

Before you scroll down and read the Audition Letter!

Go to:

<http://www.indiana.edu/~bands/rookie/rookiefif.html>

and register for auditions. This will ensure that you are pre-arranged for early dorm housing Friday, Aug. 21 through the beginning of classes.

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Dear 2009 IU Drumline Member,

This is a letter intended to better inform you about our audition process and expectation in August. Included you'll find information to make your summer practice more effective and beneficial to your audition on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August.

The Indiana Drumline strives each year to reach our goal of excellence in performance. However, this goal is not easily met. Being a member of the drumline requires a strong dedication to hard work, and a trustworthiness to be personally accountable for your own excellence. After two or three weeks in the season our members have memorized several exercises, an onfield warm-up, an elaborate drum solo to "Sing, Sing, Sing," 3 or 4 street cadences, 10 stand tunes, and Indiana's "pre-game" repertoire of school songs. On top of this, there is brand new show music and drill for each home game. This makes membership in the IU Drumline quite rigorous, and also prestigious among our University peers.

You should realize that the IU Drumline functions as an integral part of the IU Marching Hundred. Everything we do is to strengthen that relationship, working toward the goals of the Marching Hundred and Indiana University. When you join the IU Drumline, you are joining into a much bigger world...you are joining the Indiana University Marching Hundred, under direction of David Woodley. If you haven't visited the Marching Hundred Website yet, please do:

<http://www.indiana.edu/~bands/index.php>

Unfortunately, we can't take everybody that auditions. No one will be cut until dinner Saturday evening. As the audition process goes on, we will notify individuals that are cut as the need becomes apparent. Once cut you may audition for the cymbal or bassline, hangout and watch the rest of the auditions, or return to your campus home.

Auditions will take place outside in the sun and the heat. Please be prepared by wearing appropriate clothing, a hat, sunblock, and by bringing water. Also, sneakers/tennis shoes are the most appropriate footwear. No sandals or open toed shoes please.

We aim to make our audition process as fair as possible, giving individuals many opportunities to display their qualities. We hear each applicant play alone and in context of the ensemble before our decision is made. We also teach them the desired technique, so there is no confusion about what we are looking for. I suggest calling ahead of time or setting up a free lesson if you are unsure about your technique (812)219-0729. Call Joel with any questions about anything...anytime! And don't wait. The sooner you know your weakness, the more time you have to fix it over the summer!

# Drumline Audition Schedule

Auditions will be held Saturday and Sunday, August 22nd and 23rd at Hundred Hall. The two day percussion audition schedule is as follows:

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## Saturday

- 1pm Meeting for all 2009 Members (veterans and hopefuls)
- This meeting is at the “NEW” Hundred Hall
    - Directions  
<http://www.indiana.edu/~bands/bandmap.pdf>
  - Sign up for audition time
    - This audition is for NEW members only
    - Veterans will move directly to sectionals at this time.
- 1-3pm Individual Auditions (and Technique Sectionals)
- \*This block is focused on learning the new “Pre-game Cadence” / CYMBALS TECHNIQUE! Schmangiss, if time. (This is NOT technique. Note learning only)**
- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| ▪ Cymbals w/ Hannah | ▪ Snares w/ Mike |
| ▪ Basses w/ Lauren  | ▪ Tenors w/ Pat  |
- 3-6pm Detailed Technique Block
- \*This block will focus on stroke style, protocol, and listening strategy. Exercises: Eights, After Eights, Downstrokes, and Phelps**
- Tenors and Snares w/ Joel (to start)
  - Basses w/ Lauren,
  - Cymbals still w/ Hannah
    - By Dinner Cymbals play Eights Var. 1, 2, 3, and 4.
- 6-7:30 Dinner
- 7:30-8:15pm “Schmangiss”
- Everyone in sectional, to begin.
- \*This block will be focused on getting all Snares, Tenors, and Basses to play “Schmangiss” top to bottom. (Cymbals continue technique and note learning.) If you finish “Schmangiss”, learn “X-cadence” and “Kodo.” (Section leaders, don’t define heights or style, focus on metric Precision and timing...plowing top to bottom, we can come back)**

8:15-9pm Full Ensemble

**\*At this point all members will be together. We will play through:  
Eights, After Eights, Phelps, and Schmangiss.**

9pm Dismiss, and assign homework.

### **Sunday**

2-3pm Warm-up and Pre-Game Cadence

**\*This is a Full Ensemble rehearsal.  
Exercises: Eights, After Eights, Downstrokes, Pre-Game Cadence, and  
Schmangiss**

3-5:00pm Sectionals

**\*This is a technique block in sectionals. Notes should already be learned.  
Exercises: Spangler, Triplet Diddles, Mud Star. (Basses, work splits)  
Cymbals, pick up where you left off..**

5-5:30pm Bass Drum and Cymbal Show Down (final decisions)  
/Snares and Tenors together, Mud Star "Chop-off"

5:30-6:30pm Full Ensemble Rehearsal  
▪All exercises and music so far.  
▪Final Decisions will be made during this block.

6:30-7:30pm Dinner

7:30pm 1<sup>st</sup> Year Member Meeting at Hundred Hall with David Woodley

9-10pm 2009 IU Drumline Meeting (line is set by dinner)  
▪In Hundred Hall Drumline Room.

