

PURDUE DRUMLINE AUDITION PACKET

BASSES



2023-2024



Contact Information

Director of Percussion at Purdue University

Dr. Pamela Nave: pjnave@purdue.edu

"All-American" Marching Band Drumline Section Leader

Corbin Richardson: richa578@purdue.edu

Dr. Nave is responsible for the percussion program at Purdue and she is the faculty director of both the "All-American" Marching Band Drumline and the "Boiler Beats" Tailgate Drumline. You can read more about her in the "Dr. Nave and the Philosophy of Percussion Education" section. Corbin is the student section leader for the "All-American" Marching Band. Reach out to either of them if you have any questions.

In addition to Dr. Nave and Corbin, each section of the "All-American" Marching Band has two student segment leaders. In homage to our history as a military band, we use a military naming style for our student leaders. The "1" is the segment leader for the instrument, and the "10" is the assistant segment leader for the instrument. This wording comes from the idea of marching in ranks of 10. In this style, the leader of the rank would be on the far left (in the "1" spot), and the assistant leader would be on the far right (in the "10" spot). The eight members of their rank would be between them (in spots 2-9). While we still use the titles of "1" and "10," we do not necessarily march in that order. For example, the bass 1 and 10 march in position based on which bass drum they play, not their rank. Feel free to reach out to your instrument's segment leaders if you have an instrument-specific question!

"All-American" Marching Band Snare Segment Leaders

Corbin Richardson (1): richa578@purdue.edu

Eric Rohweder (10): erohwede@purdue.edu

"All-American" Marching Band Quad Segment Leaders

Victoria Knott (1): vknot@purdue.edu

Matthew Vaughn (10): vaughn48@purdue.edu

"All-American" Marching Band Bass Segment Leaders

Danny Hjellming (1): dhjellmi@purdue.edu

Gabby Wagner (10): gewagner@purdue.edu

"All-American" Marching Band Cymbal Segment Leaders

Anthony Losch (1): losch@purdue.edu

Nick Smith (10): smit4666@purdue.edu

World's Largest Drum Crew Co-Captains

Eli Ernst: ernst16@purdue.edu

Hannah Pike: pikeh@purdue.edu

Introduction from Dr. Nave and the Drumline Section Leader

So you're considering trying out for membership in the drumline of the "All-American" Marching Band? That's awesome! **Established in 1886, the Purdue "All-American" Marching Band has become an icon of Purdue University and the Big Ten and is widely recognized as an international leader in the entertaining performing arts.** We wow tens of thousands of fans on game days during football season. Each May, we perform for hundreds of thousands as the official marching band of the Indianapolis 500. In 2010, the band was selected to lead the [Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade](#), and, since then, the band has headlined the [St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin](#) — three times!

While you may be new to the Big Ten college band environment, it is not radically different from your past experiences in high school band — thousands of auditionees have made the transition with no problem! You can still participate in DCI/WGI on the side if you have that competitive bug.

The "All-American" Marching Band Drumline is filled with highly positive, upbeat people who show up excited to drum every day. One thing to keep in mind: just because none of our members are studying to be professional musicians doesn't mean we don't take practicing/performing seriously! We still expect all of our members to work hard, learn their stuff, and show up with a positive attitude. In addition to helping you become a top-tier percussionist, participating in our program will immediately make you a teammate (and family member) of the entire Purdue Percussion community, which has been around for well over 100 years.

Purdue's Marching Percussion Program is made up of four separate entities: (1) the "All-American" Marching Band Drumline, (2) the Boiler Beats Tailgate Drumline, (3) the World's Largest Drum™ crew, and (4) the "All-American" Marching Band Drum Majors.

- 1. The "All-American" Marching Band Drumline** is an integral part of the Purdue "All-American" Marching Band. They captivate audiences at Purdue's home football games, specific away game trips, and occasionally, bowl game travel!
- 2. The "Boiler Beats"** operate primarily as a tailgate drumline, entertaining fans in the hours leading up to Purdue's home football games. This ensemble also serves as a training ground for those that desire to continue to improve their skills. Participation in a fall concert ensemble may be required for placement in this group.
- 3. The World's Largest Drum™** is about 10 feet tall, and is a 102-year-old icon of the University! It is operated by a crew of 7+ people, who perform athletic/acrobatic feats with the Drum. The Drum Crew is a subsection of the AAMB Drumline, but they prioritize attitude, physicality, and public relations over percussive technique and drumming ability. If you think you might be interested in the Drum Crew (or just want to see what we're talking about), check out the "Drum Crew" portion of the Purdue Bands and Orchestras website.
- 4. The Drum Majors** are two upperclassmen who have served in the "All-American" Marching Band before and are selected well before band camp begins.

This packet is for people interested in auditioning for a spot on either the “All-American” Marching Band Drumline or the “Boiler Beats” Tailgate Drumline. If you are interested in the World’s Largest Drum Crew, check out the “Drum Crew” packet. Rookie members are not eligible to be a Drum Major in their first season with the “All-American” Marching Band. **When you come to band camp, you are auditioning for placement onto a drumline— not specifically the “All-American” Marching Band Drumline or the Beats Drumline.** At the end of band camp, Dr. Nave, the other faculty, and the student leadership team will set the membership of each drumline selected from those who successfully complete the audition process. At the end of band camp, you may be offered a spot on the “All-American” Marching Band Drumline, the “Boiler Beats” Tailgate Drumline, and/or be placed into one of our indoor ensembles.

In addition to the athletic bands, we have a large number of concert ensembles that meet year-round; and we even offer a percussion ensemble in the Spring! You can find information about these ensembles on the [Purdue Bands and Orchestras website](#). You can participate in these ensembles while you are on a drumline - or - instead of being on a drumline.

This packet contains all the information you need to prepare yourself for band camp. The Purdue Bands and Orchestras website is a great resource and can get any additional questions you may have answered. Band camp is a lot of work. If you earn a spot on one of the drumlines, it will require an incredible amount of discipline and practice each day during the season. We guarantee, there’s nothing quite like standing on the 50 yard line in a jam-packed Ross-Ade and hitting the downbeat of *Hail Purdue* for the first time.

Boiler up, hammer down, and we can’t wait to see you this August!

Sincerely,

Dr. Pamela J. Nave

Associate Professor of Bands, Purdue University
Drumline Instructor, Purdue University

Corbin Richardson

Section Leader, “All-American” Marching Band Drumline
Snare Segment Leader, “All-American” Marching Band Drumline

Introduction from the Bass Segment Leaders

Dear Fellow Bass Drummer,

Welcome to the Bass Drum audition packet! We are glad that you have read this far. Let us take a moment to introduce ourselves to you.

