AUDITION DETAILS
All GTCYS auditions include three components: Solo, Scales, and Sight Reading. Students auditioning for Camerata, Concert Orchestra, Philharmonic, or Symphony must also prepare orchestral excerpts. Each audition takes up to 15 minutes.

Based on the primary audition requirements, percussionists will be asked to:
1) Demonstrate scales on marimba (bring your own mallets for any mallet pieces you have)
2) Demonstrate proficiency on the snare drum (bring your own snare sticks.)
3) Play a short solo piece on any percussion instrument provided (see list below)
4) Perform orchestral excerpts if auditioning for the applicable orchestras (see below)
5) Sight-read on snare drum, mallet instruments, and/or timpani

Percussion instruments provided: Snare drum, four timpani, cymbals, and marimba
Students should bring: Snare drum and bells to use in their warm-up
Students using timpani must be able to tune from a pitch from the marimba.

1. SOLO:
   • Prepare one short solo that demonstrates your best technical and expressive abilities. This can be drawn from solo repertoire for your instrument or music you are working on in your school instrumental music ensembles.
   • Choose your selection with guidance from your instrumental teacher.
   • Solos need not be memorized.
   • Bring one additional copy of your piece for the adjudicators’ reference.
   • In the interest of time, the judges may ask you to stop before you reach the end of your piece.

2. SCALES AND TECHNIQUE (MORE DETAILS ON FOLLOWING PAGES)
   • Scale memorization for the Sinfonia and Concertino level is preferred but not required.
   • Example music for Sinfonia and Concertino level scales is provided at www.gtcys.org/auditions/requirements
   • Scale memorization for all other levels is required.
   • Minor scales: any form is acceptable (natural, harmonic, or melodic).
   • See the next page for specific scale and technique requirements for each orchestra.
   • At the audition, students will play three scales from the following lists: students will choose one major or minor scale and the judges will choose another major or minor scale, and then students will play the chromatic scale.

3. SIGHT-READING
   • Sight-reading is the reading and performing of music that students have not seen before. Sight-reading examples will be selected by judges at the audition.
   • The sight-reading portion of the audition will begin with a simpler excerpt and may progress to excerpts with greater range, rhythmic complexity, and technical challenges.
   • Sight-reading skills are an important aspect of the audition and of general musicianship. Students can improve their skills by reading new material daily, such as from books of solos or etudes.

4. EXCERPTS (CAMERATA, CONCERT ORCHESTRA, PHILHARMONIC, SYMPHONY)
   • See the last pages of this guide for specific excerpts to prepare; be ready to perform all excerpts under the title that includes the orchestra(s) you are auditioning for.
   • Consult with your teacher and recordings of the excerpt (including videos on YouTube and other streaming services) to determine the correct style, tempo and phrasing.
   • Excerpts need not be memorized.
   • Bring the copy that you downloaded from the website to the audition.
PLACEMENT

- The primary criterion for placement is the student’s playing, including factors such as sound quality, pitch and rhythmic accuracy, intonation, technique, expression, scale knowledge, and sight-reading.
- Other factors such as age or instrumentation needs may be considered as well.
- All qualified students are offered placement in the appropriate GTCYS orchestra, space permitting.
- **Scholarships available.** GTCYS is committed to serving all qualified students regardless of financial constraints. Any student needing a scholarship is encouraged to complete an application at [www.gtcys.org/scholarships](http://www.gtcys.org/scholarships)
- Previous participation in GTCYS does not guarantee placement and all placements are final.
GTCYS PERCUSSION AUDITION SCALE AND TECHNIQUE REQUIREMENTS

Philharmonia East & West: Philharmonia is strings only (no woodwinds, brass, or percussion)

Sinfonia East & West: Students must have playing experience with both sharps and flats. This orchestra develops students’ ensemble playing and listening skills.

**Scales to be played on marimba:**
- All major scales up to three sharps and three flats: 1 octave
- Chromatic scale: 2 octaves
- All scales in quarter notes (quarter note = 92)

**Snare drum requirements:**
- Must be able to play quarter, eighth, and sixteenth note rhythms at p and f dynamic levels; quarter note = 96 in time signatures of 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4.

Concertino East & West: Students must have playing experience through three sharps and flats. This orchestra further develops students’ technical and ensemble skills.

**Scales to be played on marimba:**
- All major scales up to three sharps and three flats: 2 octaves
- Chromatic scale: 2 octaves
- All scales in quarter notes (quarter note = 100)

**Snare drum requirements:**
- Must be able to play quarter, eighth, sixteenth, and eighth triplet rhythms at p and f dynamic levels; quarter note = 104 in time signatures of 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, and 2/2.

