

Methodist University
Friends of Music 2011-12 Series
Presents

Considerations for Preparing an Audition

Clinician – Dr. Don N. Parker
Fayetteville State University

Friday September 16, 2011 11:00 am

Everyone experiences auditioning/trying out for something in his or her lifetime. Auditioning requires a multitude of skills that are developed over a period of time. The moment you apply for your first job, you have entered into the process of marketing your skills and talents. It is the approach (preparation) towards auditioning that separates those that make the cut and those that are searching for validation of their skills. This clinic addresses some of the considerations I have take into account when auditioning for the various performance and career opportunities in music as percussionist. Although my examples are geared towards percussion, the concepts apply to anyone who is considering and/or has auditioned for something in the past.

Two major areas that should be considered when preparing an audition:

A. The Basics

1. Know the requirements
2. Read and follow directions
3. Complete paperwork thoroughly
4. Get the information you need and ask good questions when necessary
5. Know your auditioner /panel and communicate.
6. Make yourself comfortable
7. Practice everything (go through the motions)
8. Plan to be early, not on time!!

B. Beyond the Surface

1. Sweat the details
2. Anticipate the unexpected
3. Develop your network now
4. Know the past, present, and future of the organization, group, or institution you want to be a part of
5. To thyself be true

Examples of Typical Audition Situations

1. Military
2. Orchestral
3. Professional Chamber Ensemble
4. Competitions
5. Scholarship Opportunities
6. Juries/Sophomore Qualifying/Senior Recital
7. University/Collegiate Positions
8. Broadway Show/Music Theatre
9. Club Date/Touring Company

Demonstration of an approach and what is involved (see below)

1. FSO audition requirements
2. UTM audition requirements
3. UT Austin auditions requirements
4. FSU audition requirements

Questions and Answers

Dr. Don N. Parker serves as Associate Professor of Music-Percussion and Music Coordinator at Fayetteville State University. Over the years he has appeared as an adjudicator, clinician, and guest artist throughout the country. Most recently he was featured at the 10th Annual Tarleton State University Percussion Festival in Stephenville, Texas with the Third Coast Percussion Ensemble and Jeff Moore. He performs with the Fayetteville Jazz Orchestra and Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra since 2003 as a featured soloist and serves as principal percussionist. He also has performs with his jazz vibes and piano duo, The Haydon/Parker Duo, and his trumpet/percussion duo, Double Take, which has released its second CD entitled "Atmospheres" featuring commissioned works. He is the director for the Summer Music Camps @ FSU.

Prior to FSU, Dr. Parker taught at the University of Missouri - St. Louis, Chadron State College (Nebraska) and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Dr. Parker has a B.M. in Performance and Music Business from DePauw University and a M.M. and D.M.A. in Percussion Performance from the University of Texas in Austin. Dr. Parker has endorsements with Sabian Cymbals, Mapex Drums, Mike Balter Mallets, Regal Tip Sticks, Remo World Percussion, LP Music Group, and Majestic Percussion. For more information, contact Dr. Parker at:

FSU Website: www.uncfsu.edu/fah/faculty/parker.htm

PI Productions: <http://www.parkerlinchmusic.com/>

Personal Website: http://www.don.parkerlinchmusic.com/DNP_Site/Welcome.html

E-Mail: dparker@uncfsu.edu

Phone: 910-672-1253

Majestic Percussion Instruments

Website: http://www.jupitermusic.com/jbi_index.aspx

Mike Balter Mallets

Website: www.mikebalter.com

FSO Audition Material

1. Rimsky-Korsakov: Sheherazade, 3rd movement

Snare Drum

♩. = 72

pocchiss. piu mosso

p *dim.*

8 4

pp

p

4

p *f*

University of Tennessee at Martin

AUDITION INFORMATION FOR PERCUSSION

Undergraduate Degrees in Music Education or Music Performance (at instructor's approval only)

Please contact Julie Hill, Director of Percussion Studies, to schedule an audition to be admitted as a Music Major specializing in percussion at UTM.

The audition process at UT Martin is designed to make sure you are ready to enter, and able to complete our music program. We want you to graduate in four years so the audition is our best indicator of knowing if being a music major is the best fit for you. Audition preparation is crucial, so I urge you to take the requirements below seriously. UT Martin requirements may be different from other universities so please make sure you look through the required categories below.

The most important rule to remember is to choose music you are passionate about! Music performed at a high level, with feeling and musicality, will outshine difficult music played unmusically any day of the week!

I encourage you to use the categories below as a guideline, but the music itself should be something you can perform with confidence and passion.

Additionally, I will take time to speak with you (and/or your parents) before or after the audition to answer any questions that you have. There will also be time for me to ask you questions about your goals and what you want to accomplish in 4 years. This is a screening process that works both ways and you are interviewing me and our music program as much as I am interviewing you.

Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded based on merit and playing ability. Students who successfully audition for Senior High All Region Bands (All West, Mid State, or All East) and All State Ensembles, automatically qualify for scholarships. Academic Scholarships may be available for you as well depending on the ACT score. I will walk you through these options at the interview.

You must prepare **3 percussion areas**

Area 1 must be marimba or vibes (a 4 mallet selection is strongly encouraged)

Area 2 must be snare drum (concert or rudimental).

