Welcome Percussionists! We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all students who are interested in auditioning for the Sun Devil Percussion section. This section has grown significantly in the past few years and we are excited to share that with you. Please read the following material, as this information will be critical for you. Any further questions regarding the percussion section can be directed to me.

Sincerely,

Roberto Paz  
Arizona State University  
Director of Marching Percussion  
rvpaz@asu.edu

Audition Process

The fundamental exercises provided are essential for a successful percussionist. Every musical passage should be carefully learned at any given tempo with a variation of heights for the musician. This will help the performer understand the exercise at a higher level. Every percussion section should be ready to play any of these to demonstrate their skillset and abilities to the staff.

The rhythm exercise and the general exercises provided will demonstrate the fundamental skills applied into a musical element. The staff will be able to have an understanding of your ability. Please prepare and expect to perform this music.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, August 12</td>
<td>5:00pm - 6:00pm</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00pm - 9:00pm</td>
<td>Auditions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, August 13</td>
<td>5:00pm - 9:00pm</td>
<td>Auditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, August 14</td>
<td>5:00pm - 9:00pm</td>
<td>Auditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, August 15</td>
<td>5:00pm - 9:00pm</td>
<td>Auditions</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Audition Location - Percussion Blockhouse

Directions to Percussion Blockhouse: From the University Drive and Rural Road intersection travel north on Rural Road. Take a right, going east, on E 6th Street toward the Verde Dickey Dome. Take an immediate left, going north again, once in the 59E parking lot. Follow the road as it travels north and then east again, soon opening up with a larger parking area on your right hand side. The Percussion Blockhouse will be on the south side of the parking lot.

Technique

Details about technique are to be taken with the thought in mind that everyone has slightly different hand sizes, shapes and musculature. There is a vast amount of information about our craft as percussionists that simply cannot, and will not, be written because the nature of percussion is not one derived from text. Learning the details and minutia of what will be expected of you, as a Sun Devil Percussionist, will be grounded in your experiences with the staff and your ability to respond to that experience.

Our approach is a relaxed approach with the goal of efficiency.

Our battery uses a rudimental/drum corps approach and the snares play with traditional grip.

Our front ensemble is expected to be able to play both two mallet as well as four-mallet Steven’s grip.

Equipment

Please bring sticks or mallets to the corresponding instrument that you will audition on. We will provide snare drums, quads, bass drums, cymbals and keyboards.

All percussionists, should bring athletic clothes and water. Arizona is hot and we will be outside the majority of the time if not all the time. The battery will be marching for part of the audition process.

Arizona State University uses Mapex Drums, Majestic Front Ensemble, Zildjian Cymbals, and Vic Firth Sticks and Mallets.

Sun Devil Percussion
Audition and Membership Fees

There is a $20 audition fee.

Upon acceptance, there is an instrument fee of $200 for new members or $150 for returning members.

Season Rehearsals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>4:00pm - 6:00pm</td>
<td>This schedule may change due to holidays.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>4:00pm - 6:00pm</td>
<td>As you are preparing for your fall schedule, please be aware of the rehearsal times since all members are expected to be at every rehearsal at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday Sectionals</td>
<td>6:00pm - 8:00pm</td>
<td>All rehearsals are mandatory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>4:00pm - 6:00pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Game Days</td>
<td>Typically All Day</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Music

All music should be prepared and memorized for the audition. No exceptions.

Snare, Quads, Bass, and Cymbals

The general exercises should be learned in various tempi, various heights, with a metronome but are not required to be memorized. It is recommended that they be learned with with a full understanding.

The following pieces are required and should be memorized.

- Rhythm Etude
- Al Davis
- Business Time
- Fanfares
- Fight On Arizona
- God Bless The USA
Front Ensemble
The general exercises and rhythm etude will need to be memorized.

The following pieces are required and should be memorized.

- **Rhythm Etude**
  - Octaves - All 12 Major Scales
  - Eights - All 12 Major Scales
  - Chromatic Runs Crossing
  - Speed - All 12 Major Scales
  - Double Lateral Strokes - All 12 Major Scales
  - Double Vertical Strokes - All 12 Major Scales
  - Single Alternating Strokes - All 12 Major Scales

All keyboard players should prepare a 2-3 minute piece to demonstrate their skills.

Rhythm Section

*Bass guitarist* or *piano* performers interested in auditioning for the front ensemble should contact the Director of Athletic Bands, James Hudson, directly to schedule an audition.

*Drum set* performers interested in auditioning will be assigned to basketball band and/or volleyball band. If you are interested in a scholarship opportunity, please contact the Director of Athletic Bands, James Hudson, directly to schedule an audition.

James Hudson - Director of Athletic Bands
james.g.hudson@asu.edu
Thank you!

A big thank you to our sponsors for their continued support. Their dedication to education and excellence in the percussion community allows many programs like ours to grow and inspire students everywhere. Thank you!
Pregame Fanfares!

Quads

Edward Madden, Hud Paz