

# RMB Front Ensemble Audition Packet

There will be three components to the Front Ensemble Auditions:

- 1) Scale Exercises (required)
- 2) Prepared Show Excerpt (required)
- 3) 4-mallet grip demonstration (optional)

1) Exercises will be played in ALL major and minor keys. If you don't know your scales, learn them! There are only a few exercises, I expect them to be played well, in all keys. Right hand lead all the way through on Green Scales. Plan to play without music.

2) The prepared excerpt should be show-ready. We will only have one or two weeks to prepare an entire show in the fall, this is just one excerpt from one movement of a show. This is a test to see how quickly you can learn and polish a piece of music. Memorization is not required, but is highly encouraged.

3) The majority of our music and exercises will be played with two mallets in the fall. However, we will play 4 mallet exercises and use 4 mallets in shows. Please be prepared to demonstrate 4 mallet technique (any grip that you are familiar with) if you are able. Proficiency with 4-mallets is not required for the audition, but is preferred. Playing 4-mallet will be required in the fall. This demonstration does not need to be a prepared etude or solo, I just need to see you play a few chords so I can evaluate your technique. I will be judging your hands and sound, not note accuracy or difficulty level. If you have no 4 mallet experience, we will teach you.

Note: At auditions and during the season, you may play on a marimba, xylophone, or vibraphone. The included exercises and excerpts will fit on any of the instruments, please be prepared to play on any of the instruments, we will provide the appropriate mallets.

**Please direct any inquiries regarding this packet to Christopher Scherer at [cmschere@uark.edu](mailto:cmschere@uark.edu)**

Scale Exercises - ALL MAJOR AND MINOR KEYS

Parallel 8ves Scales

The first two staves of music show a scale exercise in 2/4 time. The first staff contains the first six measures of the scale, and the second staff contains the last six measures, ending with a fermata and a final note.

Parallel 8ves Skips

The next two staves of music show a scale exercise in 2/4 time with skips. The first staff contains the first six measures, and the second staff contains the last six measures, ending with a fermata and a final note.

Green Scales

The final four staves of music show a scale exercise in 2/4 time. The first two staves contain the first six measures, and the last two staves contain the last six measures, ending with a fermata and a final note. The key signature changes to one flat and the time signature changes to 4/4 at the end.

**Allegro con brio** ♩=164

*mp*

*f*

*5* *5* *5* *ff* *mp*

*cresc. poco a poco*

*f* *ff*

*ff* *ff*

*ff*