



Residential Summer Music Academy in Door County, WI

2017 Application Instructions - Percussion

Applications materials are available online at our website: birchcreek.org/academy

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PERCUSSION & STEEL BAND

June 18 - July 1



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

The **Percussion & Steel Band Program** offers a comprehensive summer education experience for the young adult percussionist/drummer. Through firsthand experience in many performances, small-group instruction, and master classes, the Percussion & Steel Band Program provides an incredible study of all the instruments and styles expected of today's percussionist who is planning on working at the college level and beyond. Birch Creek provides an environment not found on larger, lecture-style campuses: our small size and very busy concert schedule challenges each student, whatever his or her level, to learn and perform at a pace found on the professional music scene – with personal guidance from professional faculty members each step of the way. Students study in classes, master classes, optional private lessons, and perform in concert percussion and mallet ensembles, steel bands, world drumming ensembles from Brazil, Cuba, and Africa, and a handful of theater pieces, à la Blue Man Group and Stomp.



Areas of Study

- **Concert Percussion** – concert/rudimental snare drum technique and reading skills, timpani, and accessory instruments (tambourine, triangle, cymbals, etc.)
- **Mallet Percussion** – two/four-mallet keyboard technique and reading skills, concert marimba, jazz vibraphone/improvisation, ragtime xylophone
- **Drum Set** - Jazz, Rock, Afro-Cuban, Brazilian and Caribbean styles
- **Steel Band** – technique, history, and arranging
- **World Percussion** - Afro-Cuban (congas, bata, etc.), Brazilian (samba instruments, pandeiro), East Indian (tabla), African (Gahu dance and instruments)
- Music recording, composing and notation software
- Professional and college audition/performance strategies, time management workshops, sight-reading classes, and music business presentation

ADMISSION PROCEDURE

APPLICATION REVIEW BEGINS: FEBRUARY 1 – PERCUSSION & STEEL BAND

Applications will be accepted through spring and early summer; however, scholarships will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Apply early, as many instrument positions fill quickly. If an instrument position is filled, you will be placed on a waiting list – cancellations do occur.

APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED UNTIL ALL MATERIALS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

To ensure a completed application, please see the following items at birchcreek.org/academy:

ADMISSION APPLICATION

1. SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION ONLINE WITH \$100 DEPOSIT (refunded if not accepted to the program)

2. APPLICANT RECOMMENDATION FORM

- I have given the form to my instructor to return directly to Birch Creek either online or by mail.

Note: Applicant is responsible for verifying with their instructor that this form has been submitted.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. SUBMIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION ONLINE

2. SUBMIT SCHOLARSHIP AUDITION

- I have sent the link to registrar@birchcreek.org or included as an attachment to birchcreekauditions@sendtodropbox.com
- I will mail my recording.

At Birch Creek, we believe so strongly in the importance of music education that EVERY student automatically receives Play It Forward Program Support of \$2,785 toward their tuition of \$4,885.

We want to ensure that our tuition fees are affordable to most families – and that we are able to raise additional donations to help those for whom even our subsidized tuition is a challenge.

Tuition: \$4,885

Play It Forward Program Support (available to all students): \$2,785

Student/family's cost: **\$2,100**

Additional Scholarship Assistance

For some families, even this generous Play It Forward Program Support might not be enough. Thus, Birch Creek has additional assistance available to our students based on financial need, artistic merit, and instruments needed in each session. First, the initial student application requirements must be met before a Scholarship Application can be considered. Once accepted, a student may then submit a Scholarship Application (available at birchcreek.org/academy) Additional scholarship assistance is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

A \$100 application fee is due at the time of application. If a student is accepted, this \$100 application fee is applied to the student's account as a credit. If a student is not accepted, the \$100 application fee is refunded.

A deposit of \$500 is due within 30 days of acceptance.

The balance is due 30 days before the start of your session.

Percussion & Steel Band session applicants (new and returning) need only submit a VIDEO AUDITION RECORDING if applying for a scholarship. See below for video requirements.

Snare Drum

- one snare drum solo (concert or rudimental) at or above the level of *Portraits in Rhythm* (Etudes 1-6) by Anthony Cirone or any of the *14 Modern Contest Solos* by John Pratt.
- optional, contrasting snare drum solo of your choice for placement in advanced ensembles.

