

# **NORTHWESTERN DRUMLINE**



2025 Audition Packet

Dear Percussionists,

We're so glad to hear that you're interested in the Northwestern University Drumline! We are a proud section of the Northwestern University Wildcat Marching Band, dedicated to sharing precision and musicianship with the Big Ten community and beyond. In addition, the NU Drumline is a large, close-knit group of friends brought together by their love of performance, rhythm, and marching percussion. Members come from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences, so all the members of the line learn a great deal from each other as musicians and individuals. Each person is very dedicated to the group, and we can all testify how being a part of the NU Drumline is an invaluable and rewarding experience. Here's a brief introduction to our leadership team:

**Scott Simon (Instructor)** will be completing his sixth full season with NUMB and is excited to be a part of the team. His marching experience started in 1996 and continued for 8 seasons of drum corps, most notably with Phantom Regiment for the 2000, 2002, and 2003 seasons. He then became a part of the instructional staff with Regiment from 2007-2010 as well as Santa Clara Vanguard in 2011 & 2017. Most recently, he served as a tenor tech for the Cavaliers from 2020-2023. Scott also teaches private lessons as well as the percussion class for Evanston Township High School. In addition to his teaching, he is very active in the musical theatre scene, playing drums and percussion for numerous productions in the Chicagoland area. Scott received his Master's in Music Performance from Central Michigan University and his Bachelor's from Illinois State.

**Benjamin Lin (Co-Captain)** is a junior from Edmond, Oklahoma, studying Statistics and Economics. This season will be his third on the line and third playing the snare drum. While not doing marching band things, Ben enjoys fishing, basketball, and playing in the Concert Band. This is his first year as drumline co-captain, and he is excited to work with the drumline and NUMB to have a great marching season!

**Jimmy Zhang (Co-Captain)** is a junior from Hoffman Estates, Illinois, studying Data Science, ISP, and Math. This will be his third year on the line and second year playing tenors. Outside of marching band, Jimmy conducts research with the Center for Network Dynamics and is also a part of the Northwestern Sports Analytics Group. He is excited to begin his first year as co-captain and meet the new members of the drumline and NUMB this season!

We're all very excited to begin preparing for the 2025 season! Please read the instructions and music carefully, and don't hesitate to email with any questions. You can audition for as many or as few instruments as you'd like, but ***please audition for all instruments for which you would like to be considered***. Important: Please send us your summer mailing address (including effective dates), phone number, and email addresses (see contact information below). Furthermore, if you have not done so already, please contact our marching band director, Daniel J. Farris, at [d-farris@northwestern.edu](mailto:d-farris@northwestern.edu) and let him know you're interested in participating in NUMB this fall. He can also field any general questions you have about the band here at Northwestern.

Best Regards and Go 'Cats!

Benjamin Lin (405) 738-2745  
[benjaminlin2027@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:benjaminlin2027@u.northwestern.edu)

Jimmy Zhang (224) 875-8465  
[jimmyzhang2027@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:jimmyzhang2027@u.northwestern.edu)

## On-Campus Workshops and Audition

We are excited to continue this year with our on-campus audition model. During the month of May, two optional workshops will be held prior to the audition. These workshops will be led by Scott and will focus on fundamentals, audition materials, and cadences. These will be followed by the in-person audition on May 16. The details are listed below:

Workshop #1: Friday, May 2, 2025, 7:00-9:00 PM

Workshop #2: Friday, May 9, 2025, 7:00-9:00 PM

**On-Campus Audition: Friday, May 16, 2025, 7:00-9:00 PM**

*The workshops and the on-campus audition will be held in Regenstein Hall of Music, Room 011.*

# Video Auditions

If you live a distance from campus that prevents you from participating in the on-campus audition date or are otherwise unable to attend the on-campus audition session, a video of your audition will be accepted. All video applicants should review the requirements below before submitting a video audition:

