

2019-2020 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: *XXVII pg.84 by Modern School for Xylophone*

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:

Snare drum: *Etude in 9/8 p.50* by Goldenberg

Tympani: *Exercise #37 p.50* by Goodman

Xylophone: *Polka from the Golden Age Ballet* by Shostakovich

Snare drum: *Lieutenant Kije: The Birth of Kije* by Prokofiev

(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.

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

Solos: Repertory

Xylophone: Goldenberg, Etude XXXIII

XXXIII

Allegro

Solos & Excerpts continued on next page

Solos: Repertory

Snare drum: Goldenberg, Roll Exercise in 4/4

Moderato

The musical score consists of ten staves of music in 4/4 time, marked Moderato. The notation is for a snare drum roll exercise, featuring various rhythmic patterns and dynamic markings. The first staff begins with a *ff* dynamic and includes a *p* dynamic marking. The second staff continues the pattern with *ff*, *f*, and *p* dynamics. The third staff features *ff* and *p* dynamics. The fourth staff includes *ff* and *f* dynamics. The fifth staff has *f* and *mf* dynamics. The sixth staff is marked *f*. The seventh staff includes *f* and *pp* dynamics. The eighth staff features *f*, *ff*, and *pp* dynamics. The ninth staff includes *f* and *p* dynamics. The tenth staff concludes with *p*, *f*, and *ff* dynamics. The score is characterized by complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and various dynamic contrasts.

Excerpts: Repertory

Xylophone: Khachaturian, Gayne Ballet, Sabre Dance

Presto ($\text{♩} = 134$)

① & ② Solo

ff

③ 2 ④

1 ⑤

Excerpts: Repertory

Snare drum: Von Suppe, Pique Dame Overture

Ⓤ Allegro $\frac{3}{4}$

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 Ⓜ Più mosso

f *cresc.* *ff*

ff *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf*

ff *sf* *sf* *sf*

Ⓡ *ff* *sf* *sf* *sf*

Ⓡ *ff* *sf* *sf* *sf*

ff

Presto