To: All Prospective Miami University Marching Band Front Ensemble Percussionists

First of all, thank you for your interest in joining the Marching Band at Miami University! We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you as part of the MUMB Percussion Section. This packet is designed to help answer any questions that you might have about the audition process, as well as to present the audition materials to you. The exercises used for the audition will cover fundamentals and will be easy to understand. The emphasis will be placed on quality of sound, timing, technique, and ensemble awareness. These exercises also represent the warm-ups that we will use throughout the season.

Within this document, you will find a number of basic exercises that we use within our ensemble. If you would like to prepare a solo or excerpt from a larger piece for the auditions (either 2 or 4-mallets), we encourage you to do so. Coming to auditions with the notes already learned allows us to focus on technique instruction and development right away. Aside from learning the provided exercises for auditions, you should be prepared to demonstrate a level of proficiency with:

- 2 mallet scales (major, minor, chromatic)
- 4 mallet dexterity (Stevens grip is encouraged, but not mandatory)

While proficiency in all areas of percussion is a plus, auditions will be held on marimba only. If you are not equally strong in all areas of percussion this will not count as a negative. However, as Front Ensemble members, versatility and competency across the board serve as positives. Four-mallet skills, though not entirely necessary, will also be taken into account for position placement. Also, aside from the typical percussion instruments used by most groups, we also incorporate the use of electronics extensively into our performances. Please let us know if you have any past experience with pit related electronics (including but not limited to Ableton Live Software, synth performance, and live sound production).

Instruments utilized within the MUMB Front Ensemble include:

- Keyboards: Marimba, Vibes, Xylophone, Bells
- Aux Percussion: Rack, Bass Drum, Gong
- Electronics: AKAI Synthesizer w/ Ableton Live Software, Yamaha DTX Trigger Pad

Due to the nature of the Front Ensemble’s role within the MUMB, individuals of various skill sets and strengths collaborate to make the section very successful. Those not strong with mallets will be given ample opportunities to increase their experience in this area while still contributing to the band’s overall production. Please do not hesitate to audition even if you have some difficulties with the music presented. Feel free to contact us with any questions that you have regarding the audition process.

Sincerely,
Scotty McEvoy
Front Ensemble Director
mcevoysg@muohio.edu
**Green Scales**

*C Major*

A Harmonic Minor

*Perform in all twelve keys*
Basic 4-Mallet Permutations

This exercise pattern should be played with all conceivable permutation patterns
i.e. 1234, 1324, 2341, 2413, 3412, etc...

Basic 4-Mallet Permutations