



# Residential Summer Music Academy in Door County, Wisconsin 2024 Application Instructions - Percussion

Application materials are available online at: [BirchCreek.org/Academy](http://BirchCreek.org/Academy)

3821 County Rd E  
PO Box 230  
Egg Harbor, WI 54209  
Phone: (920) 868-3763  
Email: [Registrar@BirchCreek.org](mailto:Registrar@BirchCreek.org)  
[BIRCHCREEK.ORG](http://BIRCHCREEK.ORG)

## PERCUSSION, STEEL PAN & WORLD MUSIC

June 16 - 29



Program Director: **Dan Moore**  
University of Iowa

### CONTENTS

About the Percussion, Steel Pan & World Music Session .....1  
Admission Procedure.....2  
Placement Recording .....2  
Scholarships and Policies .....3  
Faculty .....4

Located on the beautiful Door County, Wisconsin peninsula, **The Birch Creek Percussion, Steel Pan & World Music: Jazz, Pop & World Percussion Session** features a unique focus on jazz mallets, popular and commercial music, and world percussion offering students a percussion experience like no other summer music program.

Students will become part of an immersive learning community that centers on individual growth in both small and large group settings. Each day, you will work side by side with accomplished, energetic and caring percussion performers and teachers, then share the stage with them for a series of one-of-a-kind musical performances.

Do you want to learn to improvise? Do you want to get your groove on? Do you want to learn about music of the world? Do you want to be part of the creative process that brings new music to life? Then Birch Creek is the place for you this summer!

#### Areas of Study

The Percussion, Steel Pan & World Music Session consists of three overlapping components in which all students participate:

- **The Birch Creek Percussion Ensemble** focuses primarily on popular, commercial, and improvised music for large and small groups. This ensemble performs custom compositions and arrangements written by our creative staff. The music ranges from music for film and television to classic pop music, jazz, and new directions in commercial music.
- **The Birch Creek Steel Band** provides an exciting opportunity to learn to play the national instrument of Trinidad and Tobago. You will learn steel pan performance techniques and history. If you already play steel pan, you can advance your improvisation skills and even learn to compose or arrange music for steel pans.
- **The Birch Creek World Percussion Ensemble** explores the musical styles of Brazil, Cuba the Middle East and others. Experience the excitement of learning and performing traditional world music presented in their traditional forms, as well as being part of the creation of new compositions inspired by music of the world.



## ADMISSION PROCEDURE

Completed applications will be reviewed for acceptance on a rolling basis beginning on FEBRUARY 1.

Applications will continue to be reviewed throughout the spring and early summer. Scholarships will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Apply early as positions fill quickly. If the Session is filled, you will be placed on a waiting list as cancellations do occur.

### ADMISSION APPLICATION — Go to BirchCreek.org/Academy

1. SUBMIT YOUR **ONLINE ADMISSION APPLICATION WITH \$100 DEPOSIT** (Refunded if not accepted to the program.)
2. HAVE YOUR TEACHER COMPLETE OUR ONLINE **TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM** (Returning students are exempt.)
3. SUBMIT YOUR **PLACEMENT RECORDING**

**Percussion, Steel Pan & World Music: Jazz, Pop & World Percussion applicants** must submit placement video recordings within the Admission Application OR after you are accepted. Links can be emailed to Registrar@BirchCreek.org (be sure to include your name and session).

- Videos are for ensemble placement only and not for acceptance into Birch Creek

#### **Snare Drum**

Required: One concert snare drum solo or etude. All-state or all-region audition music is acceptable. An etude from *Portraits in Rhythm* by Anthony Cirone or a similar collection is a good choice.

#### **\*Keyboard Percussion**

Required: One two-mallet solo or etude performed on marimba, xylophone, or vibraphone. You may use all-state or all-region audition music or an etude from any standard method book.

Optional, but recommended: One four-mallet marimba or vibraphone solo of your choice.

#### **\*Steel Pan**

Optional: A solo, etude or an excerpt from a steel band composition on your steel pan instrument of choice. A video of you performing with a full steel band is also acceptable.

**\*NOTE:** If you are more comfortable on steel pan than on mallet percussion, you may send a video of pan only. If you have some experience with both mallets and pan, please send videos of both.

#### **Other Talents**

Optional: Students are encouraged to include video performances of other percussion interests such as drumset, jazz vibes/marimba, hand drums, piano, or other instruments. Do you sing, tap dance, play guitar, or compose your own music? If so, share it with us.

### TIPS FOR RECORDING YOUR VIDEOS

1. **SELECT YOUR MUSIC** — Choose music you enjoy, that is well within your ability, and you know you can play well.
2. **RECORD YOUR VIDEO** — Watch and listen to your recording. Make sure it sounds and looks good, and the audio and video are in sync. Recordings can be of a live performance or just done in a practice room. Use a simple background such as a curtain or plain wall. You might consider recording on two or three different days, then listen to all the recordings and submit the best one.
3. **DON'T STRESS OUT** — Don't worry if your video isn't perfect. We only want to see generally where you are on your musical journey, and yes, we realize you will be even better by the time Birch Creek rolls around.
4. **SUBMIT YOUR VIDEO** — Post videos to YouTube and copy/paste the links within your Admission Application OR email the links to Registrar@BirchCreek.org.