My name is Danny Hjellming and I am a fifth-year senior from Wheaton, Illinois majoring in Environmental and Ecological Engineering with a focus in watershed restoration. This will be my fifth year as a bass drummer with the "All-American" Marching Band and I have the pleasure to be serving as your bass drum "1" (segment leader). Outside of band, I'm a big fan of watching or playing sports, an avid backpacker and outdoorsman, and if you ever feel like eating chicken from Raising Cane's, there's a decent chance I'll be cooking it. I can't wait to meet you in person and start playing some music!

Hi y'all! My name is Gabby Wagner, but feel free to call me Goob. I'm from Libertyville, IL, studying Environmental Geosciences and this will be my fourth season marching on the bass line of the "All-American" Marching Band. I am so excited to be your Bass 10! Outside of Purdue Bands, I'm an admissions ambassador (fancy way of saying I give campus tours), am president of one of our thousands of clubs on campus, partake in undergraduate research, and love attending all of our Big 10 sporting events! I'm definitely looking forward to such a great season playing some amazing splits and cheering on our football team for (hopefully) many home wins!

If you are still reading, it's safe to bet that you're interested in playing the best instrument in the band: the Bass Drum (good choice by the way). Together as the bass line, our job is to hold the beat. However, each of our SEVEN bass drums has its own unique part to play; our music is written to require us to be both incredibly independent and fit together perfectly. We are tight-knit group full of rich traditions (some of which have been alive for decades) from our bass cheer to our fanatical obsession with Mad Mush Cheese Sticks. Most of all we pride ourselves in the work we do: maintaining a high level of performance excellence - while having fun.

We know how intimidating this audition process can be (we've both been there several times), so let us give you a tip: start practicing now! Learning warmups and cadences before arriving will definitely help your band camp experience go more smoothly. As a bass drummer, familiarize yourself with the warmups and cadences as a whole (you must be able to perform all 7 bass splits for everything)! For cadences, we suggest trying to memorize as much as possible, especially the unison notes.

Make full use of every resource that is available to you; both in this packet, on the PUDL social media pages, and the Purdue Bands and Orchestras website. Please feel free to reach out to us if you have questions about drumline, the audition process, or anything else.

Our involvement in the "All-American" Marching Band and various concert ensembles continues to be a wonderful constant during our university experience - we hope that you will join our Purdue Bands and Orchestras family as well!

Boiler up and Go Bass!



Danny Hjellming(1)



Gabby Wagner (10)

Dr. Nave and her Philosophy of Percussion Education

It is a good idea to generally know who Dr. Nave is (by reading her bio), but it is especially important to know about her Philosophy of Percussion Education before arriving at Tech Weekend or Band Camp.

About Dr. Nave

DR. PAMELA J. NAVE serves as Purdue Bands' percussion instructor and its Associate Professor of Bands and Orchestras. She formerly served on the band's faculty at Ball State University, where she completed a Bachelor of Science Degree in Percussion Performance. Following her undergrad degree, Dr. Nave opened a percussion studio in Indianapolis, Indiana for three years. She then went back to Ball State as a Graduate Assistant and received two more degrees: one in Music Education and one in Percussion Performance. Dr. Nave completed her Doctorate of Musical Arts degree at The Ohio State University. At OSU, she won the graduate concerto competition as a marimba soloist, adding to a long list of academic honors that includes being a two-time recipient of BSU's James L. Lane Percussion Award and the winner of BSU's Concerto Competition. Also at OSU, Dr. Nave was awarded the Graduate Associate Teaching Award, which is only given to ten graduate students out of the 2600 graduate students in each class. Between degrees, Nave, a member of Pi Kappa Lambda, performed as a freelance percussionist in Orchestras and Community Concert Bands throughout Indiana.

She began her career with Purdue University Bands and Orchestras in 1999, and has been a figurehead in the department and the Big Ten ever since. In 2008, she was appointed Director of "All State Marimba and Percussion Ensemble" for the Indiana Music Educators National Conference, and is a member of the Percussive Arts Society. To this date, she remains the only female percussion director in D1 athletics. Dr. Nave's current duties with the Purdue University Bands and Orchestras Department include Director of all Percussion Studies (a studio of roughly 110 percussion students), Assistant Director of the Marching Band, Drumline Instructor, Operations Advisor, and private percussion instructor. As of June 2020, Dr. Nave also serves as the treasurer of Purdue's chapter of Pi Kappa Pi, an academic honors fraternity on campus. She is also very dedicated to her wife, Courtney, her three children, Parker, Johnathon, and Charlotte, their cat Casper, and their dog Gustov Holst Gus Gus Spartacus D.R. Nave.



Dr. Nave's Philosophy of Percussion Education

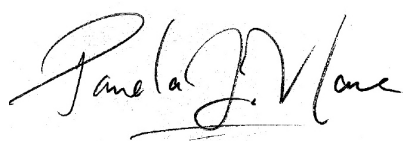
My ideal thought of percussion education lies with a totalization philosophy in percussion. The student will have a firm foundation in technique on all instruments — simultaneously, they may pursue higher levels of musicianship on a single instrument.

A totalization approach offers students the opportunity to emphasize one instrument while still covering traditional percussion instruments. If carefully designed and implemented, this may prove to be an effective approach to the curriculum for the 21st century. Several traditional areas of percussion need to remain in all undergraduate curricula. I believe that the study of traditional percussion instruments such as snare drum, cymbals, keyboard instruments, timpani, etc., and the “auxiliary instruments” should be included in every undergraduate curriculum. Percussionists at Purdue University should be expected to possess basic technique and knowledge of the literature on these instruments. The mastery of these instruments is important not only to promote percussionists' professional knowledge, but also because all areas of percussion relate to one another as “one big matrix” (interview with Michael Udow, 2001). To be a true percussionist, I believe it is important to have an understanding and appreciation of all areas of percussion.

I also believe that students should have a basic knowledge of Latin and African instruments and styles. These instruments and styles are written into contemporary music, ranging from percussion ensembles to orchestral works, from concert band music to drum and bugle corps arrangements — so a competent percussionist should know how to handle them. Additionally, a percussionist playing in a large ensemble or in musical theatre may encounter contemporary orchestral and concert band composers such as David Gillingham, Leonard Bernstein, George Gershwin, Frank Ticheli, and Libby Larson. These composers expect percussionists in the ensemble will be capable of playing music for any percussion instrument. The average professional percussionist will face these situations at some point in his or her career and must have the training to handle them.

