



Anchor Bay High School Marching Tars

Drumline Auditions (sign-up for a time on 5/12)
10th - 12th Grade: Tuesday, 5/19/09 (6pm start)
9th Grade: Thursday, 5/21/09 (6pm, New Marcher Orient.)

Contact Info:

Mr. Miller - Instructor Email: Mille8jr@cmich.edu
Mr. Visnaw - Director Email: dvisnaw@anchorbaybands.org
Ms. Dee - Assistant Director Email: mdee@anchorbaybands.org

Phone: 586.648.2500, ext. 2359 (Visnaw) or 2358 (Dee)
Web: <http://anchorbaybands.org/marchingtars.htm>

Workshop Dates:

Thursday, May 7th 6:00-7:30pm (ABHS Band Room)
Tuesday, May 12th 6:00-7:30pm (ABHS Band Room)

Workshop dates are optional but highly suggested. There will be important information covered in the workshops that will be helpful in the audition process. Also, bring your own drumsticks as well as a practice pad (see stick info below). If you cannot make the workshop dates, you are still encouraged to audition.

Sticks/Mallets:

Recommended for the audition (along with practice purposes) are the *Vic Firth Corpmaster RALPH HARDIMON Outdoor wood-tip Snare Drum Sticks* (Vic Firth SRH). For those auditioning for the pit, we recommend either the *Vic Firth M164, M114* or *M3* marimba mallets. Once the line has been determined, all battery members (snare, bass, and tenor drums) will be required to purchase their own sticks/mallets. These sticks will be purchased through the instructor, as all line members play with the same type of stick. Pit members may use any mallets they choose.

Audition Information:

Auditions will take place on **Tuesday, May 19th beginning at 6:00pm and on Thursday, May 21st (for Freshmen, during New Marcher Orientation) at ABHS**. Please come prepared to audition for the instrument that you would like to play. There will also be a sight-reading piece for all instruments. All persons auditioning for the percussion section **WILL** receive a position on either the drumline or the front ensemble (Pit). For more information, or, to download copies of the audition music, visit www.anchorbaybands.org/drumline.html. If you have any questions, feel free to Email Mr. Miller at the address above.

All Battery (Drumline) auditions will perform on Snare, Tenor, or Bass Drum and will be required to play:

- 1) Eights
- 2) Double Beat
- 3) Stick Control
- 4) Rolls 1
- 5) ABHS Cadence

Front Ensemble (Pit) auditions will perform on Marimba and Crash Cymbals and will be required to play:

- 1) Scale Exercises # 5, 6, and 8 in C, E, A, Ab, and B Major.
- 2) ABHS Cadence (Cymbal Part)

Expectations:

The pieces should be memorized at the audition. Exercises are to be performed at or close to suggested tempo. For Snare, Tenor, Bass, and Cymbals, you should be able to mark time while playing every exercise.

Performance/practice Tips:

- 1) Strive for a relaxed, primarily wrist initiated stroke. Keep all fingers on the stick, to minimize finger involvement. Also work on minimizing arm movement.
- 2) A good performance dynamic is a relaxed forte.
- 3) Keep muscles and joints relaxed. This allows for maximum wrist flexibility.
- 4) Concentrate on getting an even sound quality between both hands.
- 5) Practice with a metronome to enforce steady time and even subdivisions.
- 6) Relax. Relax. RELAX. Although you should take the audition process seriously, there is no need to be nervous.

Miscellaneous Factors:

- 1) Display a positive Attitude! Come willing to learn and work hard!
- 2) Show us your leadership abilities.
- 3) Remember: Everyone makes mistakes, but it is always better to make a mistake than to not try at all.