

# 2023-24 Audition Guidelines: PERCUSSION



- Auditions for the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies (GTCYS - pronounced git-seez) are opportunities to play your instrument so we can get to know you and place you with one of our 10 incredible school-year orchestras!
- Please contact us at [info@gtcys.org](mailto:info@gtcys.org) or call 651-602-6800 if you have any questions about the audition process or requirements.

## AUDITION STEPS

1. Register for an audition at [gtcys.org/auditions](https://gtcys.org/auditions).
2. Decide which audition level to prepare. **Pick one level** based on your abilities and experience - click on individual orchestra names below for more information about each group or visit [gtcys.org/programs/orchestras](https://gtcys.org/programs/orchestras).
  - **Philharmonia East and West** strings only - no winds
  - **Sinfonia East and West / Concertino East and West** all instruments - developing
  - **Camerata / Concert Orchestra** all instruments - advancing
  - **Philharmonic / Symphony** all instruments - most advanced
3. Practice, practice, practice!
4. **Record your audition video in one take** and submit it online by **Wednesday, May 24, 2023**.
5. See [gtcys.org/auditions](https://gtcys.org/auditions) for deadlines, video submission instructions, audition tips, frequently asked questions, information about tuition assistance, and more.

## WHAT TO PRACTICE FOR YOUR AUDITION

### SCALES

- Prepare and record all scales listed in your audition level – use the listed tempos as a guide.
- Scales are written out for some levels - you can choose any articulation.
- Minor scales can be performed in any form (natural, harmonic, or melodic).

### SOLO

- Prepare music that demonstrates your best playing abilities. Selections can include solos, studies, school ensemble music, or other works.
- **Your recorded solo should not be more than 3 minutes in length.** If needed, please choose a shorter section of your solo to fit this time requirement.

### EXCERPTS

- Excerpts are short sections taken from larger pieces of music.
- Prepare all excerpts listed in your audition level and follow all markings.
- Look up or translate any unfamiliar musical terms to ensure a successful performance.
- Listen to recordings of excerpts (when available through YouTube, Spotify, etc.) for guidance with tempos, musicality, and phrasing – your excerpt performance will be judged on all artistic merits, not just note accuracy.

## WHAT HAPPENS AFTER AUDITIONING

- Local professional musicians will listen to your recording and you will be placed in an orchestra based on your audition performance. Other factors such as instrumentation needs may be considered as well.
- The audition level you choose to prepare does not ensure placement in those orchestras; placements are based on the overall quality of your performance.
- GTCYS makes every effort to offer all students placements; if you are placed in an orchestra that has too many of your instrument then you may be placed on a waitlist.
- **Tuition assistance and support for private lessons is available.** GTCYS is committed to serving young musicians regardless of financial constraints. Interested families can find more information at [gtcys.org/auditions](https://gtcys.org/auditions).
- Previous participation in GTCYS does not guarantee placement and **all placements are final**.

# PERCUSSION - Sinfonia and Concertino

Musicians should have playing experience through three sharps and flats. To audition for one of these orchestras, please prepare and record the following materials. Recordings can be done in separate takes in order to change instruments.

## SCALES

- can be performed on bells, xylophone, or marimba (no piano)
- scales below for reference only - you may perform with any articulation

E-flat major ♩ = 100



D minor ♩ = 100



## SOLO

- your choice - 3 minutes or less

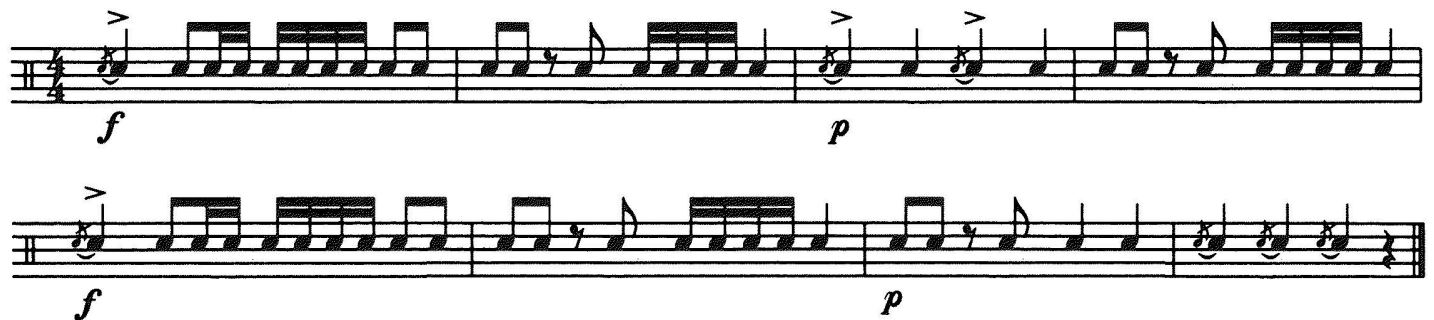
## EXCERPTS

### Bells

Allegro



### Snare Drum



# PERCUSSION - Camerata and Concert Orchestra

Musicians should have playing experience through four sharps and flats and have good sight-reading skills. To audition for one of these orchestras, please prepare and record the following. Recordings can be done in separate takes in order to change instruments.

## SCALES (can be performed on bells, xylophone, or marimba)

- A major - 2 octaves in eighth notes (quarter note = 72)
- G minor - 2 octaves in eighth notes (quarter note = 72)

## SOLO

- your choice, any instrumentation (no piano); total time of 3 minutes or less

## EXCERPTS

### Snare Drum

John Phillip Sousa - *El Capitan*



### Tambourine

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky - *Trepak, from the Nutcracker*

Tempo di trepak, molto vivace.

EXCERPTS CONTINUE ON FOLLOWING PAGE

**Bells**

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky - *Sleeping Beauty*

**Allegro. (Tempo di Valse)**

The musical score for the Bells part is written on six staves. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 3/4. The first staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. The notation consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together in groups, with some notes marked with accents. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note.

## PERCUSSION - Philharmonic and Symphony

Musicians should have playing experience in all major and minor keys and have excellent sight-reading skills. To audition for one of these orchestras, please prepare and record the following. **Recordings can be done in separate takes in order to change instruments.**

### SCALES (can be performed on bells, xylophone, or marimba)

- A-flat major - 2 octaves in eighth notes (quarter note = 108)
- F-sharp minor - 2 octaves in eighth notes (quarter note = 108)

### SOLO

- your choice, any instrumentation (no piano); total time of 3 minutes or less

### EXCERPTS

#### Timpani

Stravinsky - *The Firebird* (1919 Suite): Infernal Dance

*Più mosso*

*ff*

3

1

1

6

36

4

37 *a=d.*

8

38 *bag. en bois*

*très fort*

39 *bag. ordinaires*

*p*

EXCERPTS CONTINUE ON FOLLOWING PAGE



**Timpani**

Brahms - *Tragic Overture*

Allegro, ma non troppo

3  
p

51  
cresc.

57  
ff

64  
sf >

trm

D

**Xylophone**

Stravinsky - *The Firebird* (1919 Suite): *Infernal Dance*

♩ = 168  
Xyl. Solo

P

2

12

2

1

1

13

3

EXCERPTS CONTINUE ON FOLLOWING PAGE

**Snare Drum**

Sergei Prokofiev - *Suite from Lt. Kije*, Reh. 1-2

*Andante assai*  
*Doppio movimento*  
**1** *Tamb. mil. Solo*

pp

**Crash Cymbals**

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky - *Romeo and Juliet*, mm. 462-471

**Allegro giusto.**

ff