I believe that how soon and the degree to which a student should specialize is different for every student. If a student enters my percussion studio and cannot read keyboard music, they will study xylophone and marimba until they gain basic reading competency technique, regardless of their wishes for specialization, for the reasons mentioned in the paragraph above. On the contrary, if a student enters my studio and proves their competency in the basic areas of percussion, I will allow them to emphasize a favorite instrument. I have found that students have more motivation if they are allowed a measure of control in choosing the direction of their education, whether this means selecting which instrument to emphasize or which solo to play on the instrument I have dictated. In general, undergraduates will spend their first year or two developing their proficiency in the basics. But when the case arises that a talented underclassman wants to focus on one instrument, I feel ethically obligated to provide the opportunity for him or her to do so, with the support of my knowledge and teaching skills.

Regardless of what talent you enter the music/band program with, you will leave Purdue University with knowledge regarding several facets of the percussion world. My hope is that you, as a percussionist, may continue your playing and performing within the communities in which you live.



Tech Weekend 2023 Schedule

Saturday, July 15

- **8:00 am** - Check in at Shreve Hall
- **9:00 am** - Student Leaders distribute instruments/stands/carriers
- **10:00 am** - Marching fundamentals w/ 1's
- **12:00 pm** - Lunch
- **1:00 pm** - Warm-ups (basic technique)
- **3:30 pm** - Audition Music/Technique
- **5:30 pm** - Dinner
- **6:30 pm** - Music/Technique
- **8:00 pm** - Student-guided tour of campus
- **9:30 pm** - Movie/snacks/relax

Sunday, July 16

- **7:30 am** - Wake up call/showers
- **8:00 am** - Breakfast
- **9:00 am** - Marching Basics
- **11:00 am** - Music/Technique
- **12:00 pm** - Lunch
- **1:00 pm** - Audition Music
- **3:00 pm** - Closing Discussion
- **3:30 pm** - Return Equipment
- **4:00 pm** - Tech Weekend ends

What should I bring to Tech Weekend?

- 2 days of athletic clothes (it will be hot, and you will be sweating)
- Tennis shoes (NO sandals or open-toed shoes. We will be marching!)
- Sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, etc.
- Hard copies of our warm-ups, cadences, and the 2023-2024 audition music (we recommend keeping it in a binder with page protectors and page clips)
- Reusable water bottle (we have water and ice — just bring a bottle!)
- Earplugs
- Sticks (if you don't have any, we have *plenty* here)
- Practice pad (if you have/want one)
- Toiletries/shower shoes
- **A FANTASTIC ATTITUDE!**

Can I drive myself to Tech Weekend?

Absolutely! But we ask that all students spend the weekend in the dorms with the upperclassmen/student leaders, so don't plan on driving around during Tech Weekend! Parking will be available in the [University Street Parking Garage](#) and around whichever dorm we stay in. These lots are 100% free to the public on weekends and after 5:00 pm on weekdays.

Playing Auditions: August 13, 2023

Drumline music auditions will take place on the Sunday before Band Camp in the Hagle Hall Conference Room (Rm 389). Here is a tentative schedule for the day.

9:00am	Rm 108/178 will become available for practicing/warming up.
10:00am - 11:30pm	Block A of open auditions in Hagle 389. (Open to all members)
11:30am - 1:00pm	Block B of open auditions in Hagle 389. (Open to all members)
12:00pm	Band camp registration opens in the lobby of Elliott. (Everyone must do this, even if they have already auditioned.)
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Break for lunch
2:00pm	Mandatory Welcome Session for ALL rookies (AAMB event)
2:00pm - 4:00pm	Block C of open auditions in Hagle 389. (Open to returning members only)
4:00pm - 6:00pm	Block D of open auditions in Hagle 389. (Open to all members)
6:00pm - 7:00pm	Break for dinner
7:00pm - 9:00pm	Open auditions for special cases/circumstances. You cannot sign up for this time slot in advance.

How do I sign up for an audition block?

You can sign up for an audition block by filling out an interest form through the Purdue Bands ShopWindow portal. The link is available [HERE](#) and on the Purdue Bands and Orchestras website. One of our student leadership team members will contact you to schedule you in a specific block.

What if I mess up?/Can I audition on multiple instruments?

Sunday's playing auditions are only the first step of the week-long audition process. The faculty and student leadership will initially order players by how successful their Sunday auditions are, but those spots can (and will) change dramatically throughout the week as candidates improve in marching/playing. Long story short: don't worry if you mess up your Sunday audition! Students are rarely dismissed from Band Camp after Sunday auditions. Instead, Dr. Nave *may* ask you to re-audition on a different instrument. We encourage candidates to arrive with the goal of earning a spot on one of the drumlines, instead of fixating on playing a particular instrument on a particular drumline.

With that in mind, you can audition on as many instruments as you like (and you may also be asked to switch instruments during Sunday auditions or Band Camp). If you are planning on auditioning for multiple instruments, be sure to register for **one audition spot for each instrument**.

What does a Sunday audition consist of?

You will sign up on the PBO Website and via MusicWindow, and a student leader will schedule you to perform your audition with Dr. Nave. The Student Leadership team will do their best to keep the day running smoothly, so that everyone can audition during the block in which they signed up. Keep in mind that the schedule is an outline of the day; we may ask you to audition a bit earlier or later in the day.

Every audition will consist of two parts:

- 1. Rudiments:** You will be asked to play two rudiments: a long roll and one other rudiment from the 26 Standard American, which will be selected on the spot. You will play them both from memory. A full list of the 26 Standard American rudiments can be found in the music section of this packet. During the audition, both rudiments should be played "slow/fast/slow." For the long roll, start dramatically slow (40bpm), then gradually build up speed to your max tempo. Then gradually slow down again to the tempo you started at. For the second rudiment, you should play it four times slow (60 bpm), then four times fast (120bpm), then four times slow again (60bpm). You should have complete control of the sticks at all times while playing the rudiments.
- 2. Audition :** 2023-2024's audition excerpts will be available on July 1. This will be played for Dr. Nave and another evaluator. You are allowed to bring your own copy of the music.

How many spots are available?

We have the option to take up to two full-size drumlines of 35 members each (11 snares, 6 quads, 7 basses, and 11 cymbals). **At the start of Band Camp, only ten people have a reserved spots on the "All-American" Marching Band Drumline: the two student leaders on each instrument and the co-captains of the World's Largest Drum Crew.** Every other spot (across both drumlines) will be filled based on students' performance in auditions and throughout band camp. Decisions will be based on candidates' playing ability, marching, and teachability. **Seniority does not factor into our auditioning process. It is not uncommon for returning veterans to not make the line.** The membership of both drumlines is up to the discretion of Dr. Nave, other faculty, and the student leadership team, pending approval of the director of the "All-American" Marching Band

Do you have any tips for preparing/practicing?