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**↓↓↓↓↓Audition Requirements ↓↓↓↓↓**

## Audition Requirements

When you arrive on the 22nd, you will first be asked to play an audition by yourself in private. For this audition you will sight-read, and play all of “Schmangiss.” Cymbal players will only sight-read. Bass drum players must play the “Schmangiss” split part that they are auditioning for, playing along with the appropriate Mp3 “Play-a-long” from the website.

All audition music is posted on the website. ([www.iub.edu/~drumline/auditions](http://www.iub.edu/~drumline/auditions))

This page is set-up in different categories. Audition Music, Other Warm-ups, Cadences, and 2009 Repertoire. For the audition you are required to play all music under the “Audition Music” category, at some point. This includes:

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- Schmangiss
- Eights
- After Eights
- Downstrokes
- Phelps
- Spangler
- Kaleidoscope
- Triplet Diddles
- Mud Star (Snares and Tenors, all variations)
- Pre-game Cadence

***Note:***

All music that is available on the Web will be played and MEMORIZED by Wednesday of band camp. It is to your benefit to get a head start on memorization before the start of the week.

However, it is NOT required that any music is memorized for the audition. Sheet music may be used Saturday and Sunday. Be advised, it is in your best interest to memorize all warm-ups in advance. (Bass drummers and cymbals, be familiar with whole rhythms on the split parts. Since your assigned part is not definite, practice several splits, and be flexible to the intent of the entire bass or cymbal line.)

### ***Cymbal Players:***

As you can see, your audition is kind of light, music-wise. That is because you need to be taught a fair deal of technique before we can gauge your ability as a cymbal player. However, you can prepare yourself with an advantage if you use the summer to build upper body and arm strength; Chest, biceps, triceps, finger, and wrist strength. Also practice counting with a metronome while marking time. If you can, borrow some cymbals. Cymbal strength and endurance comes from time spent holding cymbals...duh. Timing and physicality will win you a cymbal spot! For more information contact Hannah Dettmer.

### ***Bass Drummers:***

There are no guarantees as far as what drums will be open or up for grabs in August. I can tell you that we are marching with 6 bass drummers this year. The most available drums will be 3, 4, and 5 typically. For more information and advice, contact the bass captain, Lauren Donnelly.

### ***Good Advice for All:***

It is important to understand that there is no guaranteed veteranship in the IU Drumline. The best qualified auditionees will be awarded the appropriate position in the drumline. Even though veterans are automatically more appealing because of their experience and wisdom from years past, a new auditionee with better skills is given every chance to succeed a veteran.

Please take your audition preparation seriously. Practice with a metronome, marking time, to ensure proper rhythmic interpretation.

## **Misc. Questions and Answers**

### ***What grip to the snare players use?***

All snare auditionees must use traditional grip. We play with Vic Firth Ralph Hardimon Nylon Tip signature snare sticks. (for weather resistance and cymbal resonance). IU is endorsed by Vic Firth, Zildjian, Remo, and Yamaha. Tenors use “Vega” Scott Johnson Corps Master signature sticks. Bases use Corpsmaster Hard Felt Mallets.

### ***Do bass drummers have to play their splits for the audition?***

For auditions bass players should be prepared to play all required exercises on one drum (matched grip). Talk to Joel and Lauren about what drum you would like to focus on, and have parts prepared for full line rehearsal.

***What if I don't make the snare line, will I be able to audition for bass or cymbals?***

Yes! But don't take this secondary audition for granted. If you believe that there is a possibility that you might audition for cymbals and bass, spend time preparing for it. If you've never played a bass drum before, your chances are pretty slim.

\*Another tip: If you are cut from the snares or quads DO NOT let your disappointment and grief mess up your next audition. It hurts to be rejected, that is why they call it being "cut." Try to have a positive hard working attitude until the end of the day. Bad attitudes have disqualified auditionees in the past...

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For "inside" information, or simply to ease any anxiety, feel free to contact some of our 2009 upper classmen for advice and guidance:

Snare	Mike Greco	<a href="mailto:mjgreco@indiana.edu">mjgreco@indiana.edu</a>	(630)632-3387
Tenors	Pat Zen Ruffinen	<a href="mailto:pzenruff@indiana.edu">pzenruff@indiana.edu</a>	(812)371-8294
Bass	Lauren Donnelly	<a href="mailto:lpdonnel@indiana.edu">lpdonnel@indiana.edu</a>	(630)297-5828
Cymbals	Hannah Dettmer	<a href="mailto:hdetmer@indiana.edu">hdetmer@indiana.edu</a>	(812)447-9132

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If for some reason you are unable to access the web and you lose or are missing something, all music and information is available by contacting the IU Department of Bands at 812-855-1372. Otherwise, all music and technical information is available from our website:

<http://www.iudrumline.com>

I look forward to meeting and drumming with all of you in August. Please contact me over the summer with questions, comments, or suggestions. Just give me a call and introduce yourself! I am happy to be reached by phone (812)219-0729 or by email ([jbrainar@indiana.edu](mailto:jbrainar@indiana.edu)).

Let's get excited for Big 10 Drumline! GO HOOSIERS!!

Joel Brainard  
Drumline Director/Arranger  
Indiana University Marching Hundred

*"Sweet Beats and Good Times!"*