

Liberty University Wind Symphony & Symphony Orchestra

Percussion Auditions

Performance Protocol:

- Please arrive to your audition at least 10 minutes early.
- All auditions will be “sighted” (you will be seen). Professional performance attire is expected (see below for recommendations).
- Instruments WILL be provided. Sticks/mallets will NOT be provided.
- A tuning fork will be provided for reference pitch to tune timpani. No other devices may be used to obtain pitch to tune timpani (no pitch pipes, cell phones, etc.).
- When you enter the room, place your sticks/mallets and repertoire in the appropriate areas and then begin. Candidates should perform repertoire in order from the instrument closest to the entrance door, down the line of instruments as they are set up in the room.
- Remember to turn snares ON before you play and back OFF when you are done with the snare drum portion of the audition. Gently lower the timpani pedals when you are done with the timpani portion.

Free Advice For A Great Audition:

- Begin preparation as soon as you receive this form and excerpts! Research, research, research!
- Decipher possible notation/performance discrepancies (i.e. cymbal crash—choked or sustain?)
- Work out your stickings (snare drum embellishments, mallet/keyboards excerpts, etc.)
- Listen to multiple recordings of professional orchestras performing this repertoire. Note the tempo of each recording and practice with a metronome at each of these tempos regularly. Then transition to practicing with each recording. It’s all about the sound.
- Don’t just know your part, but be able to hear how your part fits with the ensemble. Go back and listen some more!
- Make a checklist of sticks/mallets and other “special” equipment you will need (i.e. will you need a handkerchief for snare drum?)
- Dress nicely, be respectful and polite, arrive early and well prepared, and play with confidence and precision!

Professional Performance Attire:

- Men
 - All black (black dress shirt, black dress pants, black dress socks, and black dress shoes) OR
 - Suit with dress shirt, dress shoes, dress socks. You do NOT have to wear your jacket while you play, nor do you have to wear a tie.
- Ladies
 - All black: black blouse/top with sleeves (at least $\frac{3}{4}$), black dress pants (no yoga pants, capris, etc.), black flats (no heels) OR
 - Dress pants suit (same length of blouse/top and pants as "all black" apply) OR
 - Formal dress.