

# Marion Scholastic Percussion

## 2025 Audition Packet

*“Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day-in and day-out.”*

*-Robert Collier*

*“Percussion is the most adaptable family of instruments. The biggest challenge is to project percussion in a lyrical way.”*

*-Evelyn Glennie*

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Thank you for your interest in joining us for the 2025 FFCC Indoor Percussion season. We are excited to have you here and look forward to having a fun, educational, and successful season.

A couple of things to keep in mind during the audition process. It is not your current skill that we are looking at. What we as your educators want is driven, disciplined, confident, and self-motivated individuals. Being in a percussion ensemble such as this takes a lot of commitment and dedication. It will not be easy, you will be challenged and become stronger and better disciplined in all aspects of your life. You will realize your full potential as a musician and performer capable of exceeding the limits you thought you had. However, the experience is up to you. You will only get out of your performance exactly what you are willing to put into it.

## What to Expect at Auditions

We will begin every rehearsal with a meeting where staff will go over the day's schedule, any particulars for the facilities/equipment in use, and what we will be looking for during the audition and the ensemble's general expectations.

During the audition process each student will be evaluated on a 1 – 5 scale, 1 being needs the most improvement and 5 being exceeding staff's expectations. The criteria for the evaluation are as follows

Preparedness, Communication, Performance, Technique, Adaptability

# Technique

## We will be using the “Vic-Firth” Technique

**Standby.** This will be your mallets by your side in a “relaxed yet ready” position. Thumbs should be on top of your mallet at a 45-degree angle to the floor. Mallets Should be perpendicular to the tone rails of mallet instruments.

Non-mallet instruments will be defined in person by instrument

**Set.** You will be given “8 and in” during beats 5-6 you will bring your mallets up to playing position over your first note at a height of about 3 inches, beat 7 is a small pulse down with snap up on beat 8 to the dynamic mallet height of what you are about to play (i.e. *fff* 12 inch height *p* 3 inch height.)

### Tips

- Always practice with a metronome or stable source of time.
- Use a mirror or record yourself to watch technique.
- Practice at various tempi.
- Have all audition material in a binder with sheet protectors.

### What to Bring

- Water
- Clothes for the weather within school dress code.
- Sticks and mallets
- Pencils

## 2025 Percussion Auditions

Below are the audition requirements. There are the warmups we will be using throughout the season as well as the music you will be expected to perform. Please be familiar with all the warmups and exercises in this packet. Our primary goal is the education of percussion performers, if you are struggling with any of the exercises, try these tips:

- Practice material slowly at first. Use a metronome at a lower tempo and do not proceed to a faster tempo until you have mastered slower speeds
- Dexterity will come if the exercises are practiced every day. Muscles begin to lose their strength after 72 hrs. of not using them.
- Practice for shorter times but more frequently with short breaks in between.
- Perform these exercises for a friend or teacher. An audition is a performance so the more comfortable you are performing for an audience the more comfortable you will be during the audition.
- RELAX, do not get frustrated. If you are having an issue with a certain part, step away for a moment or move on to another part. Sometimes a brain break helps clear the block you have formed on that certain section.

## AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

### **Warm-ups**

Grean scales (all major keys), 6-3-2-1, Time

### **Music**

Bubble Tea (m. 1 – 45) on a part of the player's choosing