MUSIC CITY DRUM CORPS 2023
AUDITION PACKET

BRASS
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 MAIN AUDITION CAMP // ALL SECTIONS

DECEMBER 9-11
FREEDOM MIDDLE SCHOOL
750 NEW HWY W, FRANKLIN, TN 37064

VIDEO AUDITION AVAILABLE
CONTINUE READING FOR DETAILS
2023 BRASS AUDITION PROCESS

1. PRESCREENING SUBMISSION

All brass auditions will be prescreened by staff prior to arrival. Please prepare and submit an audio-visual recording of the following excerpts no later than a week before your first camp attendance:

YOUTUBE LINK TO DEMO

- Chicowicz - On the Move, see diagram below and musical material on next page. Please use the marching technique you are most comfortable with.
  1. Move 8 back (8-to-5)
  2. Move 8 left (8-to-5)
  3. Move 16 to original location
  4. Move 8 back (8-to-5)
  5. Move 8 right (8-to-5)
  6. Move 16 to original location
  7. Move 8 back (16-to-5)
  8. Move 8 forward (16-to-5)
  9. Hold 20 counts to end of musical phrase

Please perform Chicowicz - On the Move twice:
Once at 120 bpm and once at 160 bpm.
PRESCREENING: *Movement Audition*

Overview:

All individuals auditioning must possess or have the potential to quickly develop strong acting and movement skills. Music City is looking for exceptional performers who possess an engaging and outgoing personality, a strong sense of humor, and an exuberant sense of play within dramatic situations. A performer needs to be a disciplined and enthusiastic team player who works well within a large ensemble, willing to selflessly give and take to better the performance. Our shows rarely use the spoken word, thus the body becomes the expressive tool to present circumstances and dramatic action. A person needs to display athletic agility, strong kinesthetic awareness, and a freedom to express emotion through gesture. Please include performing the movement phrase found below including audible music or metronome. Please record with your entire body in the frame at all times and perform to the camera.

[YOUTUBE LINK TO INSTRUCTION & DEMO]

Please let us know about any special movement skills or abilities you possess! (dance training, gymnastics, juggling, etc)

**The prescreening submission includes Chicowicz OTM and Movement Audition only – please do not submit any additional materials**

PRESCREENING SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Please submit via the submission link [unlisted](https://example.com) video or playlist link to Youtube. You may splice together separate recordings and takes into one video, or create a YouTube playlist. When appropriate, please ensure that your metronome is audible in the recording.

*To submit a prescreening audition, please [register for an audition](https://example.com) via the corps website.*

2. **LIVE BRASS AUDITION**
The live audition will be held 1-on-1 with a member of our brass team. Be prepared to play Beautiful Sounds and Arban #19 with metronome – tell the staff member a tempo for both excerpts. If you want to be considered for a lead position on your instrument, be prepared to perform the Lead Etude.

3. VISUAL AUDITION
The live visual audition will be identical to Chicowicz - On the Move and Movement Audition from the prescreening audition.

4. VIDEO AUDITION
If you are unable to attend a live audition camp and still want to audition for the 2023 drum corps, we invite you to submit a video audition. If you elect to audition via video, you can expect to receive feedback from a Music City staff member in addition to information of your callback status with the corps.

Please compile all prescreening and musical materials in a single unlisted video or playlist uploaded to YouTube. Please ensure that metronome is audible in your recording. Likewise, for the visual portion, please ensure that your full body is visible in the frame.

To submit a video audition, please register for an audition via the corps website.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?
Each audition season at the drum corps is a casting call. We are searching for trainable and flexible performers – more specifically, movers who play brass instruments. We want to hear you make a full and pure tone on your instrument and demonstrate control in your playing. We want to see you demonstrate athleticism and agility in the way you move. Tempo and pulse are crucial to both music and movement, especially with over 150 total performers on a football field. Listen to rhythmic music, watch professional dancers, listen to professional musicians, and learn from a metronome.

We are not looking for perfection. This activity is a performing arts activity, and we are looking for performing artists! We love drum corps because it is exciting – don’t avoid mistakes, take risks, and go for it!

PREPARING FOR YOUR AUDITION
1 Practice and maintain the fundamentals of your playing on a regular basis. Long tones, lip slurs, and scales are always time well spent. Pulse, tempo, and rhythm are skills that are developed through repetition, so go practice!

2 Get moving! It is vital to prepare your body physically for the demands of performing with a world class drum corps. This means you should show up to camps physically fit and capable. The drum corps staff will evaluate your cardiovascular endurance during the camp season and beyond. Failure to demonstrate this physical ability may put your position in the corps at risk.

3 Fill your mind with the sounds of professional players of your instrument. Your tone is your musical voice, and nothing can more important than how you sound. Learn from the best!

4 Record yourself playing and record yourself moving. We don’t always notice errors in our performance – go back and listen/watch yourself and notice inconsistencies in your playing or movement. You are your best teacher!

5 Have fun! We hope you learn something by attending an audition camp experience, but most of all, have a great time!

WHAT SHOULD I BRING TO AUDITION CAMP?

1 A performer’s mindset! We are seeking confident performers for our 2023 cast. You cannot perform at your highest level while trying to avoid mistakes. Go for it!

2 Your audition materials, an instrument, an appropriate mouthpiece, and a pair of soft gloves.

3 Athletic clothing that allows you to move freely and comfortably.

4 A good pair of athletic shoes.

5 A music stand, large water bottle, valve oil, etc.

6 For main audition camps: a backpack with a couple changes of clothes, sleeping gear, shower gear (shower shoes!), toothbrush, etc.

CONTACT US

ADMINISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP

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BEAUTIFUL SOUNDS

- Play this flow study at a comfortable dynamic with a full sound in a connected legato style.
- Maintain a consistent tone quality throughout the range of the instrument.
- Sustain and connect each note to the following note.
- Demonstrate strong pulse: even rhythm and accurate tempo.
- Please mark time (move your feet in place) with the metronome.
- Choose a tempo between quarter note = 88 - 126 beats per minute.

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At a comfortable tempo, legato

At a comfortable volume
ARBAN #19

- Play with a light quality of articulation in a detached style.
- Work to get each note to speak with a full tone. Let the air do the work, not the tongue.
- Take a full breath at the beginning and at each quarter rest, and blow through each 4-bar phrase.
- Demonstrate strong pulse: play with accurate rhythm that is well subdivided.
- Choose a tempo between quarter note = 88-132 beats per minute.

Detached, light

At a comfortable volume

LEAD ETUDE // CLARKE #2

- Play this scale pattern and flow study at a full volume with a forward sound in a connected, legato style.
- Practice this flow study on air & valve or down the octave to promote flow and relaxation.
- Demonstrate ease and efficiency in the high range of the instrument.