2023 PERCUSSION AUDITION MATERIALS
CYMBALS

MUSIC CITY YOUTH IN THE ARTS, INC.

718 Thompson Lane, Suite 108-425
Nashville, TN 37204
(615) 496-1363
office@musiccityyouth.org
CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME!

By downloading this packet, you have taken the first step in a journey that could change your life. The drum corps activity continues to provide young people with a unique experience unlike other performing arts activities. Drum corps asks us to be the best versions of ourselves in pursuit of a common goal: connecting with others through performance. You will spend each day this summer training and improving your 11-minute show with more than 150 fellow performers, building lifelong friendships. No matter the path you choose in life, this activity will provide you with tools and leadership skills you can use beyond your time as a performer.

The mission and purpose of Music City Youth in the Arts shall be to provide experiential education in music and visual performance arts to young people through an immersive program emphasizing camaraderie, fitness, and leadership development. Music City Drum and Bugle Corps is a youth performing arts organization based in Nashville, TN that participates in World Class competition in Drum Corps International. We are committed to providing a safe, educational, and growth-centered experience for our membership.

Whether you have aspirations to perform with Music City in 2023, or just want to see what drum corps is like, we sincerely thank you for joining us!
2023 AUDITION DATES
DECEMBER 9–11 | NASHVILLE, TN
JANUARY 13–16 | CALL BACK AUDITIONS | NASHVILLE, TN

CONTACT US

ADMINISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP
MIKE WEBB, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Mike.webb@musiccityyouth.org
office@musiccityyouth.org

Percussion
Tommy.sam@musiccitydrumcorps.org
percussion@musiccitydrumcorps.org

Visual
visual@musiccitydrumcorps.org
Video Auditions

For those of you who cannot make it to the audition, we are offering the option for a video audition for a spot on the line. We’re looking for individuals who are willing to learn and be open to all types of cymbal techniques! Please include a video of each of the following when submitting your video audition:

- An introduction video to let us know more about your background, experience, and personality. This is a chance to help you stand out from the others so feel free to get creative!
- The following exercises from the Seavine Cymbal Education Series at 120bpm and 160bpm:
  o Flip Exercise 1
  o Gumption Crash Exercise
  o Vertical Crash Exercise
- Prepare a 24 to 32 count visual that best shows off your skills and creativity as a player.

When recording these videos, make sure that a metronome is audible throughout and that you’re marking time to the exercises with your feet visible in the shot as well.

While this is an audition, it is also a learning experience as well and we want to provide a fun and exciting atmosphere for everyone no matter your experience. If you have any question at all or run into issues, feel free to email talenburkett@gmail.com or jjaden8899@gmail.com.

Visual Audition

Choreography demonstration video below or scan the QR code to be directed to video online. You will need to prepare this choreography as a part of your visual audition.
Thank you for your interest in the 2023 Music City Drum Corps Cymbal Line!

There will be a lot of information thrown at you and this may be brand new to some but the hardest part of auditioning is showing up. As a cymbal line, we provide musical and visual flare to the ensemble. There is a physical demand involved in this activity as a whole and especially in this section. While there is no true substitution to mimic the feeling of holding a pair of cymbals, you can prepare by conditioning your body appropriately by working on upper body strength and your core. Both are essential in the section as well as the activity.

It is encouraged that you bring your own pair of cymbals (if possible) which guarantees more practice/audition time but if you do not have any, we will have a limited number of pairs to rotate. Also, if you have your own gloves, bring them. They will be necessary for auditions as we will use them in the show and through the season. There will also be a visual portion of the audition so make sure to dress appropriately (tennis shoes and athletic shorts/pants).

Cymbal Technique Overview

For this upcoming season, we will be utilizing the technique as explained from the Seavine Cymbal Education series by owner and creator, Chelsea Levine. By using this as the foundation for our technique, it gives anyone auditioning a fair chance to have access to a singular technique to focus on. It also provides clear instructions, videos, and breakdowns for everything that we will be going over at the audition and throughout the season. All the titles below are hyperlinked to the video describing the technique!
Set Position

Horizontal (Flat/Gumption) Position
Vertical Position

Horizontal (Gumption/Flat) Crash

FRONT VIEW
These are just a few of the basic examples of the look we are trying to achieve this year. We recommend becoming more familiar with the rest of the material that is offered from the Seavine Education videos as these will be the basis of our technique. These can be found at https://seavine.co/pages/education.

**Audition Preparation Tips**

Record Yourself – By recording yourself, you are able to really see an accurate representation of where you are currently. Be critical of yourself when critiquing and use them to be able to see what your good and bad habits are.

Practice in Front of Other or with Others – Practicing with others helps you become better at performing in front of others and also adds an extra set of eyes to notice things you may not notice about your own technique.

Practice with Music – Practicing with music that you enjoy is an easy way to be more comfortable and relaxed with your approach. This also helps improve performance quality by being able to perform to different moods and styles of music.

Share on Online for Feedback – Use your social media to your advantage and publicly/privately share your videos and content with others. The cymbal community is a niche one and are always willing to help anyone looking to get better!