- 1. BE PREPARED:** Be able to perform the audition excerpt completely at a comfortable and steady tempo. Learn it slowly and work measure-by-measure to ensure accuracy, and then build up speed. Constantly check your technique, and be sure not to overlook the long roll — make sure it is consistent and has a smooth, gradual transition.
- 2. PRACTICE WITH THE RIGHT STICKS:** We will be using Vic Firth sticks this season, so if you're able to get your hands on the appropriate pair this summer, start practicing with them before Tech Weekend/Band Camp! If you make either drumline, we will supply you with sticks to last throughout the season.
- 3. PRACTICE ALL OF THE MUSIC IN THIS PACKET:** If you have pregame music, the fight songs, and the other cadences memorized (or at least prepared), your audition day and Band Camp will be a lot less stressful (and way more fun)! Start getting these out of the way as soon as possible so you can focus on the audition excerpt(s) once they are released in July!
- 4. CHECK OUT THE TECHNIQUE SECTION:** Every drumline handles playing and marching technique a little differently. While Dr. Nave and the Student Leaders won't expect rookies to have our technique mastered prior to band camp, try to get a head start by checking out the Technique section in this packet.

- 5. REFLECT ON YOUR ATTITUDE:** Attitude is a factor during auditions. Our faculty and student leadership team members want to work and perform with people who are positive, mature, and willing to cooperate with their fellow drummers and band members!
- 6. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AUDITION DAY:** On audition day, the drum room will be filled with rookie and veteran drummers who are all auditioning for the “All-American” Marching Band! Take this time to start getting to know everyone, practicing with others, and learning from veterans/student leaders! This is a great opportunity to get your lingering questions answered, or to work with other drummers going through the same process you are!
- 7. HAVE FUN:** Both drumlines are full of energetic, upbeat drummers who want to work and perform with other people who love drumming! This positive, high energy is precisely what helps motivate the football team, the crowd, and all who watch either drumline perform!

Band Camp: August 13-19, 2023

Sunday auditions are important, but so is the week of Band Camp that comes after! It will be an intensive week, so come prepared to push yourself both physically and mentally, but also be sure to have fun drumming and getting to know the other members of the band! Band Camp auditions consist of three distinct portions: **playing**, **marching**, and **attitude**. When Band Camp begins on Monday, Dr. Nave and the Student Leaders will set the initial order of candidates based on the results of the Sunday Auditions. However, this order will constantly be rearranged throughout Band Camp as people improve in marching/playing AND as players begin to show their level of maturity/attitude towards drumming.

So what happens during band camp?

Band Camp is run by the “All-American” Marching Band staff and faculty, with the student leadership team guiding their individual sections. Each of your student leaders will help you develop your marching and playing technique, but they will also be evaluating you on your skill and improvement throughout the week. Keep in mind that band camp emphasizes both marching and playing. You will play most of the music included in this packet, especially cadences, during the week. Know them all well before showing up!

As we are just one of many sections that comprise the “All-American” Marching Band, we follow the same itinerary as the rest of the band. It is also important that you meet and get to know the rest of the “All-American” Marching Band. When this year’s itinerary for band camp is posted, you will be able to find it on the [Purdue Bands and Orchestras website](#).



What exactly does a “good attitude” mean?

While playing and marching are primary components evaluated during the audition process, your attitude and teachability will go a long way! Since the “All-American” Marching Band’s primary goal is to entertain, a goal of our audition process is to find positive, energetic people that will help us engage with our audience! Playing ability will not outweigh a negative personality. The faculty of the “All-American” Marching Band will not put up with poor attitudes, even from excellent players. In years past, veterans have been denied spots and members have been dismissed mid-season due to attitude problems. If you refuse to learn, if you’re difficult to work with or immature, your chances of securing and maintaining a spot in the “All-American” Marching Band’s Drumline or “Boiler Beats” Tailgate Drumline will be significantly affected. Be sure you show up to band camp excited, willing to learn/grow, and as a generally positive influence to those around you!

The “All-American” Marching Band does not tolerate poor behavior or bad attitudes. No exceptions.

How can I prepare my body physically?

Band camp, rehearsals and game days are all physically strenuous - health and wellness are a crucial element of success for everyone in the “All-American” Marching Band. Before every rehearsal and performance, the student leadership team will lead the line in performing both musical and physical warm-ups. Warm-ups are especially important on game days, since we’re playing all day long. The student leadership team has developed a “Health and Wellness Guide,” which can be found on the Drumline portion of the PBO website. This guide contains valuable advice for how to prepare yourself physically for the long days of drumming and marching, as well as information on nutrition, exercising, and general wellness.

There are also stretching tutorials on the Drumline portion of the PBO website. Utilizing these stretches, as well as light cardio/strength training, will help you get your body into optimal shape before coming to band camp. If you find that you do need help during band camp - do not hesitate to let your student leadership or a faculty member know!

When are results announced?

On the Friday morning of band camp, the student leadership team and Dr. Nave will meet with each candidate one-on-one to let them know if they will be in the “All-American” Marching Band, the “Boiler Beats” Tailgate Drumline, and/or an indoor ensemble. No matter which ensemble you are selected for, the student leadership and/or Dr. Nave will share feedback as to their decision. You can always set up a meeting with Dr. Nave individually to talk more in-depth about her decision.

If you don’t make one of the ensembles this year, don’t be a stranger! Many past members (including some individuals that went on to become student leadership) did not make the “All-American” Marching Band in their first year auditioning! No matter what, there is a place for you in the Purdue percussion program, and everyone is encouraged to stick with the program, improve throughout the year, and come back stronger than ever next season!

How do I sign up for band camp?

You can sign up for band camp on the [Purdue Bands and Orchestras](#) website once sign-ups become available. Be sure to follow us on social media to make sure you stay up to be informed when audition material is posted and sign-ups go live!

What should I bring to camp?

- Athletic clothes (it will be hot and you will be sweating)
- Tennis shoes (we do not allow sandals or open-toed shoes during rehearsals)
- Sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, etc.
- All of the music in this packet (we recommend keeping it in a binder with page protectors and page clips)
- Practice pad (if you have/want one)
- Earplugs
- Water bottle (we have water and ice — just bring a bottle!)
- Sticks (if you don't have any, we have plenty here)
- Money for meals throughout the week. Dining court meal plans will not be active until the end of the week.
- A FANTASTIC ATTITUDE!

