

2020-2021 Audition Information

Percussion

Philharmonic & Wind 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 kelon 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 Piece

You are required to prepare a solo piece 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 & Wind Orchestra** level:

Snare drum: *Flam Study V* from *Modern School for Snare*

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. **Students auditioning for Wind Orchestra are not required to prepare an excerpt.**

Required percussion excerpts for the **Philharmonic Orchestra** level:

Xylophone: *Irish Washer Woman* from *Modern School for Xylophone*

Xylophone: *Mother Goose Suite* by Goldebberg

Snare Drum: *Hungarian March* by Berlioz Goldenberg

(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: 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.

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 & Wind-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.

**FOR ADDITIONAL AUDITION TIPS, REFER TO THE AUDITIONS PAGE AT WWW.MNYOUTHSYMPHONIES.ORG.
Questions? Call (651) 699-5811 or e-mail mys@mnyouthsymphonies.org.**

Required Solo: Wind Orchestra and Philharmonic

Snare drum: Flam Study V (p. 28, Modern School for the Snare Drum, Goldenberg)

The image displays a musical score for a snare drum solo, titled "Flam Study V" from the book "Modern School for the Snare Drum" by Goldenberg. The score is written in bass clef with a 6/8 time signature and a tempo marking of quarter note = 84. It consists of ten staves of music. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns such as eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and triplet markings. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Please note: students auditioning for Wind Orchestra do **not** need to prepare the excerpts.

Required Excerpts: Philharmonic

Xylophone: Irish Washer Woman- Goldenberg p. 33 Modern School for Xylophone

IRISH WASHERWOMAN Arranged by M. Goldenberg

Jig

mf R

R L

L R R L R R L R R L R L

Required Excerpts: Philharmonic

Xylophone: Mother Goose Suite-- Ravel Goldeberg p. 33 Modern School for Xylophone

(Mother Goose Suite)
3rd Movement: Laideronette
By Maurice Ravel

Xylophone

Mouvement de Marche (♩ = 116)

pp

cresc.

ff etc...

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Required Excerpts: Philharmonic

Hungarian March- Berlioz Goldenberg p. 82

Snare Drum

4 Allegro marcato (♩ = 88)

Tamburo e Triangolo

ff

101

3

109

3

5

117

p

124

4

cresc.

f

132

6

5

147

f

f

mf