

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.

DRUMLINE AUDITIONS:

Dorm check-in for Drumline is August 8. The [Band Office](#) will send more information about camp dates and audition times when they are available. The audition process will begin with your individual audition and then continue on throughout camp. It usually takes a few days to get all the sections set and everyone in place. If you would like to participate in the Drumline, you **must** arrive in August ready to audition.

DRUMLINE AUDITION REQUIREMENTS:

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

- Snare or tenor drum rudimental solo of your choice (i.e. Pratt, Wilcoxon, Freytag, Davila, etc.)
- 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
- any of the standard 40 PAS rudiments
- any of the [warm-ups](#) included in this newsletter
- sight-reading will also be included

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

- Snare or tenor drum rudimental solo of your choice (i.e. Pratt, Wilcoxon, Freytag, Davila, etc.)
- The [bass drum #2](#) part to “Uncommon Mind Control” included in this newsletter
- The [bass drum #2](#) part to “Triplet Dots” included in this newsletter
- any of the standard 40 PAS rudiments
- any of the [warm-ups](#) included in this newsletter
- sight-reading will also be included

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

- standard crashes at any dynamic levels
- The [cymbal #3](#) (second space from the bottom-treble clef “A”) part to “Uncommon Mind Control” included in this newsletter
- The [cymbal #3](#) (second space from the bottom-treble clef “A”) part to “Triplet Dots” included in this newsletter
- sight-reading will also be included

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

- a mallet solo of your choice (2 or 4 mallet selection on marimba, vibe, or xylophone)
- any major scale and arpeggio (2 octaves)
- any of the [warm-ups](#) included in this letter
- sight-reading will also be included

All Drumline members are expected to attend all Drumline and Band Camp rehearsals – please plan accordingly now to be available in August (all day, every day – including evenings). A specific schedule will be given to you when you arrive. During the fall semester, 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.

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE / STEEL BANDS / CONCERT BAND / ORCHESTRA AUDITIONS:

Auditions for all concert ensembles – percussion ensembles, concert bands, orchestra, etc. will take place during Marching Band Camp. Auditions will occur while the Drumline rehearses (students will come inside in groups designated by the staff to audition).

Requirements:

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.
3. Sight reading on snare drum and keyboard percussion.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE / DRUMSET AUDITIONS:

Auditions for all jazz ensembles will take place during Marching Band Camp.

Requirements:

1. Styles demonstration:
 - Jazz (medium and up tempo swing)
 - Rock / funk
 - Latin (Bossa Nova, Samba, Mambo, etc.)
2. [Prepared material](#) posted by Mr. Eckert (in this newsletter)
3. Sight reading
4. Possible additional auditions will be held during the first week of school with a live band

OTHER:

All concert and jazz ensembles will begin rehearsing during the first week of school.

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 - 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

Dean, College of Fine Arts / Professor of Percussion

Joey Carter

Instructor in Percussion, Jazz, Theory

Jeff Hodge

Percussion Instructor, Drumline Instructor