



# CEREMONIAL/COMMERCIAL PERCUSSION AUDITION

U.S. Army Ceremonial Band • May 19th-20th, 2025

Providing a musical backdrop for many of the nation's most notable events, The U.S. Army Ceremonial Band has a worldwide reputation for extraordinary musicianship. The musicians in this elite ensemble have been trained at some of the most prestigious conservatories and universities in the country. The Ceremonial Band is comprised of 72 musicians whose principal function is the performance of funerals in Arlington National Cemetery and various other high-visibility ceremonial events in the National Capital region.

Ceremonial duties are primarily performed outdoors in ceremonial marching formations. The typical work schedule varies from day to day, but mainly consists of daytime work hours with an occasional night or weekend. Performances, in addition to those in Arlington National Cemetery, include White House and Pentagon arrival ceremonies, wreath laying ceremonies given in honor of visiting Heads of State and other dignitaries, and monthly military retirement ceremonies.

In addition to their ceremonial duties, U.S. Army Ceremonial Band percussionists also frequently perform with the U.S. Army Concert Band, the U.S. Army Blues, and other elements within the U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own."

## Audition Information

- All candidates have the choice of playing a live or recorded preliminary audition.
- Candidates that do not advance from a recording may still attend the live preliminary audition on May 19th-20th, 2025.
- For civilian candidates that advance from a recording (into the semi-finals), the U.S. Army will cover travel expenses (pending enlistment qualification and funding approval).
- The semi-final round, and any subsequent rounds, will take place on May 19th-20th, 2025.

<b>Deadline to Submit Recorded Preliminary Audition</b>	March 24th, 2025
<b>Deadline to Apply for Live Preliminary Audition</b>	May 5th, 2025
<b>Live Auditions</b>	May 19th-20th, 2025

- All applicants must meet basic enlistment standards for The U.S. Army including:
  - Age 17-34 at the time of the audition
  - Currently hold U.S. Citizenship
  - Meet height/weight standards
  - Meet medical, moral, and physical requirements. If you have any preexisting medical conditions, recent surgeries, or criminal history, please consult with your local Army Recruiter prior to applying to confirm enlistment eligibility.

## To Apply For The Vacancy Please Submit The Following:

- One-page résumé (PDF only), including your current email, home address, phone number, and birth date.
- Current military applicants must also include their Enlisted Records Brief or equivalent, Commander's Letter of Intent to Release, and last two NCOERs (if applicable).

## Contact an Audition Coordinator

Applicants with questions or concerns regarding the CEREMONIAL/COMMERCIAL PERCUSSION vacancy may contact Sergeant First Class Matthew Evans at [matthew.t.evans42.mil@army.mil](mailto:matthew.t.evans42.mil@army.mil).



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## LIVE AUDITION REPERTOIRE

Repertoire for all live rounds of the audition will be taken from the following list. Please note all candidates must prepare all of the audition repertoire. There may be sight reading in all rounds of the audition. A complete packet of excerpts will be made available to those who contact the Assistant Auditions Coordinator, Sergeant First Class Matthew Evans (matthew.t.evans42.mil@army.mil) before the application deadline of May 5th, 2025. An additional packet of quickly-prepared materials will be sent to the candidate shortly before the audition. This list is subject to change.

### RUDIMENTAL SNARE

*Must be performed with traditional grip; candidates should be prepared to play any of the 40 Standard Rudiments in Open-Closed-Open format*

- ① PRATT Buttermilk and Crackers, no repeats
- ② PRATT Tribute to Dr. Berger
- ③ BRUCE & EMMETT Downfall of Paris, no repeat
- ④ BLUME SMA Drum Battle 2022

### CONCERT SNARE

*Candidates may be asked to perform a closed roll at various dynamics*

- ⑤ DELÉCLUSE 12 Studies for Snare Drum, No. 6
- ⑥ CIRONE Portraits in Rhythm, No. 3

### CYMBALS

*Candidate may be asked to perform crashes at various dynamics*

- ⑦ TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 4, Mvt. 4, 16 m. after ④ to the end
- ⑧ SOROKA Cymbal Etude No. 1

### SECTION PLAYING

*Please prepare all three parts (snare/cymbals/bass drum); to be performed with musicians from the U.S. Army Ceremonial Band percussion section*

- ⑨ FILLMORE Man of the Hour; no repeats
- ⑩ SOUSA Stars and Stripes Forever; no repeats
- ⑪ GRUBER The Army Song; play all repeats



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## LIVE AUDITION REPERTOIRE, cont.

### DRUMSET

- ⑫ RITTENHOUSE Freddie's Side of the Blues; on the "[Blues + You](#)" page of the U.S. Army Band Website
- ⑬ HENSON 33 West; on the "[Blues + You](#)" page of the U.S. Army Band website
- ⑭ ROBERTS Perfect Days; on the "[Blues + You](#)" page of the U.S. Army Band website
- ⑮ STRAYHORN Isfahan; performed with a small group; brushes required
- ⑯ MARSALIS 'Swinging' at the Haven; performed with a small group; candidates may be asked to solo over the form or trade fours/eights
- ⑰ NESTICO Ya Gotta Try; performed with big band
- ⑱ GARRETT Jackie and the Beanstalk; performed with big band; candidate will cue the melody at the end of the open drum solo
- ⑲ VALERA Expectativas; performed with big band; beginning to m. 70, cut to m. 87 and play until m. 118

### LATIN MUSIC ENSEMBLE

- ⑳ BAUZA Mambo Inn; performed with a small group; candidates will choose between congas and timbales and will perform a solo over a vamp