

# 2012-2013 Audition Information

## Percussion - Philharmonic Orchestra



### AUDITION SITE DETAILS

#### **What to bring**

- solo and excerpt music provided in this packet
- xylophone mallets, snare sticks, timpani mallets

#### **What not to bring**

- wood or hard plastic mallets (we are in a small room, so medium-soft or hard rubber mallets would be best)
- personal instruments or stands, including snare drums — we are on a very tight schedule, and in order to move as quickly as possible, we will require all candidates to use the instruments already in the room

#### **What is provided**

- extra music; if you have markings in your own music, you should bring your own copy
- mallets and sticks, but we encourage you to bring what you are used to using
- 3-1/2 octave rosewood xylophone (Yamaha)
- 5x14" aluminum snare drum, cable and wire snares (Pearl)
- set of two timpani, copper, balanced action pedals (Yamaha)
- music stands
- tuning fork (A=440)

#### **Warm-up room**

There will be a warm-up room that you will be allowed to use ten minutes prior to your audition. There will be a 3-1/2 octave xylophone and a 5x14" metal snare drum in the room. Timpani will NOT be available in the warm-up room.

### PERCUSSION AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

#### **1. Solo pieces**

You are required to prepare solo pieces on the xylophone and the snare drum (included in packet). Your solo piece need not be memorized.

With your solo and/or your prepared excerpt(s), you may be asked to play it again in a different manner (slower, faster, more lyrically, etc.). Please regard this as evidence of your musical flexibility, which will weigh heavily on the success of your audition.

#### **Required percussion solo repertoire for the Philharmonic Orchestra level:**

Xylophone: Goldenberg, Melodies in 6/8 Time, Moderato

Snare drum: Goldenberg, "Roll Exercise in 2/4" (pg. 44, Modern School for Snare Drum)

#### **2. Excerpts**

Attached are prepared excerpts on the xylophone and snare drum. If you are unfamiliar with the excerpt, consult with your private teacher or a coach who is familiar with them. It is recommended that you also listen to a recording or live performance of the piece in order to give yourself proper tempo and musical context. Prepare the excerpt closest to your ability level; check the Repertory and Symphony percussion audition packets for a comparison.

#### **Required percussion solo repertoire for the Philharmonic Orchestra level:**

Xylophone: Carnival of the Animals, No. 12 Fossiles, by Saint-Saëns — beginning to rehearsal 2

Snare drum excerpt: Rimsky-Korsakov, Capriccio Espagnol, mvt 3

#### **3. Scales & technique**

**Scales:** All required scales must be memorized. Automatically play the corresponding arpeggios to a scale, if required. You must be able to play the following scales on the xylophone: ALL major scales and the following natural minor scales: a, d, e, g, b, c, and fG. All scales are to be played from memory. Practice your scales on an actual xylophone so you will be prepared.

*(continued)*

**Technique:**

**SNARE LONG ROLL:** The long roll tests your ability to sustain an even, concert-style (buzz) roll with extreme dynamic changes steadily over several seconds and in the appropriate time. The roll will be directed by one of the judges.

**TIMPANI TUNING:** This part of the audition will test your ability to hear a given pitch and adjust the tuning of the timpani to match it. You will be given fifteen seconds to match the pitch (in a lower octave) from the pitch given to you. You will be instructed as to which drum to use for the given pitch. More than one pitch may be requested.

**4. Sight-reading**

Sight-reading for all orchestras will include complex rhythms relative to the level of the orchestra. Feel free to tell the conductor which orchestra you are trying out for. Sight-reading for Philharmonic-level percussion will be on the xylophone and snare drum. Rhythms will consist of standard note values as small as eighth notes and may include triplets or dotted note values.

**5. Orchestra placement**

Student placement is competitive and is ranked in order of artistic quality. Those qualities include superiority of tone, intonation, vibrato (as appropriate), dynamic range, musicality and general accuracy. Although a student may be able to perform all the requirements for a particular orchestra, he or she may still not qualify based on the level of competition in a given year.

**6. Auditions are closed to the public, including parents and families.**

**7. Prior participation in the Minnesota Youth Symphonies is no guarantee of placement.**

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**Required Solos: Philharmonic**

**Xylophone: Melodies in 6/8 Time, Moderato by Goldenberg**

**Tempo:** ♩ = 132

**Melodies in 6/8 Time**

**Moderato**

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## Required Solos: Philharmonic

Snare: "Roll Exercise in 2/4" by Goldenberg (p. 44, Modern School for Snare Drum)

Tempo: ♩ = 120

The image displays a musical score for a snare drum roll exercise in 2/4 time. The score consists of 11 staves of music, each beginning with a bass clef and a 2/4 time signature. The notation is primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, often grouped with beams and slurs. The exercise features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including steady eighth-note rolls, sixteenth-note runs, and more complex syncopated rhythms. Some measures include rests or specific articulation marks. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

**Required Excerpts: Philharmonic**

Xylophone: Carnival of the Animals, No. 12 Fossiles, by Saint-Saëns — beginning to rehearsal 2

Tempo: ♩ = 116

Allegro ridicolo ♩ = 116  
(strings) *ff*

1

2

(clarinet)

**Required Excerpts: Philharmonic**

Rimsky-Korsakov, *Capriccio Espagnol*, mvt 3

Tempo: ♩ = 126

Vivo e strepitoso ♩ = 126

3 3 3 3 3 3

12

3 3 3