
  - Let your audience decide what IS and IS NOT gold (be flexible).
- Leave your audience wanting more.
  - Don't try to give them the kitchen sink in one show.





# Discussion and Questions

# Thank You!

SpeedOfSoundQT@gmail.com

[www.SpeedOfSoundQuartet.com](http://www.SpeedOfSoundQuartet.com)

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