Hartt School Community Division
Percussion Audition Teacher Resource Packet

The following listings are meant as guides to help teachers who have students auditioning for a Hartt Community Division ensemble. Teachers may use these to better understand the general musical and technical skill levels expected for each ensemble. Auditions each year determine student placement, which is dependent on the given pool of applicants, their related skills, and the specific number of instrumentalists needed for each ensemble.
In order for a student to be successful in the Harmony Winds (new younger ensemble), he/she should be able to demonstrate the following technical abilities in their audition:

Timpani Tuning and Mallet Instrument Scales:
- Tune timpani to specific pitches, taken from mallet instrument or pitch pipe
- C Major (1 octave)
- Chromatic Scale (1 octave, C to C)
- Should be able to play prepared scales using the following rhythmic patterns at the tempo indicated:

\[ \frac{4}{4} \quad \frac{3}{4} \quad \frac{6}{8} \]

Note: students without experience playing timpani or mallet instruments may be taught after acceptance depending on the strength of their overall audition.

Prepared Snare Drum Solo: beginning to intermediate level snare drum etude of the student’s choice, for example: one of the first seven etudes from “Intermediate Snare Drum Studies” by Mitchell Peters, or comparable etude from another book.

- Play with accurate rhythms demonstrating a steady sense of pulse and rhythmic sub-division.
- Play with technical proficiency including proper grip and stroke.
- Play with a good, full sound, with dynamic control over all registers.

Reading:
- Students should have experience reading music in the following time signatures: 2/2, 4/4, 2/4, 3/4, 6/8
- Students should be comfortable reading music using eighth note triplets.
- Students should be prepared to sight read music containing the following rhythms at the audition:

\[ \frac{4}{4} \quad \frac{3}{4} \quad \frac{6}{8} \]
Philharmonia Winds  
Directed by Alan Francis  
Saturday from 9 to 11 a.m.

In order for a student to be successful in the Philharmonia Winds, he/she should be able to demonstrate the following technical abilities in their audition:

Timpani Tuning and Scales:

- Tune timpani to specific pitches, taken from mallet instrument or pitch pipe  
- C, F, and B-flat Major (1 octave)  
- Chromatic Scale of 2 octaves, C to C  
- Should be able to play prepared scales using the following rhythmic patterns at the tempo indicated:

![Timpani Rhythmic Pattern]

Prepared Snare Drum Solo: intermediate level snare drum etude of the student’s choice, for example: one of the middle etudes from “Intermediate Snare Drum Studies” by Mitchell Peters, or comparable etude from another book.

OPTIONAL mallet solo: intermediate level xylophone or marimba etude (or short work) of the student’s choice, for example: one of first few etudes from “Funny Xylophone, book 1” by Nebojsa Zivkovic, or comparable etude.

- Play with accurate rhythms and pitches demonstrating a steady sense of pulse and rhythmic subdivision.  
- Play with technical proficiency including proper grip and stroke.  
- Play with a good, full sound, with dynamic control over all registers.

Reading:

Students should be comfortable reading music in the following time signatures:  
2/2, 4/4, 2/4, 3/4, 6/8

- Students should be prepared to sight read music containing the following rhythms at the audition:

![Rhythmic Patterns]
Connecticut Youth Symphony
Directed by Dan D’Addio
Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.

Greater Hartford Youth Wind Ensemble
Directed by Glen Adsit
Sunday 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

In order for a student to be successful in GHYWE and CYS, he/she should be able to demonstrate the following technical abilities in their audition:

Timpani Tuning, Snare Drum Roll, and Scales:

- Tune timpani to specific pitches, taken from tuning fork or pitch pipe
- Demonstrate snare drum roll, crescendo-diminuendo (piano-forte-piano), lasting about 45 seconds
- C, F, B-flat, G, and D Major scales (2 octaves) and arpeggios (2 octaves)
- Chromatic Scale of 2 octaves, C-C
- Should be able to play prepared scales using the following rhythmic patterns at the tempo indicated:

![Timpani Rhythm Pattern]

Prepared Snare Drum Solo: intermediate to advanced level snare drum etude of the student’s choice, for example: one of the later etudes from “Intermediate Snare Drum Studies” by Mitchell Peters, or comparable etude from another book.

REQUIRED mallet AND/OR timpani etude: intermediate level xylophone or marimba etude (or short work) of the student’s choice, for example: one of first few etudes from “Funny Xylophone, book 1” by Nebojsa Zivkovic, or comparable etude from another book; AND/OR intermediate timpani etude of the student’s choice, for example: one of the first ten etudes from the Friese-Lepak Timpani Method by Alfred Friese and Alexander Lepak, or comparable solo from another book.

- Play with accurate rhythms and pitches demonstrating command over the full range of the instrument, with a steady sense of pulse and rhythmic sub-division
- Play with technical proficiency including proper grip and stroke.
- Play with a good, full sound, with dynamic control over all registers.

Reading:

- Students should be comfortable reading music in the following time signatures: 2/2, 4/4, 2/4, 3/4, 6/8, 5/4, 9/8, 3/8 and mixed meter
- Students should be prepared to sight read music for snare drum, and either timpani or mallets