Keyboard Percussion (Two-Mallet and/or Four-Mallet)

- one two-mallet solo at or above the level of the etudes found in the *Morris Goldenberg Modern School for Xylophone* method (pages 62-93).
- optional four-mallet solo performance of your choice for placement in advanced ensembles.

Drum Set

- demonstration of rock/funk and swing styles with 4-measure trades.
- optional demonstration of any “world” beats for placement in advanced ensembles.

Students are encouraged to add recordings of any other percussion interests you have developed such as hand drums, steel pan, piano, etc.

NOTE: All applicants will audition on their first day at Birch Creek for ensemble and class placements. The audition procedure will have three components; snare drum, keyboard and drumset, as well as opportunities to demonstrate sight-reading skills on snare drum and keyboard. **All students will need to prepare the above materials for their on-campus placement audition.**

Recording Guidelines

1. SELECT YOUR MUSIC – Select the music according to the repertoire requirements above for your session. Choose repertoire that is well within your grasp and that you know you can play well. Make sure the musical focus is directly on you.

2. RECORD YOUR AUDITION – Watch and listen to your recording. Keep the recording process simple. If you are not satisfied, you might consider recording two or three different days; then listen to all the recordings, and submit the best one.

3. SUBMIT YOUR AUDITION RECORDING

UPLOAD OPTION

If you have your audition posted online (YouTube, Soundcloud, etc.) you may send a link to registrar@birchcreek.org. Please include your name, session, and instrument within the email.

- You can email your audition files as an attachment to birchcreekauditions@sendtodropbox.com
Please include your name, session, and instrument in the subject of the email.

POSTAL MAIL OPTION Clearly label the recording and its case:

- 2017 BC Audition • Your Name, Instrument and Contents
- Percussion Session • Make sure to keep a copy for yourself incase item is lost or damaged!

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.

NONDISCRIMINATION 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. **Student application requirements must be met before his or her scholarship application is considered.**

PLACEMENT AUDITIONS will be held at the beginning of each session. These auditions determine placement in large and small groups. Audition requirements will be mailed with acceptance package.

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.

All faculty members maintain private teaching studios and are performing artists.

Dan Moore, Program Director, Iowa City, IA – Professor of Music and Head of Percussion Department, University of Iowa, Iowa City.

Liam Teague, Steelpan Program Director and Artist-in-Residence, DeKalb, IL – Head of Steelpan Studies, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb. International performing artist.

Yuko Asada, Assistant Steel Pan Program Director, DeKalb, IL – Founding Member of Pastiche Steel Band, Pan Builder/Tuner, and Director of NCUSD 203 Steelbands, Naperville, IL.

Clarice Castillo, World Percussion Faculty and Small Ensembles Director, DeKalb, IL – Freelance Percussionist, Chicago, IL.

Robert Chappell, Faculty Ensemble Director, DeKalb, IL, and Costa Rica – Former Head of Percussion Studies, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb; Presidential Teaching Scholar.

Frank Check, Drum Set and Assistant Steelband Director, Wheaton, IL – Steel Band Director and Percussion Faculty, Waubensee Community College, IL; Founding Member of Pastiche Steel Band.

Orlando Cotto, World Percussion and Keyboard, Catonsville, MD – Faculty member, University of Delaware; International performing artist.

Scott McConnell, Assistant Steelpan Director, Aurora, IL – Instructor, Hix Bros. Music

Mike Mixtacki, World Percussion, DeKalb, IL – Associate Percussion Faculty, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb.

Vicki Peterson Jenks, Large Ensembles Director, Wild Rose, WI – Percussion Ensemble Director, Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras; Clinician.

Dane Richeson, World Percussion, Appleton, WI – Professor of Music and Director of Percussion Studies, Lawrence University Conservatory of Music, Appleton.

Ben Runkel, Small Ensembles Director and Keyboard, Elkhart, IN – Percussion specialist, Concord Community Schools.

Brad Stirtz, Jazz Mallets, Naperville, IL – Jazz faculty member, North Central College, Naperville; Director of Music, Peace Lutheran Church.

Jeff Stitely, Drum Set, Chicago, IL – Owner, Stitely Entertainment, performer and private instructor, Chicago area.

Rodrigo Villanueva, Drum Set, Janesville, WI – Associate Professor of Jazz Studies, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb.

Ben Wahlund, Director of Percussion at College of Dupage in Glen Ellyn IL; Music Education Faculty at North Central College, Naperville, IL; Percussion specialist at Naperville Schools, Naperville. Owner of Black Dog Music Studio.

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