



Department of Music

3900 Lomaland Drive, San Diego, California - Telephone 619-849-2445

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERCUSSIONISTS

Many applicants ask for additional information about our expectations for scholarship auditions. This brochure is designed to help the applicant (and teacher) prepare for an effective and successful audition.

If you still have questions after reading, please feel free to contact the music office 619.849.2445 or the music department chair, Dr. Paul Kenyon at 619.849.2559.

Putting your best foot forward

1. Complete the application carefully and completely.
2. Provide additional information, such as scholarships, awards, citations, honors on additional paper.
3. Include a complete repertory sheet listing all of the literature you have prepared and performed.
4. Arrive in time to warm up and be ready to perform at the appointment time.
5. Dress appropriately.

Audition procedures

1. Normally, you will be heard by a committee of faculty members.
2. If you need an accompanist, let us know prior to your arrival and we will provide one.

3. The committee will probably ask questions and try to get acquainted with you when you come in.
4. Usually, the committee will hear a variety of scales and two or three selections.
5. For those who live at a distance, we are happy to accept a recording as a substitute.

Following the audition

1. The faculty committee makes a recommendation to the music faculty
2. The music faculty votes.
3. The chair of the department notifies you of this action by mail.
4. Awardees receive a letter specifying the amount of the award and two copies of our "Music Scholarship Contract."
5. You should read carefully, sign one copy and return it to the music office. (Do NOT mail it to other offices, they don't know what to do with it!)
6. When you enroll, the scholarship amount will be credited to your account.
7. The scholarship contract requires commitments from both the school and the student. The scholarships of students who are unable to keep their part of the agreement are not continued.

The audition music

Either your private teacher or your instrumental director should be able to help you prepare, using the following as a guide.

Percussionists who are auditioning for a scholarship should be prepared to demonstrate the breadth of their proficiency on as many instruments as possible, including, but not limited to:

Keyboard instruments – audition should include scales, etudes, and a solo piece.

Snare drum – audition should demonstrate rudimental proficiency, etudes, and a solo piece.

Tympani – audition should include etudes and a solo piece.

Drum set – audition should include as many different styles as possible, including swing, shuffle, rock, funk, and a variety of Latin styles. These can be demonstrated in a solo setting, or with an accompaniment or “play-along” track.

Percussionists who are not proficient on all of the above instruments should not feel intimidated by the process and are very much welcome to audition. It is understood that all percussionists have not received training in all the instruments; you will still be eligible to receive a scholarship.

Instrumental opportunities at PLNU

Chamber Orchestra

This ensemble studies and performs literature written for string orchestra or chamber orchestra, which includes wind and percussion instruments. The ensemble performs two concerts on campus annually and appears off campus at various civic functions.

Handbell Choir

The handbell choir provides an opportunity for experienced musicians with good reading skills to explore original music and church music arranged for this unique performance medium. Concerts are scheduled on campus, for civic functions, and in churches.

Concert Band

The PLNU Concert Band is the cornerstone performing group in the instrumental music department. The ensemble performs music of all periods and genre, focusing on the classic wind ensemble literature.

Jazz Groups

Jazz has become an important part of the instrumental program at PLNU. Both combos and jazz band are part of the curriculum.

Small Ensembles

Small ensembles such as string quartet, flute choir, clarinet choir, brass choir, and woodwind quintet are organized as we have personnel. There is room for everyone.

Prepare thoroughly; pray for help and guidance; present your self positively. We want this to be an enjoyable experience for you.