



Wayland Baptist University

School of Creative Arts

PIONEER MARCHING PERCUSSION CURRICULUM

CREATING AND SUSTAINING A SUCCESSFUL MARCHING PERCUSSION LEGACY

Anthony J. King, D.M.A.
Director of Athletic Bands
Associate Professor of Instrumental Studies

Revised Summer 2025



Table of Contents

- I. Purpose of the Exercise Program**
 - A. Ensuring the Music is Heard
 - B. Ensuring the Musical Effect is Communicated
 - i. Basic Levels of Sound Alignment
 - ii. The Importance of Playing “Clean”
 - C. Developing the Individual Player
 - D. The Importance of Stretching
- II. The Physics of Motion**
 - A. The Hands-Separate Approach
 - B. Managing the Movement
 - C. The Hands-Separate Approach
 - D. The Importance of Independence
 - E. A Matter of Physical Balance
 - F. Putting It All Together
- III. Guidelines for Effective Practice**
 - A. Schedule Your Practice Time
 - B. Be Consistent
 - C. Set Goals
 - D. Practice With a Metronome
 - E. Record Yourself
 - F. Practice In Front of A Mirror
 - G. How To Practice The Exercises
- IV. Rehearsal Etiquette**
 - A. Always Come to Rehearsals Prepared
 - B. Focus at All Times
 - C. Remain Silent and Behave Like Professionals
 - D. Move Quickly at All Times
 - E. Rehearse the Way You Want to Perform
- V. The Endgame (What’s the Point)**
- VI. Recommended Texts and Materials**
 - A. Battery
 - i. Materials
 - ii. Suggested Texts
 - B. Front Ensemble
 - i. Materials
 - ii. Suggested Texts