Some Final Thoughts on Auditions

We know the audition process can be stressful, but if you come to band camp and demonstrate your competency, you will likely earn a spot in either the "All-American" Marching Band or the Boiler Beats. Drumming is drumming, no matter which group you end up in, so enjoy the opportunity while you have it!

If you have any questions while preparing, don't hesitate to contact the student leadership and/or Dr. Nave and we'll be happy to help. You can find the necessary contact info at the front of this packet.

Good luck, happy practicing, and we can't wait to see you at auditions!

Marching Technique

While we don't expect rookies to show up with our technique mastered, this section is designed to help give new members a head start. You should also check out the supplemental videos on the Drumline social media sites and/or the Purdue Bands and Orchestras website. We use glide-step for forward/backwards marching and crabbing for sideways marching. Here's an outline of these marching techniques:

Posture/Set Position

Let's start from the bottom and work up. Balls of the feet are on the set dot or yard line, and the feet are pointed straight ahead, with toes together. The knees are straight, but never locked, and hips are centered directly over feet. The torso provides the "power" for the posture; the core is engaged, the chest is out (think of "filling up" the empty space in the harness), and the shoulders are pulled back. The back is not only straight, but should also feel extended. Think of a string running through your spine and out the top of your head that's being pulled toward the sky. The head is looking forward and slightly up, so that the chin is parallel to the ground. A good way to test this is with the "L" trick: make an "L" with your thumb and pointer finger, touch the thumb to the bottom of the neck, and push your chin up as far as your pointer finger reaches. Finally, eyes are looking in the same upward direction, not down at the ground.

Marking Time in Glide-Step

We'll go over the vocal callouts associated with marking time and marching once band camp comes. For now, all you need to know are the basics of the technique: on the "and" between beats, the heel is lifted while the ball of the foot stays on the ground. The clearance between the bottom of the heel and the ground should be several inches, roughly enough to fit a fist. On the beat, the heel comes down to the ground, without shifting the weight or disturbing the posture, and without stomping.

Forward Marching in Glide-Step

Our forward marching technique is akin to "walking in time." As long as your feet stay in time and move in a straight line (like you're walking in ski tracks, not on a tightrope), and the posture is maintained, you've met most of the requirements for the forward marching technique. Every step hits first with the heel, then rolls through to the toe. Feet cross on the "and"s of beats. When closing, the right foot rolls like normal, then the left foot just glides into its spot on count one.

Backward Marching/Crabbing

Most aspects of what's outlined above for forward marching are applicable to backward marching. Instead of rolling through steps, the feet are always raised up on their platforms. The same goes for crabbing, but with one exception. When crabbing left or right, the front foot should remain on the yard line while the back foot should be slightly behind the yard line. (If you're crabbing left, the right foot is the front foot. If you're crabbing right, the left foot is the front foot.) This requires a slightly altered first step, which we outline in the video. Keeping the feet parallel to each other usually requires more attention when marching backward or crabbing than compared to forward marching, so be mindful of that when practicing your technique.

Remember to check out the "Technique Overview" videos on the Drumline's Social Media Accounts for more in-depth outlining of these concepts. You can always email an SL if you still have questions after that. Most importantly, keep in mind that we will explain all of these concepts in depth during Tech Weekend and Band Camp, so don't stress too much if you're having trouble picking them up on your own.

Bass Playing Technique

Just like with any other instrument on the line, uniform bass drum technique across the board is key. Because the instruments do not produce a bright, sharp sound, confidence and power that come as a result of correct technique are required to hold up our end of the balance of sound.

Grip

The fulcrum with a bass mallet is the same as it would be with a snare stick. The rest of the fingers are wrapped around, and the butt of the mallet shouldn't stick out past the bottom side of your hand when in playing position.

Playing Position

The head of the mallet should always be even with the center of the drum head. As the drum being played gets bigger, playing position is adjusted by moving the hands down and away from the body; likewise, moving to a smaller drum will require pulling your hands up and towards the body. Forearms should be parallel with the ground, regardless of drum size. The wrists should feel naturally aligned with the forearms, not flexed up or down. Finally, the elbows are slightly flared out away from the ribs. This angles the heads of the mallets in toward the head and helps achieve the desired stroke technique.

Stroke

From playing position, your arm will rotate so that your forearm points towards the sky at a full extension. The motion always starts at the fulcrum. First your wrist will slightly break - think of the motion when you play a soft tap. Then your arm starts rotating about the elbow. This will naturally bring your elbow inwards as your hand gets further away from the drum. From here, reverse the motion with velocity. The mallet head should trace the same smooth arc as it moves away from and back to the center of the drum head. At lower dynamic levels, the fundamental motion does not change, only the maximum "height" away from the drum head reached by the mallet.

Double Strokes/Diddles

Many bass drummers playing past a high school level for the first time have little to no experience playing diddles on a bass drum - that is alright! The fundamental stroke does not change when playing a diddle. Deviance from technique occurs most frequently when a player goes from stroking the diddle out versus using the rebound of the drum head. This will vary depending on what drum you are on; the smaller the drums the more rebound it has, and on the larger drums stroking each double out will be necessary - especially at slower tempos.

Additional Thoughts

As with most of the technique we'll teach throughout band camp, a picture is worth a thousand words. Follow along with the supplemental videos on the PUDL website (the "Technique Overview" section) to get a much better visualization of these concepts. When practicing on your own, especially when you're first trying to nail the technique, always use your phone camera. The nature of this instrument is such that there's just no way to accurately gauge your playing technique from your own perspective. If you have trouble staying in the center of the head, put a small piece of electrical tape on the center. At playing position, check that you're on target by lightly rubbing the mallet against the head and feeling for the raised surface of the tape. Keep in mind that you'll frequently switch drums throughout Tech Weekend/Band Camp, so remember to get a feel for playing all sizes of bass drums.

Music Introduction

Welcome to the music portion of the Purdue Drumline audition packet! Here you will find all of the music you need to audition for the AAMB Drumline and the Boiler Beats Drumline. We play a multitude of music throughout the season: warm-ups, stands tunes, fight songs, exercises, cadences, show-music, drum cheers, and more! This packet covers the basics that you need for auditions and band camp, including rudiments, warm-ups, and the cadence cycle (particularly the audition cadence — once it's released on July 1). Keep in mind that while the cadences are important, the warm-ups, exercises, and rudiments outlined in this packet are just as important, so don't forget to work on them too.

The AAMB Drumline learns a new show for every home football game, which could entail anywhere from 1 to 4 weeks of practice. A new show usually has about 3 to 5 pieces of *masterable* music with drill that will need to be fully memorized and performance-ready by various short-term deadlines set by Dr. Nave. This means you could be memorizing a new song each day and be expected to perform an entirely new show by the end of one week! The key word is "memorizing": all music will have to be fully memorized by showtime. With that in mind, there won't be time to learn the music in this packet during the season. The better you know the music in this packet before Band Camp, the easier Band Camp and the season will be.