- The video should be posted unlisted on YouTube, with the link sent to srsimon23@yahoo.com, benjaminlin2027@u.northwestern.edu and jimmyzhang2027@u.northwestern.edu. For full consideration with regard to part assignments on the line, submit your video by **Friday, June 20, 2025 at 11:59 PM CST**. However, we will continue to accept videos beyond this date, if necessary.
- Mark time during all parts of the audition. This means to “march in place.” Stand with your feet together and parallel. Starting with the left foot on beat 1 of every measure (in standard 4/4 time), lift the foot about an inch and press it into the ground on each count. The ability to mark time while playing is an important component of the audition for all instruments.
- Please perform all exercises/etudes/cadence excerpts with an **audible metronome** in your video.
- Unless otherwise specified, please perform all exercises/etudes/cadence excerpts two times.
- Videos must show your **entire body** and the instrument. Please make sure that we can see your feet in the video.
- Please announce your name at the beginning of the tape.

## Instrument Instructions

- **Snare Drum:** The Northwestern Snareline uses traditional grip, so please use this grip in your audition. Please prepare the following exercises at the following tempo markings:

- 8's – 144 bpm
- Bucks – 136 bpm
- Double/Triple Beat – 120 bpm
- Gallop – 152 bpm
- Triplet Diddle – 132 bpm
- Flam exercises – 132 bpm
- Stick Control – 120 bpm
- Traditional m. 5-23 – 120 bpm

*Video auditions: If you own or can obtain a snare drum for the audition, please perform on it. If not, a practice pad will be suitable. Record the video in the order listed above at the indicated tempos.*

- **Tenor Drums:** Play exercises with written arounds twice. The first time, play the snare drum part on drum 2, and the second time, play the tenor arounds. Please prepare the following exercises at the following tempo markings:

- 8's – 144 bpm
- Bucks – 136 bpm
- Double/Triple Beat – 120 bpm
- Gallop – 152 bpm
- Triplet Diddle – 132 bpm
- Flam exercises – 132 bpm
- Stick Control – 120 bpm
- Traditional m. 5-23 – 120 bpm

*Video auditions: If you own or can obtain tenor drums or a tenor practice pad, please perform on it. If not, please play matched grip on a snare drum pad. Record the video in the order listed above at the indicated tempos.*

- **Bass Drum:** Play exercises with written splits twice—the first time with unisons (play snare line for Stick Control) and the second time with the split of the bass drum you would like to be placed on, if applicable. For Traditional, only play the split of the bass drum you would like to be placed on. Please prepare the following exercises at the following tempo markings:

- 8's – 144 bpm
- Bucks – 136 bpm
- NU 16th-Note Timing – 132 bpm
- Double/Triple Beat – 120 bpm
- Gallop – 152 bpm
- Stick Control – 120 bpm
- Traditional m. 5-23 – 120 bpm

*Video auditions: If you own or can obtain a bass drum or a bass drum practice pad, please perform on it. If not, please play matched grip on a snare drum pad. Record the video in the order listed above at the indicated tempos.*

- **Cymbals:** Measures with split stems are split A/B with note stems up 'a' and note stems down 'b'. Notes on the unison line with consistent stems are unison. For exercises with splits, only play one split part (along with unisons). Please prepare the following exercises at the following tempo markings:

- Stick Control – 120 bpm
- Clave – 120 bpm
- Traditional m. 5-23 – 120 bpm

*Video auditions: If you own or can obtain a pair of cymbals, please perform with them. If not, please clap the exercises while marking time. Record the video in the order listed above at the indicated tempos.*

# Northwestern University Marching Band 2025

## Drumline

### Auditioner's Information Sheet

*Video auditions: Please email this document with your video link.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Hometown: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

List order of instrument preference here:

#### **Drumline Rehearsal Schedule:**

**M/W/F 4:00-6:00, T/Th 7:00-9:00**

List any conflicts (even potential) you may have:

