



**2022 Audition Packet**

**Drum Major**

Congratulations on taking the first step toward becoming a student leader in the new UWO Titan Thunder Marching Band! Candidates for Drum Major will complete the application form no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. Candidates will interview and audition for their position with Dr. Scheivert, Dr. Lethco, other TTMB staff (as available), and interested potential members. Drum Major candidates are encouraged to consider for a Section Leader position as well. Candidates not chosen for Drum Major will not need to reapply for Section Leader, though they will need to perform an audition piece during the applicable audition times.

The Drum Major for the Titan Thunder Marching Band will wear many hats, including the tall one! As chief student liaison and leader, the Drum Major is the link between the membership and staff and helps coordinate key components of the student experience, including preseason communication, welcome, and camp; social events and outreach; and the annual banquet. Musically, the Drum Major serves as the primary rehearsal and stands conductor and also develops highly visible mace routines for on-field performance. Commitment to positive morale and personal integrity is vital, as the Drum Major represents the program and membership both on and off the field. It is an extremely rewarding position that will no doubt be the highlight of one's collegiate career!

The Drum Major will meet regularly with the staff and Section Leaders during Spring 2022, maintain contact with student leaders and members throughout the summer, and arrive first for preseason camp on August 22. In-person attendance at the Smith-Walbridge Drum Major and Mace Clinics (July 10-17 or July 15-22) is mandatory, and costs are covered by the TTMB.

### **Information Session**

A [virtual information session](#) will be held on MS Teams on Tuesday, February 15, 2022, at 7:00pm. Attendance is recommended but not mandatory.

### **Audition Procedure**

Drum Major candidate auditions consist of four stages: (Times to be announced)

Stage 1 – Application process	Due: Tue. Mar. 1
Stage 2 – Interview with the band staff	Wed. Mar. 9
Stage 3 – Skills Assessment	Fri. Mar. 11
Stage 4 – Group interview with the band staff and potential members	Fri. Mar. 11

If the Drum Major applicant pool is greater than five candidates, the first two stages will serve as a preliminary round, and Stages 3 and 4 will be by invitation only.

## Application Process

All students interested in applying for the Drum Major position in the Titan Thunder Marching Band must complete the following steps:

- **Write an Introductory Letter [PDF]**, which will be provided to judges and interested students. Within the letter, please address these points:
  - Why do you want to be the Drum Major of the TTMB?
  - What is the role of TTMB Drum Major?
  - What quality(s) do you feel is/ are the most important for a Drum Major to have?
  - What quality about yourself sets you apart from other candidates?
  - What does servant leadership mean to you? Specifically, how will you apply your understanding of servant leadership to this position?
  - Describe any relevant musical, scholastic, or leadership positions you have held (high school and/or college).
  - If chosen, what are some goals you have for yourself while in the position?
  - Any other things you wish to add about yourself.
- **Design a Resume [PDF]** that details your accomplishments as a band member and as a leader (both in and out of band), work/employment experience, additional musical enrichment experiences, and anything else that demonstrates leadership and/or teaching experience
- **Contact References for Recommendations**, specifically three peers and two professional/academic contacts who have taught or supervised you during your high school or collegiate career. They can be a work supervisor, church official, high school teacher, former band director, etc. The more variation in recommender background, the better. (i.e. – band director and work supervisor) **NOTE: Please do not solicit letters from Drs. Lethco, Otto, Scheivert, or Shaw.**
- **Complete the [online application](#) and recommendation request form** PDF documents will be uploaded at this time. Individual links to the web-based recommendation process will be sent to your references automatically.
- **Final deadline** - Applications AND online recommendations completed by your references must be submitted no later than **Tuesday, March 1, 2022**. Paper documents will not be accepted.

## **Interview with Band Staff**

N118 Arts and Communications Bldg – 15-minute time slots on Wednesday, March 9  
Drum Major candidates should be prepared to discuss their qualifications, motivation for applying, and intentions/ideas for the group. The staff may follow-up on answers submitted in the application packet.

**(The remaining stages will be for invited candidates only, if the candidate pool is greater than five prospective Drum Majors. These sessions will not be open to the general public.)**

## **Skills Assessment**

**Conducting Assessment** – Location/Time (evening) TBD on Friday, March 11  
All candidates will conduct “Cold-Hearted.” Members of the Bolt Band and potential student leaders and members of the Titan Thunder Marching Band will serve as the performance ensemble. Conducting order will be determined by Dr. Scheivert on the day of the assessment. Candidates will be assessed on their Technique, Musicianship, and Professionalism. Candidates will then select two random short stands tunes to conduct from the Bolt Band FTSS packet. Note: A copy of the scores and sample evaluation rubric will be provided to candidates after the application period closes.

**Marching Demonstration and Whistle Commands** - Location/Time TBD on Friday, March 11, immediately following the Conducting Assessment  
Each Drum Major candidate will be asked to march (low-step/glide-step/roll-step) a prescribed and memorized drill sequence, which will be provided after the application period closes. Field markings will be applied to the floor surface, but practice and memorization will require access to a lined area. (Rec Plex, for example)  
The whistle commands consist of the “Horns Up” pattern, provided with the drill sequence. Please provide your own whistle (pref. Acme Thunderer or Fox 40).  
Marching order will be determined by Dr. Scheivert on the day of assessment.

## **Group Interview**

Location/Time TBD on Friday, March 11, immediately following the Skills Assessment  
Each candidate will be interviewed by Dr. Scheivert in front of a group consisting of the members of the Bolt Band, potential student leaders and members of the Titan Thunder Marching Band, and the band staff. The group will be provided with each candidate’s Introductory Letter, and interview questions will be standardized across all candidates.

If you need additional guidance, please visit or call and ask. I will be happy to help in any way I can. Good luck to all of you, and GO TITANS!!!! -- Dr. Scheivert