

2021-2022 Audition Information Percussion - Repertory 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 four timpani, copper, balanced action pedals (Ludwig)
- 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, snare drum & timpani (attached). Your solo piece need not be memorized. For your timpani solo, a set of 4 timpani will be provided. You will be given 60 seconds to tune the timpani before you begin playing, using a standard A=440 pitch tuning fork (provided) for your reference pitch. Pitch-pipes and electronic tuners will not be allowed. Tuning gauges will be covered at the audition.

With your solo and/or your prepared excerpt(s), you may be asked to play it again in a different manner (slower, aster, 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 **Repertory Orchestra** level:

Xylophone: *Etude VII* from *Modern School for Xylophone*

Snare Drum: *Etude in 5/4* from *Modern School for Snare*

Timpani: Exercise No. 36 from *Goodman Modern Method for Tympani*

2. Excerpts

Attached are prepared excerpts on the bells and snare drum. If you are unfamiliar with the excerpts, 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.

Required excerpts for the **Repertory Orchestra** level:

Bells: *The Magic Flute* by Mozart

Snare Drum: *Scheherazade, 4th Movement* by Rimsky-Korsakov

(continued)

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 in 2 octaves: All the major scales in all keys and natural minor scales, as well as the melodic and harmonic minor scales in the keys of a, d, e, g and b. All scales are to be played from memory. Practice your scales on an actual xylophone so you will be prepared.

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.

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 Repertory will be on both the xylophone and snare drum. Rhythms will consist of standard note values as small as sixteenth notes and may include triplets or dotted note values. Rolls may be included.

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.

Due to COVID-19, in-person auditions are subject to change and may move to Zoom if needed. Please see mnyouthsymphonies.org/auditions for the most up-to-date information.

Questions? Call (651) 699-5811 or e-mail mys@mnyouthsymphonies.org.

Repertory Snare Solo

Etude in 5/4 from Modern School for Snare

Tempo: ♩ = 90

ETUDE IN 5/4

The musical score is written in bass clef with a 5/4 time signature. It consists of 11 staves of music. The dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *ff* (fortissimo). The piece features several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' in a circle) and accents (marked with a '>'). The tempo is indicated as ♩ = 90. The score begins with a *f* dynamic and ends with a *ff* dynamic.

Repertory Xylophone Solo
Etude #VII from *Modern School for Xylophone*
Tempo: ♩ = 100

VII

Allegro

The musical score consists of ten staves of music in 2/4 time, marked 'Allegro'. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The notation includes various rhythmic patterns such as eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. Rhythmic markings 'L' and 'R' are placed below the notes to indicate the hand used for each stroke. The piece concludes with a final chord on the tenth staff.

Repertory Timpani Solo

Exercise #36 From Goodman Modern Method for Tympani

Tempo: ♩ = 105

In A^b & E^b

Exercise 36

Allegro preciso

Musical score for Timpani Solo Exercise 36, featuring four staves of notation. The piece is in A^b & E^b and 4/4 time. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns, dynamic markings (f, p, ff), and articulation (acc. -). Fingerings and handings are indicated by letters R and L. Trills and triplets are also present.

f R L R L R R L L
 R R R L
 3 3
 > p 3 L R L R
 R L R R acc. - - - - - ff

Repertory Bells Excerpt

The Magic Flute by Mozart

Tempo: ♩ = 130

THE MAGIC FLUTE

Finale of Act 1

BELLS

By Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Allegro (264⁴/₂ measure)

28

Musical score for Bells Excerpt, featuring six staves of notation. The piece is in C major and 2/4 time. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns and articulation.

Repertory Snare Excerpt
 Scheherazade, 4th Movement by Rimsky-Korsakov

80

SCHEHERAZADE

Fourth Movement

Snare Drum (Tambur Piccolo)

Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov

Allegro molto 4 1 Recit. Lento

G.P. Viol. Solo

Allegro molto e frenetico Lento Recit. Vivo 18 24 (A) Triang. 2

G.P. Viol. Cad. F1. 2 7 (B) 11

mf (C) tr tr tr tr tr tr tr tr tr tr

(D) 15 (E) tr tr

p 1

tr tr tr 3 (F) 4 16 (G) 16 (H) 16

(I) 16 (K) 32 (L) 32 tr (M) 21 tr mf cresc.

(N) 4 8 12 16 18

11 sf pp Tamburino (O) 16 (P) 3 3 3

3 3 3

1 3 1 1

Continued

Repertory Snare Excerpt, continued

SCHEHERAZADE (Cont'd)

1 (Q)

(R)

15 (S)

1 (T)

dim. (U) 16 (V) 28 *Più stretto*

(W) *Spiritoso* 14

mf cresc.

Allegro non troppo e maestoso 11 (X) 6 13 (Y) 18 (Z) 6 *Lento Recit.*

Alla breve 10 *a tempo*

Viol. Solo *Cad.*