Previous Musical Experience:

Marching Band # of years: \_\_\_\_\_

Concert Band # of years: \_\_\_\_\_

Orchestra # of years: \_\_\_\_\_

Jazz Band # of years: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_



# 8's

SnareLine

TenorLine

BassLine

This musical score is for a piece titled '8's'. It consists of three staves: SnareLine, TenorLine, and BassLine. The time signature is 4/4. The SnareLine staff has two sub-staves, each with a drum icon and the notation 'R ...' and 'L ...' respectively. The TenorLine staff also has two sub-staves, each with a drum icon and the notation 'R ...' and 'L ...' respectively. The BassLine staff has two sub-staves, each with a drum icon and the notation 'R ...' and 'L ...' respectively. The notation for all staves is a continuous stream of eighth notes, creating a steady 8th-note pulse.

Snare

Tenors

BassDr

This musical score is for a piece titled '8's'. It consists of three staves: Snare, Tenors, and BassDr. The time signature is 4/4. The Snare staff has two sub-staves, each with a drum icon and the notation 'R ...' and 'L ...' respectively. The Tenors staff also has two sub-staves, each with a drum icon and the notation 'R ...' and 'L ...' respectively. The BassDr staff has two sub-staves, each with a drum icon and the notation 'R ...' and 'L ...' respectively. The notation for all staves is a continuous stream of eighth notes, creating a steady 8th-note pulse. The score ends with a double bar line and a final note on each staff.



# Bucks

Snare

Tenors

BassDr

This drum score is for a piece titled "Bucks". It is written for three parts: Snare, Tenors, and BassDrum. The score is organized into four measures, each containing two staves. The Snare part uses a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Tenors part uses two staves, both with treble clefs and a key signature of one sharp. The BassDrum part uses two staves, both with bass clefs and a key signature of one sharp. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The Snare part has a consistent pattern of eighth notes with accents. The Tenors part has a pattern of eighth notes with accents. The BassDrum part has a pattern of eighth notes with accents. The score ends with a double bar line and a final measure. The tempo is marked as 120.

R ... L ... R ... L ... r

R ... L ... R ... L ... r

R ... L ... R ... L ... R ... I I r

120

# Double/Triple Beat

4

R... L... R...

5

L... R... L...

9

R... L... R...

13

L... R... L... R

# NU 16th Note Timing

4/4

4

7

11

19

This musical exercise is written for a single staff in 4/4 time. It consists of five measures, each containing a sequence of 16th notes. The notes are grouped in pairs, with 'r' (right) and 'l' (left) indicating the hand used for each note. The exercise is divided into five measures, with measure numbers 4, 7, 11, and 19 indicated at the start of each measure. The notation includes various rhythmic values, including eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes, as well as rests. The exercise concludes with a double bar line.

# Gallop

1

The image displays three systems of musical notation for a drum solo titled "Gallop". Each system consists of three staves: Snare, Tenors, and BassDrum. The notation is written in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first system is marked with a "1" above the Snare staff. The second system continues the pattern. The third system concludes the piece with a double bar line. The Snare part features a continuous eighth-note pattern. The Tenors part features a continuous eighth-note pattern. The BassDrum part features a continuous eighth-note pattern. The notation is written in a standard musical notation style, with notes and rests clearly visible on the staves.

### Triplet Diddle

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

# Taps/Flams

Snare

Tenors

BassDr

Snare

Tenors

BassDr

# Flams/Flam-Taps

Snare

Tenors

BassDr

Snare

Tenors

BassDr

# Stick Control

Snare Drum

Tenor Drums

Bass Drums

Cymbals

This system contains the first three measures of the 'Stick Control' drum solo. It features four staves: Snare Drum, Tenor Drums, Bass Drums, and Cymbals. The Snare and Tenor parts have rhythmic patterns with 'R' (right) and 'L' (left) stick indicators. The Bass Drum part has a consistent eighth-note pattern. The Cymbal part includes sizzle and HH (hi-hat) sounds.