Practice Tips

Here are some tips to help you practice!

- 1. Rudiments, rudiments, rudiments!** There are rudiments throughout all of our cadences and show music pieces, so you will have a much easier time learning the cadences and show music if you have the rudiments mastered. The 26 Standard American Rudiments are in this packet, so make sure to get them all down comfortably before diving too deeply into the cadences.
- 2. Play it slow and break it down!** If you find yourself tripping over a measure and can't figure out why, play it at a very slow tempo and see what feels awkward or difficult. Then focus on playing that part by itself within the measure slowly until you get more comfortable. Then add back parts of the measure, still at a slow tempo, until you're playing the entire measure comfortably. For example, if you're struggling with beat 2, start by playing only beat 2, then beats 1 and 2, then beats 1-3, and *then* the entire measure. Finally, slightly pick up the tempo until you're playing the whole measure at the written tempo.
- 3. Always use a metronome!** You might be practicing at an incorrect or inconsistent tempo, even if you don't know it, so a metronome is always helpful to understand how each measure fits together and sounds together. This will also help you build a solid internal-metronome; we perform without a metronome so it's good to eventually not have to rely on one.
- 4. Small chunks lead to big success!** Don't try to push through an entire piece without working on smaller portions of it first. This strategy will help improve clarity in the line and will help you develop strong attention-to-detail and memorization skills. Try playing four bars at a time (or letter-to-letter chunks) until you get comfortable, *then* add on another chunk. The key here is to *add* on to chunks, not just to play small chunks separately. Again, this strategy is to help you memorize effectively, build muscle memory, and get comfortable with new music.
- 5. Don't practice for too long at once - take a break!** You don't want to burn yourself out; Dr. Nave recommends taking 5-minute breaks in between 23-minute chunks of practicing for an hour to an hour and a half EVERY DAY. Retention is key, so daily repetition for a "short" amount of time is important.

Rudiments

“Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.”

-Robert Collier

The Thirteen Essential Rudiments of the National Association of Rudimental Drummers

No. 1
The Long Roll

No. 2
The Five Stroke Roll

No. 3
The Seven Stroke Roll

No. 4
The Flam

No. 5
The Flam Accent

No. 6
The Flam Paradiddle

No. 7
The Flamacue

No. 8
The Ruff

No. 9
The Single Drag

No. 10
The Double Drag

No. 11
The Double Paradiddle

No. 12
The Single Ratamacue

No. 13
The Triple Ratamacue

* All Rudiments are to be played Open and Close

Warmups

8's

Warm-Up

Unison

Basses

R R R R R R R R L L L L L L L L R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R

5

Bass

L L L L L L L L R R R R R R R R L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L R

10 Split

Bass

R R R R R R R R L L L L L L L L R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R

14

Bass

L L L L L L L L R R R R R R R R L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L R

Double Beat

Warm-Up

Unison

Basses

R L

5

Bass

R L

9

Bass

R L R L

13

Bass

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

19

Bass

R R L L R R L L R R R R L L L L R

Diddle Breakdown #2


Warm-Up

Bass Drums 
r l r l r... r r r r


3

BD 
l l l l


5

BD 
r r r r


7

BD 
l l l l


9

BD 
r l r l r l r l


11

BD 
l r l r l r l r

13

BD 
r l r l r l r l

15

BD 
r

Flam Town

Warm-Up

Bass Drums

3

BD

R R R R R R R R R R R R

6

BD

R R R R R R R R R

9

BD

R R R R R R R

11

BD

R L L R L R L L L L

13

BD

R L L R L R L L L L

15

BD


R R L R L R


Drag Ruff Diddle (DRD) Grid

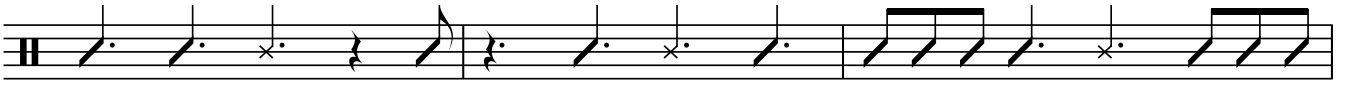
Warm-Up


Bass Drums 
 R R R R R R R R R R R


3 
 L L L L L L L L L L R L

5 
 R R R R R L R R L R R L R L L L L

8 
 L R L L R L L R L L R L R R R R R R L R L R L R L R L

11 
 R L R L L R L R L R L R L R L R L

14 
 R R R R R R L L L L L L L L L

16 
 R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R

Scud Flud

Warm-Up

Rudiments called out and applied to accents during each rep to make the exercise more challenging (flams/presses/ etc.)

Bass Drums

R l r L r l r l R l r l R l r L r l r l R l r l

3

BD

R L L R L R R

5

BD

R R R R R

Stick Control

Warm-Up

Bass Drums

3

5

7

9

R R L R L R L

11

L R L L R L R L R R L

13

L R L R L R L R L R L R I

15

L R R R L L R L R L R

Cadences

**“Practice creates confidence. Confidence empowers you.”
- Simone Biles**

2023-2024 Audition Cadence: TBA 7/1/2023!

Musical staff 1: Bass line with rhythmic patterns and dynamics. Includes accents (>) and dynamic markings *f*. Rhythmic patterns include eighth and sixteenth notes.

f R L r LRL L r LRL R L r LRL L r L R R l r l RL R l r l RL

Musical staff 2: Bass line with accents (^) and dynamic markings *f*. Includes a boxed section labeled 'A'. Rhythmic patterns include eighth and sixteenth notes.

R r l R r l r l R *f* R r l R r l r r r r R L R R r r r L

Musical staff 3: Bass line with accents (^) and dynamic markings *f*. Rhythmic patterns include eighth and sixteenth notes.

r l l r RL RL l l RL R r l R r l r r r r

Musical staff 4: Bass line with accents (^) and dynamic markings *f*. Rhythmic patterns include eighth and sixteenth notes.

R l r L r l R R r r r L r l l r

Musical staff 5: Bass line with accents (^) and dynamic markings *pp* and *ff*. Includes the instruction "top 2 at edge". Rhythmic patterns include eighth and sixteenth notes.

pp top 2 at edge *f* *ff*

Musical staff 6: Bass line with accents (^) and dynamic markings *f*. Includes a boxed section labeled 'B'. Rhythmic patterns include eighth and sixteenth notes.

f R L R L R L R L R L

Musical staff 7: Bass line with accents (^) and dynamic markings *f*. Rhythmic patterns include eighth and sixteenth notes.