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION** — Go to [BirchCreek.org/Academy](https://BirchCreek.org/Academy)

1. SUBMIT YOUR **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**
2. **AUDITION RECORDING** Your part placement recordings will be used. You do not need to submit another video. Your Scholarship Application will not be reviewed until your part placement recordings are received.

**REFUND POLICY**

All requests to cancel enrollment must be made in writing. If cancellation is received 30 days prior to the start of the session, all money except the \$100 deposit will be refunded. Any cancellation made fewer than 30 days prior to the session will result in forfeiture of all money paid. If a student leaves during a session because of an illness or documented family emergency, a prorated refund will be given. If a student leaves for other reasons, the balance will not be refunded.

**NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

It is Birch Creek's policy to maintain a safe and supportive learning and living environment that is free from harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying and free from discrimination based on race, color, creed, ethnicity, national origin, citizenship/immigration status, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability.

**SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS**

Obtain a scholarship application from our website, [BirchCreek.org/Academy](https://BirchCreek.org/Academy). Student application requirements must be met before a scholarship application is considered.

**PLACEMENT AUDITIONS**

Placement auditions will be held at the beginning of each session. These auditions determine placement in large and small groups.

**CAMP DECORUM**

Birch Creek reserves the right to refuse registrations from participants who have a history of disruptive behavior. Any student with behavior that is contrary to the reputation of Birch Creek and/or disrupts the camp living and learning experience for others will be dismissed from the program without refund.

**2024 PERCUSSION, STEEL PAN & WORLD MUSIC FACULTY** — subject to change**Program and Faculty Ensemble Director: Dan Moore**, Iowa City, IA

Dan Moore is an internationally recognized vibes/marimba artist, percussion educator, composer, and music producer. Dr. Moore is Professor of Music and directs the award winning percussion program at the University of Iowa School of Music. As a recording artist, he has appeared on over 40 studio and live albums.

**Steel Band Director: Scott McConnell**, Chicago, IL

Scott McConnell is the director of steel orchestras for the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra and a lecturer of music at Lewis University where he teaches percussion and directs the Rock Ensemble. An advocate for steelpan, Scott co-founded Pastiche Steel Ensemble, a professional ensemble that focuses on sharing the power and versatility of the steelpan through new collaborations and mediums.

**World Percussion Ensemble Director: Anthony Di Sanza**, Madison, WI

Anthony Di Sanza is a sought-after artist and teacher of contemporary, classical and world percussion, and is Professor of Music at the highly respected University of Wisconsin-Madison. He performs and teaches in a variety of traditional world music idioms including Brazil, Cuba, and the Middle East.

**Special Guest Artist for Summer 2024: Victor Provost**

Renowned steelpan virtuoso Victor Provost, hailing from St. John, Virgin Islands, is set to be the Special Guest Artist for Summer 2024. With a dazzling improvisational style, he's recognized globally for seamlessly blending Bebop, contemporary flair, and Caribbean roots. A six-time "Jazz Percussionist of the Year" awardee by The Washington D.C. City Paper, Provost's latest album, "Bright Eyes," debuted impressively on iTunes. Having collaborated with jazz luminaries like Wynton Marsalis and Paquito D'Rivera, he's a rarity in the jazz ecosystem, as noted by Downbeat Magazine. Beyond performing, Provost serves as an Adjunct Professor at George Mason University, conducts masterclasses across the U.S. and the Caribbean, and acts as an Arts Ambassador to St. John, earning Special Congressional Recognition in 2014.

**Current and Previous Birch Creek Faculty and Guest Performers (2016-present)**

**Taylor Ambrosio-Wood**, Composer for Video Games, TV & Film, Seattle, WA

**Ånders Åstrand**, Swedish Vibraphone Artist

**Christine Augspurger**, Freelance Musician, Austin, TX

**Yuko Asada**, Steel Pan Educator, Musical Instrument Technician, Northern Illinois University

**Mat Britain**, Freelance Musician, Director of Vanderbilt University Steel Band

**Michael J. Burritt**, Director of Percussion, Eastman School of Music

**Alejandro Céspedes**, Freelance Musician, Toronto Canada, Oregon Percussion Duo

**Michelle Colton**, Freelance Musician, Toronto Canada, Oregon Percussion Duo

**Orlando Cotto**, Freelance Musician, Baltimore, MD

**Michal Brauhn Damm**, Freelance Musician, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

**Gene Koshinski**, Director of Percussion, University of Delaware

**Scott McConnell**, Director of Chicago Youth Symphony Steel Orchestras

**Wesley Morgan**, Artist/Performer of Bass, Recording Engineer, Chicago, IL

**Peter Naughton**, Director of Percussion, University of Wisconsin-Platteville

**Brian Nozny**, Director of Percussion, University of South Alabama

**Vicki Peterson Jenks**, Director of Percussion, Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestra

**Dane Richeson**, Professor of Music, Lawrence University Conservatory of Music

**Emily Roane**, Freelance Musician, Steve Weiss Music, Philadelphia, PA

**Brad Stirtz**, Instructor of Jazz, North Central College, Naperville, IL

**Liam Teague**, Professor of Music and Head of Steelpan Studies, Northern Illinois University

**Rodrigo Villanueva**, Professor of Jazz Studies, Drumset Artist, Northern Illinois University