

Instrumental Music Ensembles Audition Information – Percussion

Auditions will take place on Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 October.

The Arts Unit offers 6 weekly instrumental ensembles:

3 advanced ensembles:

- Symphonic Wind Ensemble (SWE) – Mondays 4.30pm – 7pm
- Symphony Orchestra – Thursdays 4.30pm – 7pm
- Jazz Orchestra – Tuesdays 4.30pm – 6.30pm

3 intermediate ensembles:

- Symphonic Wind Orchestra (SWO) – Mondays 4.30pm – 7pm
- String Sinfonia – Thursdays 4.30pm – 7pm
- Stage Band – Tuesdays 4.30pm – 6.30pm

There are 2 sets of audition requirements: Set A (advanced) and Set B (intermediate).

Instrumental Ensemble applicants are required to prepare either 'Set A' OR 'Set B'. Please choose the set that best demonstrates your current playing ability. It is highly recommended that you discuss this with your instrumental teacher.

- The audition will consist of:
1. Scales
 2. Prepared piece – own choice
 3. Prepared piece – set excerpt
 4. Sight reading

With regards to those of you who wish to audition for both a classical ensemble (SWE, SWO, symphony orchestra) and a jazz ensemble (stage band, jazz orchestra) please note the following:

- If you are auditioning for a place in both types of ensemble please prepare 2 own choice pieces, 1 in each style but only 1 set of scales.
- You will also need to perform both a classical and a jazz set excerpt which can be downloaded from our website two weeks prior to your audition – a link will be emailed to you to access this.

For further information please contact us at music.artsunit@det.nsw.edu.au

Percussion Audition Requirements

1. Scales – Scales are listed in a table on the next 2 pages

You are required to play **2 scales only** (1 major and 1 minor) of your choice from the following 'set A' or 'set B' list. Accuracy, fluency and tempo will be assessed. For 'set A' you are also required to play three snare drum rudiment patterns.

There are no scales or rudiments required for a jazz drum set audition.

2. Prepared Piece – Own Choice

Please prepare **1 piece or excerpt** of your own choice (approx. 3 minutes long or less). This piece should demonstrate your technical and musical ability on your chosen instrument (snare, mallets or timpani for symphonic percussion or drum set for jazz).

If you are auditioning for a place in a classical ensemble this should be a classical piece. If you are auditioning for a place in a jazz ensemble (drum set only) this should be a jazz piece. If you are auditioning for a place in both ensembles please record 2 pieces, 1 of each style. This piece should demonstrate your technical and musical ability on your chosen instrument.

For a jazz drum set audition, we encourage you to play to a backing track in order to demonstrate your sense of style, feel and rhythm.

3. Prepared Piece – Set Excerpt

An excerpt for your instrument will be made available on The Arts Unit website two weeks prior to your audition – a link will be emailed to you to access this..

You are required to prepare this excerpt as part of your audition submission. The intention of this part of the audition is to ascertain your ability to prepare a difficult excerpt in a short period of time. Again, this will demonstrate technical and musical ability on your chosen instrument.



4. Sight reading

This will be provided during the audition.

SET A – Advanced Ensembles

Choose 2 scales only (1 major and 1 minor) from the list below

MALLET PERCUSSION	
Major Scales	Harmonic Minor Scales
Tempo: quavers at Crotchet = 120	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C (2 octaves) • B (2 octaves) • F (2 octaves) • D (2 octaves) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B (2 octaves) • C (2 octaves) • A (2 octaves) • F (2 octaves)

SNARE DRUM RUDIMENTS		
<p>1. Maintained multi stroke bounce/buzz rolls in piano, mezzo forte and forte dynamics</p>	<p>2. Single stroke 4 at 130bpm maintained for 20 seconds</p> 	<p>3. Single paradiddle at 120bpm maintained for 20 seconds</p> 

Jazz Drum Set

There are no scales or rudiment requirements for a jazz drum set audition

SET B – Intermediate Ensembles

Choose 2 scales only (1 major and 1 minor) from the list below

MALLET PERCUSSION	
Major Scales	Harmonic Minor Scales
Tempo: quavers at Crotchet = 120	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• C (1 octave)• F (1 octave)• D (1 octave)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A (1 octave)• F (1 octave)• D (1 octave)

Jazz Drum Set

There are no scales or rudiment requirements for a jazz drum set audition