

March 26, 2008

Dear Alma College Marching Percussion Section Member,

Auditions for marching percussion instrument placement/1st rehearsal will be held May 17, 2008 at the Eddy Music Building on the Alma College Campus. Auditions will begin at 9:00 a.m. sharp on Saturday, and a rehearsal will follow until 5 p.m. The day will include a scheduling meeting to arrange the summer rehearsal schedule both for the full group AND independent segment rehearsals. These summer rehearsals are essential if we are to be prepared for the upcoming season. **BE SURE TO BRING YOUR CALENDARS.**

The basic audition will consist of eights, sixes, drags, open rolls, swiss-triplets, and flams found on the enclosed snare drum warm-up sheets. Be prepared to play them at three different tempos: slow, medium and your fastest musical tempo. In addition, multi-tenor and snare drummers will perform the enclosed instrument specific excerpts. Bass Drum and cymbals placements will be determined from the basic snare exercises. Mallet keyboard auditions will consist of the keyboard exercises enclosed. There are openings in all segments. **NOTE: Incoming freshmen, to be considered for an opening you MUST have your deposit in to Alma College for the 2008 school year and be fully committed to attending the college.**

Should you for unavoidable circumstances be un-able to attend these auditions you may submit a DVD video audition of the above material. Please email zerbe@alma.edu or call at 989-463-7213 and inform me of your intention to audition by DVD. Please mail your DVD to me at 510 Walnut, Alma, MI 48801. I must receive the DVD no later than Wednesday, May 14, 2008. A DVD audition should be a last resort as we cover a fair amount of material at the first meeting.

Be sure to bring your drum pad if you own one, marching sticks (we use Vic Firth MS4, formally the Dennis Delucia Model), calendars, sunscreen, water bottles and earplugs.

Enclosed you will find a 2008 schedule of performances for the marching band. Please put these in your calendar ASAP as all performances are MANDATORY.

Should you have any questions please email and I'll answer as soon as possible. I look forward to seeing you all May 17th and to the beginning of the 2008 marching season.

Sincerely,



David M. Zerbe
Director - Alma College Bands and Percussion Studio