**Timpani requirements:**
- Must be able to tune the timpani

Camerata: Students must have playing experience through four sharps and flats. This orchestra integrates the ongoing advancement of students’ technical and ensemble skills with the development of higher-level music reading skills.

**Scales to be played on marimba:**
- All major scales up to four sharps and four flats: 2 octaves
- e and d minor: 2 octaves
- Chromatic scale: 2 octaves
- All scales in quarter notes (quarter note = 108)

**Snare drum requirements:**
- Must be able to play quarter, eighth, sixteenth, eighth triplet and sixteenth note triplet rhythms at p, mp, mf, and f dynamic levels; quarter note = 112 in time signatures of 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 2/2, and 6/8.

**Timpani requirements:**
- Must be able to tune the timpani
Concert Orchestra: This ensemble develops students’ more advanced technical and rehearsal skills through advanced repertoire which includes original classical works. Students must have good sight-reading skills and be proficient in advanced key signatures.

**Scales to be played on marimba:**
- All major and minor scales up to four sharps and four flats: 2 octaves;
- Chromatic scales: 2 octaves
- All scales in eighth notes (quarter note = 60)

**Snare drum requirements:**
- Must be able to play quarter, eighth and sixteenth note, eighth triplet and sixteenth note triplet rhythms at p, mf, and f dynamic levels, with the beat =120, in time signatures of 3/4, 4/4, 2/2, and 6/8.

**Timpani requirements:**
- Must be able to tune the timpani A–D, A–E, G–C, and G–D from a marimba pitch (A=440).

Philharmonic: Music is from the standard professional repertoire. This orchestra develops individual musicianship and advanced ensemble skills. Students must have good sight-reading skills and be proficient in all major and minor keys.

**Scales to be played on marimba:**
- All major and minor scales up to four sharps and four flats: 2 octaves
- Chromatic scale: 2 octaves
- All scales in eighth notes (quarter note = 84)

**Snare drum requirements:**
- Must be able to play quarter, eighth and sixteenth note rhythms, quarter note triplet, eighth note triplet and sixteenth note triplet rhythms at pp, p, mp, mf, f, and ff dynamic levels with the beat=150, in time signatures of 3/4, 4/4, 2/2, 6/8. Rhythms found in the last 10 etudes of Intermediate Snare Drum Studies by Mitchell Peters are representative of this level.

**Timpani requirements:**
- Must be able to tune Perfect 4ths, Perfect 5ths, Major 2nds and 3rds and minor 2nds and 3rds from the A pitch fork (A=440).

Symphony: GTCYS’ flagship orchestra, which performs major symphonic repertoire at professional-style concerts. Students must have excellent sight-reading skills and be highly proficient in all major and minor keys.

**Scales to be played on marimba:**
- All major and minor scales: 2 octaves
- Chromatic scale: 2 octaves
- All scales in eighth notes (quarter note = 108)

**Snare drum requirements:**
- Must be able to play quarter, eighth and sixteenth note rhythms, quarter note triplet, eighth note triplet and sixteenth note triplet rhythms at pp, p, mp, mf, f, and ff dynamic levels with the beat=150, in time signatures of 3/4, 4/4, 2/2, 6/8. Rhythms found in the last 10 etudes of Intermediate Snare Drum Studies by Mitchell Peters are representative of this level.

**Timpani requirements:**
- Must be able to tune Perfect 4ths, Perfect 5ths Major 2nds and 3rds and minor 2nds and 3rds from the A pitch fork (A=440).
Balmages - On Top of the World  
mm. 63-75

Allegro vivo ($J=152$)

Tchaikovsky, arr. Müller  
Romeo and Juliet  
mm. 43-53

E, B, & F♯

Allegro giusto
MALLETS
Balmages - On Top of the World
mm. 16-22

Allegro vivo ($J=152$)

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SNARE DRUM
Balmages - On Top of the World
mm. 63-75

Allegro vivo ($J=152$)

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SNARE DRUM
Balmages - On Top of the World
mm. 90-91

Allegro vivo ($J=152$)
Tchaikovsky - Symphony No. 4
Mvt. I, mm. 92-103

Moderato con anima (✓ = In movimento di Valse)

Mvt. I, mm. 313-320

Moderato con anima (✓ = In movimento di Valse)
Ben sostenuto
Mvt. I, mm. 338-352

Allegro con anima

Mvt. IV, mm. 275-end

Allegro con fuoco
Cymbals
Tchaikovsky - Symphony No. 4
Mvt. IV, mm. 272-end

Becken
Allegro con fuoco

Snare Drum
Prokofiev - Lt. Kije Suite
Reh. 1 to Reh. 2
Bells
Mozart - The Magic Flute
Act I Finale

Allegro.