You can visit us online at www.uofubands.org and on FACEBOOK (University of Utah Drumline). The purpose of this packet is to provide you with the information regarding auditions, important dates and philosophies, as well as to inform you about what is expected and what should be addressed in your preparation for the Utah Drumline.

The U of U Drumline is OPEN TO ALL University students: math majors, business majors, engineers, biology students and yes, undecided majors. You DO NOT have to be a music major to participate in the marching band. Students attending other higher education institutions (Salt Lake Community College, etc.) CAN and DO participate in the drumline.

GREETINGS FROM THE U

Come join the legacy and tradition of excellence at the University of Utah!

We’re very happy to welcome you to the University of Utah, home of the Utes, and home to a long-standing tradition of excellence in performance and scholastic attributes.

AUDITION DATES:
Saturday, May 7: 9a - 5p
Friday, May 13: 6p – 9p
Saturday, May 14: 8a - 5p

Have fun, practice hard and have an exceptional attitude in everything you do! We look forward to seeing you at auditions. We sincerely hope to have you as a member of the U Drumline!
ABOUT THE U DRUMLINE
The U of U Drumline fields a full battery percussion section of up to 9-snares, 5-tenors, 6-bass drums and 9-cymbals and boasts a modern playing and arranging style. Members must re-audition every year.

AUDITION DATES:
Saturday, May 7: 9a-5p (noon-1p: Lunch – must provide OWN)
Friday, May 13: 6p – 9p
Saturday, May 14: 8a-5p (noon-1p: Lunch – must provide OWN)

WHERE: All events held at the “U” Campus, David Gardner Hall, School of Music, room 272
http://map.utah.edu/

Audition Clinics are FREE and open to all interested students auditioning for the 2016 Drumline as well as future 2017 HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS and will cover the what, how and why of the U of U Drumline. Starting with stroke fundamentals and finishing with playing exercises/cadences; the camps serve to better prepare you, and thereby increase your chances, for a successful audition for the U of U Drumline.

What to Bring: Sticks, Pad, Downloaded U of U packet in folder, lunch money

Please feel free to contact me either through email, phone, or appointment with any questions. Looking forward to you being a part of the U Experience!

Michael Sammons, D.M.A.
Percussion Faculty, University of Utah
mike.sammons@utah.edu

PHILOSOPHY
The philosophy for the U Drumline is based on leadership, musicianship, teamwork, preparation, responsibility and commitment. We strive to teach and work BEYOND just the drumline. Buying into and demonstrating these qualities throughout the entire season is the key to success. In addition, you must have a positive attitude and be able to get along with others.

AUDITIONS
Auditions are NOT designed to be competitive but educational in nature and is an inclusive process, not an exclusive process – looking to find everyone their perfect spot!!!

Each section will audition together as an entire marching percussion section on a rotating basis, trying various player combinations. Students may be asked to play individually. Results will be posted at various points during the camp. It is highly encouraged that you prepare to audition on various combinations of instruments based on your experiences and strengths (i.e. bass drum / tenors or cymbals / snare drum). Students are placed according to their personal strengths and NEEDS of the section. Be prepared to audition on multiple instruments within the section. If you are asked to play something that you haven’t prepared, then do your best. The staff KNOWS this and is more interested in seeing how quickly you learn, musical aptitude and most importantly, your ATTITUDE towards doing it.
Students auditioning on bass drum should prepare multiple parts (#1-5). Cymbal players should pick one of the split parts marked as A and B in the parts. The cymbal line performs various techniques including crashes, chokes, hi-hats, sizzles, crunch, slides, and taps. If you are unfamiliar with these, just do your best. We will work with you upon arrival.

LODGING / MEALS FOR CLINICS / CAMPS
Students are required to secure their own lodging and meals. There are many choices – 1 on campus suggestion:

UNIVERSITY GUEST HOUSE –

http://www.universityguesthouse.com/

U DRUMLINE EQUIPMENT
The U DRUMLINE is sponsored by Yamaha marching percussion instruments, Remo drumheads, Vic Firth sticks and mallets, and Sabian cymbals.

Snares perform with MSS (snares use traditional grip); Tenors: Bachman “Billy Club”; Bass Drums: Corpmaster Series

NOTE: You WILL need to bring your own sticks and mallets for auditioning purposes with the exception of those auditioning for bass drum. Sticks and mallets are provided for members by U of U Sponsors through the year.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

PREPARATION
Preparation refers to how much and how well your practice. It also refers to whether you have spent time reading and studying the entire packet in detail. Your preparation will determine how confident you are when you play and how well you know the material.

TEAMWORK / COLLEGIALITY
A team player is someone who is not only willing, but eager to do what is best for the group. Team players embrace their role, regardless of what section they make, and they put their interests of the marching band and drumline ahead of their own.

TECHNIQUE
Technique refers to grip, stroke, control, and hands. We utilize a RELAXED, REBOUNDED philosophy of technique which produces a quality sound at all levels, speed, endurance and playing philosophies that transcend just the activity of marching percussion (TRANSFER VALUE).
**MUSICALITY**
Being a high-caliber drumline, every aspect is very important to completing the final product, but more than anything else, music is what we strive for. Constantly performing and learning, members must be on top of their practice regimens and technical chores within the learning environment. If every member is pushing his or her self musically and technically in their open time, the group as a whole will benefit. Practice how you want to perform.

**TIMING**
This is a drumline – tempo and timing is a critical aspect of what we do. Our role in the band is the time, and we must always work to maintain that role to its highest level. Know your rudiments, as they are rhythms. Work practice habits with a metronome, and make sure that everything is being played correctly, such as hand patterns, stickings, etc. inconsistencies in variables such as these may cause rhythmic tendencies.

Pay attention to these tendencies, and don’t work them at tempos faster than your hands can manage; or your practice habits will suffer, and you won’t be working as efficiently as you want to be.

**CHOPS**
This is a college drumline. Chops are a very important part of what we do, and play a key role in keeping up with the fast paced learning environment. Technical strength and proficiency are the basic building blocks of your contribution to the ensemble. The term ‘chops’ does not mean being able to play every stick trick and backstick in the book; though these are enjoyable things, they are not the basis of music-making. Be strong in the basics of rudiments and stickings at a wide variety of tempos, including the very slow ones. Chops are not created within a day or a week; it takes time to build up your hands.

**CONFIDENCE**
**HAVE FUN!** Don’t stress out. Relax, and be confident in what you bring to the table, as every individual has unique traits to his or her personalities and playing styles. Feel good when you play, and it will feel good to the listener. True confidence is a very important thing, and will help tremendously when fitting into the line.

**READING**
Reading is NOT optional. With the large quantity of music college drumlines play, the ability to visually read and verbally count rhythms as well as understand standard sticking patterns is essential.

**MEMORIZATION**
Memorization demonstrates attitude and confidence. It shows that a person is dedicated to being a part of the drumline and has thoroughly prepared.

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**WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP**
1. Printed Audition Packet in 3 ring binder with clear, plastic sleeves
2. Sticks and Mallets (Bass Drum mallets are provided)
5. Practice Pad / (Cymbals included)
6. Pencils
7. Highlighter (BD and Cym.)
8. Appropriate clothing and shoes for outdoor rehearsals (includes hat / sunscreen)
9. Water Bottle
10. Lunch or Lunch Money

WHAT NOT TO BRING TO CAMP

1. Your own drum (only practice pads are allowed).
2. Non-auditioning personnel (friends and family will not be allowed to attend or watch the auditions)
3. Cameras, video cameras, or other recording devices