4

S.D.

T.D.

B.D.

Cym.

This system contains measures 4 through 6. The notation continues for all four drum parts. The Cymbal part includes a 'Sizzle' effect in measure 5 and 'HH' (hi-hat) in measure 6.

7

S.D.

T.D.

B.D.

Cym.

Tap Choke

Pea Soup

This system contains measures 7 through 9. The notation continues for all four drum parts. The Cymbal part includes a 'Sizzle' effect in measure 7 and 'HH' (hi-hat) in measure 8. The final measure (9) includes the 'Tap Choke' and 'Pea Soup' effects, which are indicated by specific rhythmic notations and symbols like a circle with a cross and a plus sign.

10

S.D.

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

T.D.

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

B.D.

Cym.

Tap Choke

Pea Soup



# Clave

Hi-Hat

Pea Soup

This block contains the first five measures of a musical score. The notation is on a single staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: Measure 1: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 2: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 3: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 4: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 5: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Above the staff, the text 'Hi-Hat' is written above the first measure, and 'Pea Soup' is written above the third measure. There are also some symbols above the staff: a circle with a plus sign above the first measure, and a circle with a plus sign above the third measure.

6

Sizzle

Crash-Choke

This block contains measures 6 through 10 of the musical score. The notation is on a single staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: Measure 6: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 7: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 8: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 9: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 10: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Above the staff, the text 'Sizzle' is written above the seventh measure, and 'Crash-Choke' is written above the tenth measure. There are also some symbols above the staff: a circle with a plus sign above the sixth measure, a circle with a plus sign above the seventh measure, a circle with a plus sign above the eighth measure, a circle with a plus sign above the ninth measure, and a circle with a plus sign above the tenth measure.

11

Crash

Tap

Tap-Choke

This block contains measures 11 through 18 of the musical score. The notation is on a single staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: Measure 11: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 12: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 13: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 14: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 15: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 16: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 17: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 18: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Above the staff, the text 'Crash' is written above the twelfth measure, 'Tap' is written above the thirteenth measure, 'Tap-Choke' is written above the fourteenth measure, and 'Crash-Choke' is written above the fifteenth measure. There are also some symbols above the staff: a triangle above the twelfth measure, a triangle above the thirteenth measure, a triangle above the fourteenth measure, and a triangle above the fifteenth measure.

19

This block contains measures 19 through 23 of the musical score. The notation is on a single staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: Measure 19: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 20: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 21: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 22: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Measure 23: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Above the staff, there are some symbols: a circle with a plus sign above the nineteenth measure, a circle with a plus sign above the twentieth measure, a circle with a plus sign above the twenty-first measure, and a circle with a plus sign above the twenty-second measure.

24

This block contains measure 24 of the musical score. The notation is on a single staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The notes are: Measure 24: F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5. Above the staff, there is a triangle symbol above the first measure.

# Traditional

## 2015 NU Drumline

Arr. Matt Penland

♩ = 120

Solo

2

3

4 be creative...

5 Unison

SnareLine

TenorLine

BassLine

Cymbal Line

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

6

7

8 neighbor's drum

A

10 stick click

Snare

Tenors

BassDr

Cym.L

*f*

*mf*

*p*

*f*

*mf*

*mf*

hi-hat

11 press-buzz cross-stick

12 6 rim

13

14

15

Snare

Tenors

BassDr

Cym.L

*f*

*f*

*f*

crash-choke

16 RH visual **B** 18 19 20

Snare

Tenors

BassDr

Cym.L

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

21 22 "Go Cats Go!" **C** 24 25

Snare

Tenors

BassDr

Cym.L

*f p*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*mf*

*mf*

26 **D** 28 29 30 both sticks in RH

Snare

Tenors

BassDr

Cym.L

*f*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

sizzle/suck