R L R LR RL R L R L

24

R R R L R L R L R L R L

28

R L R R R R R R R R R R

31

r r r r

C 33

f R L r l r l L r l r r l R L r l r l R R L R r l l r l

36

r r l R L L L R L

38

R L R R L R R R

40

R R L R L R

42

R L R L R R

44

R L R R R L L

46

R R R R L R r l r L L r l r l R r l R r l r l R

D

49

R r l R r l r r r r R L R R r r r L r l l r

52

R L R L l l R L R r l R r l r R L R r L

55

r l l r R L R L l l R L

57

R L R L R L R L r L r l r l r l r l r l r l r l

59

E

61

R R R R R L R R R R R L

64

R r l R r l l R l l R Unison Rim Shot Mute Split Drum Split Rim

Funky 5s

Nave, Revamped by James & Stout

The musical score consists of three staves of rhythmic exercises. The first staff is in 4/4 time and begins with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains two measures of quarter notes with footwork 'R L R' and two measures of eighth-note patterns with footwork 'R L R'. The second staff starts with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. It features a sequence of eighth-note patterns with footwork 'R LR LR LR LR', followed by a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.) of eighth-note patterns with footwork 'L'. The third staff begins with a bass clef and a 4/4 time signature. It includes eighth-note patterns with footwork 'R L R L R L R', eighth-note patterns with footwork 'R L R L', eighth-note patterns with footwork 'R L R L R L R', and eighth-note patterns with footwork 'R L'.

Suncoast

Bass 1 plays snare part

1
 RLRLRLRL R L RLR L R L RLR L L LRLRLR L

4
 R L RLR L R L L LR R R R RLRL R RL RL RLRL

8
 R RL R RL LR RL LR

11
 R *sim.* R L RL R

15
 R RL LR RL LR R *sim.*

18
 R L R L R L R L R

Bass Drums

Casper

Bietsch, Keller, Russell, Sherburne

f **A**

Muffle on rim clicks

mf **B** Back to rims

f

ff

p **C**

f **D**

A©Union

Detailed description: This musical score is for a bass drum part in 4/4 time. It consists of 20 measures. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns such as eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and rim clicks (marked with 'x'). Dynamics range from fortissimo (ff) to piano (p). Section markers A, B, C, and D are placed above the staff. Measure 4 has a '4' above it. Measure 15 has a '15' above it. Measure 17 has a '17' above it. Measure 18 has an '18' above it. Measure 20 has a '20' above it. A '6' above a sixteenth note in measure 17 indicates a sextuplet. The score ends with a double bar line and a fermata.

24 *Casper*

R L L R L R L R L L R R L R L L R L R L

fff

27

ff

30

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

ff

E

33

f L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

36

L L L L L L L L L L L L L R L R

F

ff R L R L L R L L R R L R R L R L R R L R L L R R L L R

43

R R L R L L R L L R R L R L R R L R L L R L

46

R L R R L R L L R R L R L R R L R L R R L R L R L R

G

49

R R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R

ffff

31

Musical notation for cadence 31. It consists of three measures. The first measure contains a series of eighth notes. The second measure contains a series of eighth notes with an accent (>) over the first note. The third measure contains a single eighth note with an accent (>) and a circled 'D' above it, followed by a sixteenth rest.

34

Musical notation for cadence 34. It consists of three measures. The first measure contains a sixteenth rest followed by a sixteenth note, then a series of eighth notes with a '6' above them. The second measure contains a series of eighth notes with a '6' above them, followed by a series of eighth notes with 'x' marks above them. The third measure contains a series of eighth notes with an accent (>) over the first note, followed by a series of eighth notes with an accent (>) over the first note. Below the staff, the following fingerings are indicated: L L R R L under the first measure, and R L under the third measure.

36

Musical notation for cadence 36. It consists of three measures. The first measure contains a series of eighth notes. The second measure contains a series of eighth notes with an accent (>) over the first note, followed by a series of eighth notes with an accent (>) over the first note, and a series of eighth notes with an accent (>) over the first note. The third measure contains a series of eighth notes with a '3' above them, followed by a series of eighth notes with an accent (^) over the first note. Below the staff, the following fingerings are indicated: R R L R L R L R L under the second measure, and L under the third measure.

Good Times

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8

RLRL RLRL RL RL RL RL RL RL RL RL

9 10 11 12

R L L R L R L R

13 14 15 16

17 18 19 20

R

Chunky Monkey

Chugga Chugga

D. Masden, M. Bowers, J. James

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of 28 measures. It features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and triplet figures. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above notes. Dynamics include *f* (forte), *sim.* (sforzando), *p* (piano), and *f* (forte). The score includes several slurs and accents.

Measure 1: *f* RLRLR RLRL RL RL R RLRL LR RLRL L

Measure 4: R R RL L R

Measure 10: RL RL RLRL

Measure 13: *f* R RRL R RLL R

Measure 18: R RL L RLRL L LR

Measure 21: RLRLRL RLRL *sim.*

Measure 24: R L R L RLRL RLRL

Measure 26: *sim.* L RLRL *p* *f*

30

sim. **f** R L R L R R L R L R L R L R L

36

R R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R

39

R R L R L L R R L R L L R L R L R L R L R L L L R

Bass Drums

Space Cowboy

2021 Student Leaders

Musical score for Bass Drums in 4/4 time. The score consists of 19 measures, divided into sections A and B.

Measure 1: *f* R R L R L R L L L L R L R L L L L R L R L

Measure 3: *ff* (Section A)

Measure 8: RL LRLRLR LR L R LRLRLR LRL

Measure 11: R R R R R R R R R R

Measure 14: *mp* R L L R L R R L R R *f* R R R L R L L R R L R

Measure 16: *f* R R R R R R L R R L R R L R R L

Measure 19: R R L R R L R R B R R L R R R L R R L R R L R R L R R L R R L R

2

Space Cowboy

24

R R R R R R R R R R

29

*ff*³ R

31

R L R R R R R R R R

C

mf R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R

36

R L R L *ff* L R L R L R L R L R L R L

40

R L R L R R L R R L R L R L R L R L R L

D

44

R L R L R R L R R R R R R R R R

47

fff R 3 R 3 R 3 R 3 R L L L L R R R L R

pHat Donk

Pregame

A N D

Fight Songs

**“A band is not proud because it performs well;
it performs well because it is proud.”**

-George Parks

Pregame Order

Pregame consists of ten songs:

- Run On
- 2013 Fanfare
- Wabash Cannonball
- For the Honor of Old Purdue (“Honor”)
- Back Home Again
- The Fighting Varsity (“Varsity”)
- Hail Purdue PSP
- Battle Hymn of the Republic
- National Anthem
- and B-Store.

