

2023 Percussion Audition Guidelines

How to apply:

To apply for the orchestra program, applicants will prepare an audition consisting of the components listed below. Applicants will have 15 minutes to warm-up in the audition room on the instruments.

1. Solo Piece for Two- or Four-Mallet Marimba of Applicant's Choice

A variety of repertoire is acceptable and applicants should select a piece they are comfortable playing.

- Work of applicant's choice that demonstrates overall musicianship
- Piece range should fit on a 4.3 octave marimba
- Maximum of one minute in length
- Must provide a copy of the selected work for the audition
- Does NOT have to be memorized
- No accompaniment

2. Selected Excerpt

- *Portraits in Rhythm* by Cirone, Belwin Mills
Pg. 6, #4 Andante grandioso

3. Sight-Reading

- Applicants will sight-read on snare, marimba, and timpani
- Each applicant will have a 45-second study period to review the music before performing the excerpt. Applicants may not make sound on their instruments during this review time.
- After reviewing the timpani music, you will have an additional 30 seconds to tune the instrument before playing the sight-reading

NOTE: All percussion instruments will be provided, but please bring your own sticks, mallets, and a tuning pipe to tune the timpani. (These items will NOT be provided at the audition.) Electronic tuners are NOT allowed. You may bring your own snare drum if desired. We cannot guarantee that the instruments provided at each location will be adjustable. If you need special accommodations, please email oai@oaiquartz.org or call 405.605.7500.



Audition Tips:

Applicants may wear casual/comfortable attire. Since auditions are blind and will be audio recorded for scoring at a later date, judges will not be present at auditions.

Visit the sight-reading practice and preparation resources below. Remember, the best way to become a better sight reader is to PRACTICE sight reading!

- [10 Tips and Tricks for Sight Reading Music](#)
- [4 Sight-Reading Tips Liszt Wants You to Know](#)
- [5 Steps to Mastering Sight Reading](#)

Click to view a sight reading example of comparable difficulty [here](#).

Judging Criteria:

PLEASE NOTE: OSAI audition scores may be used to determine chamber music, music electives, or orchestra part assignments, so prepare for the OSAI audition accordingly. Auditions for all disciplines are as blind as possible, meaning that judges will not have applicants' names, ages, hometowns, etc.

Marimba solo – 15%

Snare excerpt – 15%

Sight reading (marimba, snare, and timpani) – 30%

Overall tone, technique, and rhythm – 40%

[Read general information about our adjudication procedures here.](#)

This piece should be played with a feeling of two beats per measure, and with exaggeration of the extremely loud to extremely soft dynamic changes. Notice that the last five measures form a "coda".

4

Andante grandioso ♩. = 58

The musical score is written for percussion and consists of 11 staves. The tempo is marked 'Andante grandioso' with a quarter note equal to 58 beats per minute. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score includes various dynamic markings: *ff*, *p*, *pp*, *f*, *dim.*, *cresc. poco a poco*, and *fff*. There are also articulation marks such as accents (^) and slurs. The score features several triplet markings (3) and a 'coda' section at the end. The piece concludes with a final *fff* dynamic.