NIU Percussion Audition Requirements

Please review and prepare all requirements thoroughly. Auditions are held in person at NIU in January and February, unless otherwise determined. Please register for an audition date on our website. If you are unable to attend NIU’s audition days, you will need to contact the Music Admissions Coordinator (bcrawford@niu.edu) for permission to schedule an independent audition or obtain approval to submit an unedited video audition. Please bring copies of your music for the adjudication panel.

All auditionees:
- Aural skills
  - pitch matching with voice
  - basic singing of melody
- Sight reading
  - two-mallet etude
  - snare drum etude
- Interview
  - We’ll ask you questions about your application essays and/or CV
  - Please prepare questions to ask us about the program

Undergraduates:
- One solo performance in each of the following areas
  - snare drum
  - two or four-mallet (preferred) keyboard percussion
  - timpani
- Solo/etude in one other area of applicant’s choice:
  - multiple percussion
  - world percussion
  - drum set demonstration of styles to be selected from the following list:
    - Medium Jazz - John Scofield, “Don't Shoot the Messenger”
    - Afro-Brazilian Styles - Djavan, “Flor de Lis”
    - Afro-Cuban Styles - Celia Cruz and Willie Colon, “Son Matamoros”
    - Popular Styles - Stevie Wonder, “As”

Music Minor applicants may select one solo performance category (snare drum, mallets, or timpani) and one solo/etude category (multiple percussion, world percussion, or drum set demonstration). Minor applicants will then submit a written statement about their percussion experiences and the reasoning behind the selected categories for the audition. Please email this statement to bcrawford@niu.edu.

Graduates:
- One senior recital-level solo work in each of the following areas
  - snare drum
  - four-mallet keyboard percussion
  - timpani
- Solo/etude in one other area of applicant’s choice:
  - multiple percussion
  - world percussion
    - Afro-Cuban
    - Afro-Brazilian
    - Middle Eastern
  - drum set demonstration of styles to be selected from the following list:
    - Medium Jazz - John Scofield, “Don't Shoot the Messenger”
    - Afro-Brazilian Styles - Djavan, “Flor de Lis”
    - Afro-Cuban Styles - Celia Cruz and Willie Colon, “Son Matamoros”
    - Popular Styles - Stevie Wonder, “As”

Questions? Contact Dr. Greg Beyer (gbeyer@niu.edu).
## Undergraduate Percussion Repertoire Suggestions

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<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Composer/Author</th>
<th>Piece/Book</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rudimental Snare Drum</td>
<td>John S. Pratt</td>
<td>14 Modern Contest Solos</td>
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<td>Charley Wilcoxon</td>
<td>The All-American Drummer 150 Rudimental Solos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concert Snare Drum</td>
<td>Anthony Cirone</td>
<td>Portraits in Rhythm</td>
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<td>Jacques Delécluse</td>
<td>Douze Études pour Caisse-claire</td>
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<td>Two-Mallet Keyboard</td>
<td>Morris Goldenberg</td>
<td>Modern School for Xylophone, Marimba, Vibraphone</td>
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<td>G.H. Green</td>
<td>George Hamilton Green's Xylophone Rags</td>
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<td></td>
<td>J.S. Bach</td>
<td>Any selected movement from solo Violin Sonatas &amp;Partitas or Cello Suites</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four-Mallet Keyboard</td>
<td>Nancy Zeltsman</td>
<td>Four-Mallet Marimba Playing, Section 4, &quot;18 Intermediate-to-Advanced Adapted Solos</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mark Ford</td>
<td>Marimba: Technique through Music</td>
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<td>Bart Quartier</td>
<td>Image, 20 Children's Songs for Marimba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timpani</td>
<td>Raynor Carroll</td>
<td>Exercises, Etudes and Solos for the Timpani</td>
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<td>Saul Goodman</td>
<td>Modern Method for Timpani</td>
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<td>Jacques Delécluse</td>
<td>Trente Études pour Timbales</td>
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<td>Elliott Carter</td>
<td>Eight Solos for Four Timpani</td>
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<td>World Music</td>
<td>Michael Spiro</td>
<td>Language of the Masters</td>
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