

Eureka High School Marching Band Drum Major Auditions
Thursday, January 19, 3:30 p.m., EHS Band Room

There is one (1) open position for Drum Major beginning in 2012. Candidates must be at least a sophomore for the 2012 school year, and have at least one season of experience in a high school marching band. Candidates will be evaluated on a 100 point system, which is outlined below:

1) Essay (5 points)

Each candidate is required to write a short essay (minimum 1.5 pages) that explains why they are trying out for Drum Major, and goals that they have for themselves as a leader, and for the band as a whole. Points are awarded for honesty, forethought, and motivation. This essay should be turned in to the Band Director before the scheduled interview, and must be typed (no larger than 12 point, double spaced).

2) Personal Interview (15 points)

An Interview must be scheduled with the Band Director so it can take place BEFORE the day of the audition. Candidates will be asked questions regarding their motivation, leadership skills, and perceptions on being a Drum Major. *The determination of your leadership abilities and potential will weigh heavily in this area.*

3) Conducting (Total: 80 points)**

The Conducting Audition will be judged as follows:

- a) **Conducting (80 points total: sub-captions of 20 points each for:**
 - i. **clarity of pattern, cues, and entrances/releases**
 - ii. **ability to stay on beat at different speeds**
 - iii. **expressivity (visual interpretation of the music)**
 - iv. **hand and arm technique/posture**

Each candidate should download the mp3 of the audition music from the band website (applicants will also be given a score if one is available) to prepare, and everyone will conduct together as a group during the audition. There will also be a segment during the audition where the group will be asked to conduct a 4 pattern (both marcato and legato styles) at different tempos, as played by a metronome (Dr. Beat).

*** Candidates who demonstrate a thorough preparation of this material will undoubtedly score higher than those who do not. It is strongly suggested that you consider working with a current or former Drum Major to enhance your skills.*

All candidates will receive a total score, and can view their number score (but no one else's) after the audition winner has been posted and confirmed. Candidates will not be discriminated against due to age, sex, size, height, or instrument that they play. Results will be posted on the front door of the EHS Band Room on Friday, January 20, at 7:45 a.m. The audition winner automatically earns the "right of first refusal"; if, for any reason, the candidate who is selected does not wish to serve, he/she must let the Band Director know in writing before the end of 4th hour on Friday, January 20, and the candidate with the next highest score will be chosen to fill the position. *If, in the opinion of Mr. Stalter and Ms. Yonker, there are not any candidates in the audition pool who successfully demonstrate the required abilities, then there will be a second audition held at a later date.*

Once chosen as a Drum Major, you are expected to serve in that position for the remainder of your high school career unless, in the Band Director's judgment, you are unable to effectively fulfill your role by demonstrating behavior or attitude that is contrary to the responsibilities that are required of a Drum Major, in which case you can/will be reassigned to your instrument or in a different role as needed.

*****IMPORTANT:** All 2012 Drum Majors are **required** to attend the Music For All "Summer Symposium" Drum Major Academy, held from June 25 – 30 at Ball State University in Muncie, IN. *If you are not prepared to meet all of the commitments above, you should not audition.*

Please be advised that the '11-'12 Drum Majors will be allowed to attend the Audition. All scoring, judging, and decisions regarding the selection of new Drum Majors are the sole responsibility of Mr. Stalter and Ms. Yonker, and are absolutely final. Good Luck to all who audition!!