

Dear Drum Major Applicant,

Congratulations on making the decision to audition for drum major! The drum major is the highest leadership position attainable by a student in the marching band and demands a great deal of time, discipline, and service. By applying for this position you have accepted the challenge and are ready to begin the process.

IMPORTANT DATES

There are five (5) dates that may be of high importance and priority to you. Four of which are drum major workshop dates and the last is the audition. While you are not required to attend the workshops, it is **highly** recommended that you do attend. We will be addressing topics such as: patterns, crescendi, diminuendi, cues, expression, tempo, as well as working on the audition music. Again, you are not required to attend, however, I am sure you will find it most useful and necessary. The dates are as follows:

- Tuesday, May 10th @ 2:30 – 3:30
- Thursday, May 12th @ 2:30 – 3:30
- Tuesday, May 17th @ 2:30 – 3:30
- Thursday, May 19th @ 2:30 – 3:30
- **AUDITIONS** Tuesday, May 31st @ 2:30PM

AUDITION CD

The audition CD contains 1 track called “Vide Cor Meum” performed by the Cadets Drum Corps. You can use the score provided as guide in your conducting adventure. In order to have the best audition possible, my suggestion is to memorize this piece to the best of your ability (that includes understanding ALL of the markings in the score) BEFORE the first workshop. Remember, the more you give the more you get.

THE AUDITION

The audition will be a “2 round” process, meaning, everyone will participate in the first round, however, only some will make it to the second round. The first round will consist of two (2) parts to do on your own: CONDUCTING TO A METRONOME, and CONDUCTING TO THE CD. Round two (after the cut has been made) will consist of two parts. The first part will be more conducting to the CD (same piece), however, this time everyone will conduct at the same time. The second part will be a short **GROUP INTERVIEW**. Finally, I will tell you that since there is so much time between now and the workshops and audition, the tendency will be to procrastinate and put off learning and memorizing the score. **DO NOT PROCRASTINATE!** It will be blatantly obvious who has practiced and who has not, so make sure to start practicing right away.

Good luck and happy practicing,

-Mr. O