Pregame notes

Don't worry about Run On, the National Anthem, or B-Store for now. You'll learn those after band camp.

Honor, Varsity, and Hail Purdue are our three fight songs. We frequently play these songs outside of pregame. We also play different versions of these songs. The music in this packet is marked to indicate:

- Long Honor vs Short Honor vs Honor Tag
- Long Varsity vs Short Varsity vs Varsity Tag
- Hail IC (Intro/Chorus) vs Hail PSP (Play/Sing/Play) vs Hail PP (Play/Play) vs Quickie

2013 FANFARE

Bass Drums

Matt Conaway

Powerful! ♩ = 120

Musical score for Bass Drums in 4/4 time, tempo 120. The score consists of four systems of staves with rhythmic notation and dynamic markings. The first system starts with a *fff* dynamic and includes the following rhythm: *R RLRLRRL RLRLR RLRLRLR RL RLRLRRR R RR RLRL*. The second system continues with *fff* dynamics and rhythm: *R R R L R RRLRLRL RLRLRRRR R RR RLRL RLRLR RLRLR R R R RL*. The third system includes dynamics *p* and *fff* with rhythm: *RL RL RRL RLRLRRRR R RR RLRL R LR LR pRLRLR fff RLRLRLRLRL*. The fourth system includes dynamics *p* and *fff* with rhythm: *pRRR fffRLRLRLRL R RLRLR RLRL fffRLRLRL R RR RRLRLRLRL R*. Measure numbers 6, 12, 18, and 24 are indicated at the start of their respective systems.

Bass Drums

WABASH CANNONBALL

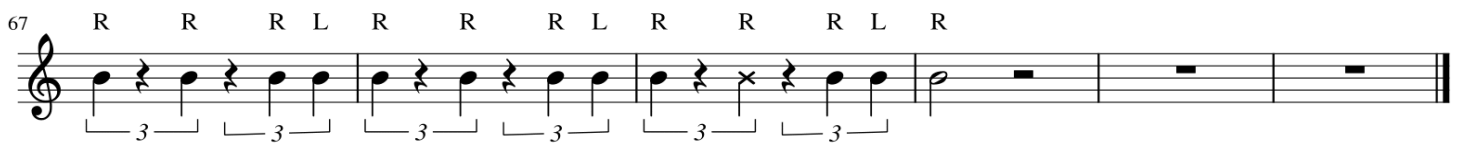
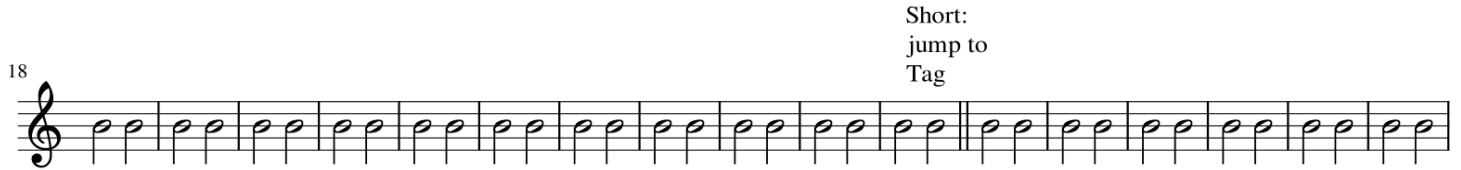
Arr. by MATT CONAWAY
Perc. Arr. by PAM NAVE

9

♩ = 144

Musical score for Bass Drums in common time (C). The score consists of seven systems of staves with rhythmic notation and dynamic markings. The first system starts with a *ff* dynamic. Measure numbers 10, 17, 25, 33, 41, 49, 57, and 60 are indicated at the start of their respective systems.

For the Honor of Old Purdue



Bass Drums

BACK HOME AGAIN IN INDIANA

2014 Edition

arranged by MATT CONAWAY
Perc. arr. by PAM NAVE

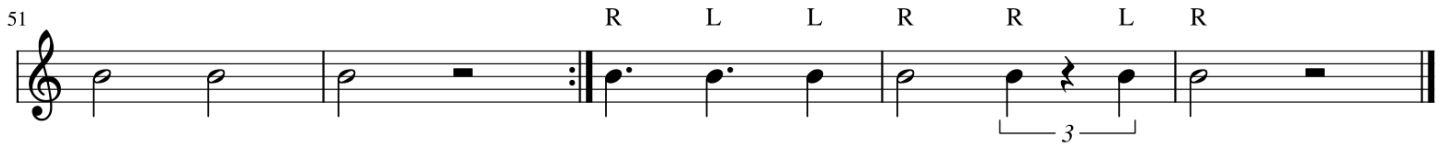
March Style ♩ = 144

The musical score for Bass Drums is written on three staves in 4/4 time. The tempo is marked as 'March Style' with a quarter note equal to 144 beats per minute. The notation consists of rhythmic patterns represented by stems with flags and beams, indicating specific drum strokes. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *f* and includes a boxed measure number '3'. The second staff starts at measure 9, marked with *f*, and includes boxed measure numbers '11' and '15'. The third staff starts at measure 17 and includes a boxed measure number '19'. The piece concludes with a dynamic marking of *fff*.

Fighting Varsity Full, Short, Tag



Short:
jump
to Tag



Hail Purdue

[Composer]

Bass Drum **C** Intro

B. Dr. Play

B. Dr.

B. Dr.

B. Dr.

B. Dr.

B. Dr. Sing

B. Dr.

B. Dr.

B. Dr.

Score

America the Beautiful

Bass Drums 

B. Dr. 

B. Dr. 

B. Dr. 

B. Dr. 

Some Final Thoughts

Congratulations! You made it through this packet! You've now been exposed to everything you need to know to be fully prepared for Tech Weekend and Band Camp!

If you have any lingering questions, or want to learn even more, check out the PUDL social media sites and the Purdue Bands and Orchestras website. There, you can find detailed videos with advice regarding marching and playing technique. Keep in mind that we do not expect any rookies to have any technique mastered prior to Tech Weekend/Band Camp — but the videos may give you a solid foundation before arriving on campus.

We hope this packet has been informative and helpful for you as you prepare for your first AAMB Drumline Tech Weekend and Band Camp. Best of luck and we can't wait to work with you soon.

Don't be afraid to reach out if you need us!

Sincerely, Dr. Nave, Corbin, and the rest of the 2023-2024 Student Leadership team.

