WTMB Drumline Prospective Students,

Thank you for your interest in joining the Western Thunder Marching Band! The Western Thunder Drumline is comprised of some of the finest young marching percussion performers in the State of Wyoming and the region, and auditions are becoming increasingly competitive each year. It is important to understand that being part of such an organization requires a great amount of time and dedication. The drumline holds two sectionals every week during the marching season, while the wind sections are only required to hold one sectional per week.

In addition to being a part of the full marching band, the drumline is often featured as a separate entity. Since the section is such a focal point of the WTMB, it is important that we field the absolute best drumline we can. We have a maximum of 30 open positions on the drumline (this number excludes the four section leaders which are already a part of the section). We typically march the following numbers for each instrument:

- 11 Snares
- 5 Tenor Drums
- 7 Bass Drums
- 11 Cymbals
- **Total: 34 spots**

It is important to note that all vets will need to audition for the drumline as well, and are eligible to be cut if audition requirements are not satisfactory. As stated above, we will march the BEST drumline possible, based on the audition results. As of now, I do not anticipate making any cuts based on numbers for the 2016 season, though this may change depending on the number of people that show up to day 1 of the preseason camp. Your audition must be judged satisfactory to become a member of the line.

Auditions for the drumline will be held on **Saturday, August 20** in room 1016 of the Buchanan Center for the Performing Arts (the instrumental rehearsal room). There are no exceptions for holding auditions at a later date for someone who cannot make this date. You MUST audition on this date and be available for band camp in order to be considered for a position. Refer to the preseason camp schedule on our website for more information regarding your schedule for that day, including move-in times if you live in the dorms. In order to move in early, you must let me know by **Friday, August 5** so I can contact Residence Life. You can do this by filling out an intent form here: [http://www.uwyo.edu/marchingband/join.html](http://www.uwyo.edu/marchingband/join.html) or emailing me directly.

The audition requirements can be found below. **Please read them carefully.** The audition materials are available for download at: [http://www.uwyo.edu/marchingband/drumline_information.html](http://www.uwyo.edu/marchingband/drumline_information.html)

We will provide a drumline book for you after auditions have been completed. For those that are already registered, I am also including it in OneDrive and the “Files” section in Canvas. This book is required to be with you at all rehearsals and sectionals during the marching season. You are welcome to go high-tech and use a tablet, but realize you will be responsible for keeping it charged and purchasing your own appropriate weatherproof case. You should also make sure it is readable in direct sunlight.

Again, thank you for your interest in joining us! I am looking forward to meeting you all on August 20. GO POKES!

Sincerely,

Dr. Joseph Falvey
jfalvey1@uwyo.edu
Director, WTMB
Audition Process and Requirements

*Note to all auditioning: Memorization is not required, but preference will be given to those who do perform from memory, as long as the audition is satisfactory*

*It is suggested that you choose to audition on at least 2 instruments (i.e. snare and BD, Tenor and Snare, etc.). *

*All members not chosen for snare or tenor will have the option to audition for bass drums and/or cymbals.*

Snare Drum Audition Requirements
- 16th Stick Control
- Triplet Grid
- Downfield '95
- Wyoming Cadence 2016
*Any one of these in The Sequence may be chosen as part of the audition.

Pet the Kitty: C to the end
Tio Loco: m.m. 1-9
Yella' Stone: D to the end
-A short sight-reading piece will be chosen as well.

Tenor Drum Audition Requirements:
- 16th Stick Control
- Triplet Grid
- Come On Wyoming
- Wyoming Cadence 2016
*Any one of these in The Sequence may be chosen as part of the audition.

Pet the Kitty: C to the end
Tio Loco: m.m. 1-9
Yella' Stone: D to the end
-A short sight-reading piece will be chosen as well.

Bass Drum Auditions: Will be done in a group setting AFTER snare and tenor drum auditions. Students will be moved around the bass drum line to find the best combination.

- 16 On A Hand – Bass Splits
- 16th Note Grid
- Fight Wyoming Fight
- Wyoming Cadence 2016

Cymbal Auditions: Will also be done in a group setting AFTER the bass drum auditions. Students will put in and taken out of the line as we search for the best combination. In addition, many of the sequence numbers may be played with the full ensemble.

- 16th Note Grid
-Demonstrate different techniques (i.e. tap, scrape, sizzle, etc.). Refer to the following YouTube videos for further information: Cymbal Techniques 101.
-The Sequence: Portions to be played with full ensemble.