

A LETTER TO ALL PERCUSSIONISTS

Dear Percussionists –

Greetings, we hope everyone is having a great summer. We are very excited about this year's Percussion Studio and are looking forward to a great year. Competition for this year's Studio will be quite stiff, so we encourage you to prepare accordingly.

As with last year, we are going to hold auditions for ALL ensembles at the same time. Auditions for Drumline, Percussion Ensembles (Percussion Orchestra, Percussion Ensemble, Steel Bands), Concert Bands, Orchestra, and Jazz Ensembles will happen on Thursday August 9th. All percussionists majoring or minoring in music must audition for the Drumline, Concert Ensembles, and Jazz Ensembles on August 9th. Those non-music majors wishing to participate in Drumline, Concert Ensembles, or Jazz Ensembles only, may elect to perform the audition material for those groups only. Exceptions to this include non-percussionists auditioning for the cymbal line; these students do not have to prepare the snare drum, keyboard percussion, or drumset material.

Dorm check-in for Drumline is on Wednesday, August 8th from 9:00am-1:00pm in the Dee J. Kelly Alumni and Visitors Center. The actual percussion auditions/camp will begin on Thursday, August 9th with auditions beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Band Hall located in the Walsh Center, Room 104.

If you would like to participate in the Percussion Studio, you **must** arrive on August 9th ready to audition.

ALL AUDITIONS (EITHER CONCERT, JAZZ, OR DRUMLINE) WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

BASICS:

Snare Drum:

- Any of the standard 40 PAS rudiments
- Any of the [warm-ups](#) included in this newsletter (from memory)
- Sight reading will also be included

Keyboard Percussion Instruments:

- Any major scale and arpeggio (2 octaves)
- Any of the [warm-ups](#) included in this letter (from memory)
- Sight reading will also be included

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLES / CONCERT BANDS / ORCHESTRA:

1. Concert Snare Drum selection:

- Pick a short piece, a section of a piece, etc. (approximately 2 minutes in length) that shows off your musical and technical abilities.

2. Keyboard Percussion Instrument selection (marimba, vibe, etc.):

- Pick a short piece (2 or 4 mallet), a section of a piece, etc. (approximately 2 minutes in length) that shows off your musical and technical abilities.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE / DRUMSET:

- Styles demonstration – Jazz, Rock, Latin
- [Prepared material](#) posted by Mr. Eckert
- Sight reading will also be included
- Possible additional auditions will be held during the first week of school with a live band.

DRUMLINE:

Those interested in auditioning for the front ensemble (pit) must be prepared to perform:

- A keyboard percussion solo of your choice (2 or 4 mallet selection)

Those wishing to audition for the snare or tenor line must be prepared to perform:

- The [snare](#) or [tenor](#) part to “Uncommon Mind Control” included in this newsletter
- The [snare](#) or [tenor](#) part to “Triplet Dots” included in this newsletter

Those interested in auditioning for the bass line must be prepared to perform:

- The [bass drum #3](#) part to “Uncommon Mind Control” included in this newsletter
- The [bass drum #2](#) part to “Triplet Dots” included in this newsletter

Those interested in auditioning for the cymbal line must be prepared to perform:

- Standard crashes at any dynamic levels
- The [cymbal #2](#) part (second from top) to “Uncommon Mind Control” included in this newsletter
- The [cymbal #2](#) part (second from top) to “Triplet Dots” included in this newsletter
- Sight reading will also be included

All Concert Ensembles and Jazz Ensembles will begin rehearsing during the first week of school.

All Drumline members are expected to attend all band camp rehearsals – please plan accordingly now to be available from August 9th – 19th (all day, every day – including evenings). A specific schedule will be given to you when you arrive. Extra Drumline rehearsals will be held during the week (exact day TBA) and Saturdays before games – i.e. don’t schedule anything on a game day. Additional section rehearsals will be scheduled once the sections are set.

All percussionists must supply their own sticks and/or mallets for the year...be sure to show up with something to play with. Those students assigned to the Drumline bass drum section will get one free pair of mallets for the season, then you must supply your own.

We are looking forward to working with each and every one of you. Please contact us if you have any questions - 817-257-5759, or b.west@tcu.edu

Have a fun and relaxing summer - and keep practicing!

Dr. Brian A. West

Division Chair and Coordinator of Percussion

Dr. Richard C. Gipson

School of Music Director

Joey Carter

Instructor in Percussion, Jazz, Theory

Jeff Hodge

Percussion Instructor, Drumline Instructor