Area 3 is your option and may be chosen from timpani, multiple percussion, drum set, or another "world" percussion instrument

AREA 1 -Mallet Keyboard

Suggested Works (or other equivalent level selection):

Rosebud, Ghanaia, Yellow After the Rain, Over the Moon, Mexican Dances, Solo from Julie Davila's Impressions on Wood

- Sight Reading (two mallets)

AREA 2- Snare Drum

Suggested Works (or other equivalent level selection):

Etude from Portraits in Rhythm, Delecluse Etude, Three Dances Mvt. 1, Etude from 6 Unaccompanied Solos by Colgrass, Etude form Lalo Davila's Contemporary Rudimental Studies Book

- Selected rudiments from the 40 Percussive Arts Society International Drum Rudiments played in "open to closed to open" style.

- Sight Reading.

AREA 3 - Choose 1 of the following

Timpani

Suggested Works (or other equivalent level selection):

Beck solo timpani work, Etude from Ron Fink's Timpani Tuning Etudes book

Multiple Percussion

Suggested Works (or other equivalent level selection):

An Etude from Julie Hill and Jim Campbell's, Music for Multiple Percussion: A World View, Tork or Engine Room by Campbell, or a movement from the French Suite by Kraft.

Drum Set/Hand Percussion

Suggested Works (or other equivalent level selection):

A variety of Styles from Tommy Igoe's book, please demonstrate time and soloing in each.

A riq or pandeiro solo by N. Scott Robinson or a djembe solo by B. Michael Williams

Please note that auditionees must play from original scores of their selected music – no duplicated copies will be allowed.

If a personal audition is not possible, you may submit a videotaped audition (audio recordings will not be acceptable for auditions). However, only live auditions can be considered for a scholarship.

MARCHING BAND AUDITION/SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The “Skyhawk” Marching Band allows anyone to audition for snare drum, front ensemble, multi-tenors, bass drum and cymbals. Placement auditions for non-music majors are held during the pre-season "Pre Camp". Contact Director of Bands, Dr. Nola Jones at the UTM Band Office, njones@utm.edu or visit their web site (<http://www.utm.edu/departments/finearts/band/>) for further information.

ADDITIONAL INQUIRY

All questions pertaining to repertoire, auditions, or curriculum can be directed to:

Julie Hill
Assistant Professor of Music
Director of Percussion Studies
jhill@utm.edu

**The University of Texas at Austin
Percussion Department Undergraduate
Audition Guidelines:**

Snare Drum:

2-3 Etudes from *Portraits in Rhythm* by Tony Cirone or similar (Concert Style) 1
Rudimental Style Snare Drum Solo

Keyboard:

1 – Two-mallet solo/etudes – *Modern School for the Xylophone.....* Goldenberg 1 – Four-
mallet solo/etude – Intermediate level

Timpani:

1 – Timpani solo/etudes – *The Solo Timpanist...* Vic Firth or *Fundamental Solos for
Timpani...* Mitchell Peters

Drum set:

Demonstrate knowledge of the following styles: Jazz, Latin, and Rock. □
Sight reading will be asked on Snare Drum and Keyboard.

Fayetteville State University
Department of Performing and Fine Arts
Audition Requirements for Percussion Majors and Minors

1. Rudiments - Each rudiment from the list below has to be played from open (slow) to closed (fast) and back to open demonstrating control, endurance, and proper sticking:
 - a. Double stroke roll
 - b. Single Paradiddle
 - c. Flam tap
 - d. Lesson 25
2. One solo or etude on snare drum (rudimental or concert style) demonstrating technique and musicality. Should be no longer than 3 minutes.
3. Scales – Play all major scales and one form of minor scales (natural, harmonic, dorian, melodic) two octaves in eighth notes at quarter note = 100
4. One solo or short etude on a keyboard percussion instrument (xylophone, vibraphone, or marimba) or timpani demonstrating technique and musicality. Should be no longer than 3 minutes.
5. Demonstrate ability to keep time on one of the following small percussion instruments:
 - a. Claves
 - b. Maracas
 - c. Cabasa
 - d. Cowbell
 - e. Guiro
6. Sight-reading will be required on the chosen areas of solo from above (see #2 and #4)
7. Optional requirement – demonstrate ability in other areas of percussion by playing styles or techniques associated with these areas:
 - a. Drum set
 - b. Congas
 - c. Keyboard improvisation

Note: The audition requirements #1, #2, #3, #5, and #6 are required if you are interested in FSU Marching Band Drumline.

If there are any questions regarding the above audition requirements, please contact:

Dr. Don N. Parker, Percussion
Fayetteville State University
Department of Performing and Fine Arts
1200 Murchison Road
dparker@uncfsu.edu
(910) 672-1253
(910) 672-1572 (fax)

President's Own Marine Band

Tuba

Dec. 19-20

Preliminary Round

A) Solo: prepare all or part of a work of your choosing, not to exceed two minutes.

B) Excerpts from the following:

March, "The Stars and Stripes Forever" (Sousa)

First Suite in E-flat for Military Band, Opus 28, No. 1 (Holst)

Toccata Marziale (Vaughan Williams)

Overture to *Rienzi* (Wagner/Patterson)

"Rufford Park Poachers" from *Lincolnshire Posy* (Grainger/Fennell)

C) Possible Sightreading

Final Round

A) Solo: The cadenza from the third movement of the Tuba Sonata (Hindemith)

Play the pick-up measure 76 through measure 86

B) Excerpts from the following:

March, "Entry of the Gladiators" (Fucik/Tuschla)

Mazeppa (Liszt/Kindig)

Symphony in B-flat (Hindemith)

Siegfried Fantasie (Wagner/Seidel)

J'ai ete au bal (Grantham)

The Gum-Suckers March (Grainger)

C) Sightreading

D) Possible section playing