

Dear Percussionist and Family:

Thank you for registering for the 2013 MOBILE PERCUSSION SEMINAR at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. It should prove to be quite an exciting and productive week! This packet contains all the necessary information you will need before arriving in Amherst on July 28<sup>th</sup>, as well as two Health Forms and a UMass-Amherst campus map. READ THIS LETTER CAREFULLY, have your parents read it, and be sure to bring this packet to the seminar. You will be responsible for everything that is included here.

I hope that the Seminar is lots of fun for those that attend. In addition, I would also like to emphasize that our primary purpose throughout the week will be to develop you into the best percussionist and student leader you can be. Please be certain you are both physically and mentally prepared to devote 100% of your energies toward the accomplishment of this goal.

We will use two books throughout the camp: "A Percussionist's Guide to Check Patterns" textbook and "Championship Concepts For Marching Percussion" student workbook. All students will be required to have their own copies for camp. Please be sure to bring both of these books if you already own them; otherwise, copies will be sold during registration. The student workbook is \$5.00 and the textbook is \$20.00.

I am very excited about the Twenty-Third Annual MOBILE PERCUSSION SEMINAR at the University of Massachusetts. If this is your first MPS, I look forward to meeting you! If you are a returning student, welcome back for another great Seminar week! Again, thank you for choosing the Mobile Percussion Seminar. If you have any questions, please contact our Business Office at (413) 549-8066 or send an email to [office@percussion.org](mailto:office@percussion.org). I am sure you will have an experience you won't forget.

Best wishes,

Thom Hannum, Mobile Percussion Seminar Director

## REGISTRATION

Registration will be held from 3:00 to 5:00 PM on Sunday, July 28, in the lobby of the yet to be determined dormitory in the “Southwest Residential Area” of campus (Please refer to the “HOUSING” section regarding dormitory information). Please be sure to bring your completed Medical Form and Waiver & Release Form, as well as your balance due for the Seminar (if applicable). If you need to purchase books, they will be available upon check-in. The cost of the two books is \$25. Students who enrolled in the Leadership Training track will need to purchase the “Championship Concepts For Marching Percussion” textbook as well, which costs \$20.00.

PLEASE NOTE: At this time, we are unable to accept credit cards as a form of payment. Tuition balances and books may be paid for with cash, check or money order. We apologize for the inconvenience.

After bringing their belongings up to their assigned rooms, students should then go to Berkshire Dining Commons for dinner. This meal will NOT be done as a group, so students must plan their time accordingly. Parents and other guests are allowed to accompany students to the Dining Commons, however all parents and other guests will have to pay for their own meals. The student meal tickets have a designated number of meals and cannot be used for persons other than the student.

The first session will be held Saturday evening at 6:00 PM at the GNP Minuteman Marching Band Building/Grinnell Arena. All students will meet outside of our dormitory at 5:40 PM and we will walk over to the GNP Building as a group. You will need to bring your books, instrument, and a pencil or pen with you to the First Session.

## TRANSPORTATION

### **If your are traveling by bus:**

Make sure your final destination is AMHERST CENTER. The phone number for PETER PAN BUS LINES is (413) 781-3320. The MOBILE PERCUSSION SEMINAR will provide transportation from Amherst Center to UMass. Please call Sally Johnson at (413) 549-8066 by Saturday, July 27, with your arrival time.

### **If you are traveling by airplane:**

The final destination is HARTFORD/SPRINGFIELD BRADLEY AIRPORT. The MOBILE PERCUSSION SEMINAR will arrange for shuttle service from the airport to UMass, as well as the return trip to the airport on Wednesday. Please call Sally Johnson at (413) 549-8066 NO LATER than Saturday, July 27, to arrange for shuttle transportation

**If you are arriving by car:**

**From Springfield/Hartford/Bradley Field:**

1. Take INTERSTATE 91 NORTH to EXIT 19. (Northampton/Amherst).
2. As you exit, take ROUTE 9 EAST to Amherst. (Bear RIGHT and cross the bridge.)
3. Follow Route 9 to ROUTE 116 NORTH. (4.5 miles; on the left)
4. Take Route 116 NORTH to the FIRST EXIT (UMass).
5. BEAR RIGHT at the end of the ramp.
6. Drive to the BLINKING TRAFFIC LIGHT and turn RIGHT on to University Drive.
7. Look for the "Mobile Percussion Seminar" signs.

**From Boston and Points East:**

1. Take Massachusetts Turnpike WEST to EXIT 4.
2. Follow Interstate 91 NORTH to EXIT 19 (Northampton/Amherst).
3. Follow From Springfield/Hartford directions.

**From New York City:**

1. Take INTERSTATE 95 NORTH to New Haven then to INTERSTATE 91 NORTH.
2. Follow I-91 North to MASSACHUSETTS EXIT 19.
3. Follow From Springfield/Hartford directions.

**From New York State: (Albany, Utica, Syracuse, Buffalo)**

1. Take the New York State Thruway EAST to the Massachusetts Turnpike.
2. Drive EAST on the Mass Pike to EXIT 4.
3. Follow INTERSTATE 91 NORTH to EXIT 19 (Northampton/Amherst).
4. Follow From Springfield/Hartford directions.

**From New Jersey:**

1. Take the Garden State Parkway NORTH to New York State Thruway.
2. New York State Thruway SOUTH to EXIT 8.
3. Follow ROUTE 287 WEST (Cross Westchester Expressway) to Interstate 95 NORTH.
4. INTERSTATE 95 NORTH to New Haven.
5. Take INTERSTATE 91 NORTH to MASSACHUSETTS EXIT 19 (Northampton/Amherst).
6. Follow From Springfield/Hartford directions.

**From Vermont:**

1. Take INTERSTATE 91 SOUTH to EXIT 25. (So. Deerfield/Sunderland/ Rte.5-10).
2. Turn LEFT at the end of the ramp.
3. Drive to the "T" and turn RIGHT on to RTE. 5-10.
4. Pass Yankee Candle then turn LEFT on to ROUTE 116 SOUTH to Sunderland/Amherst.
5. Follow Rte.116 South to the UMASS/AMHERST EXIT. (8.5 miles)
6. Bear LEFT at the end of the ramp and cross the bridge towards UMass.
7. Drive to the BLINKING TRAFFIC LIGHT and turn RIGHT onto University Drive.

8. Look for the "Mobile Percussion Seminar" signs.

**From New Hampshire:**

1. Take VERMONT INTERSTATE 91 SOUTH.
2. Follow INTERSTATE 91 SOUTH to EXIT 25 (So. Deerfield/Sunderland/Amherst).
3. Follow From Vermont directions.

<<OR>>

1. Take INTERSTATE 93 SOUTH to Massachusetts 495 SOUTH.
2. Follow 495 South to ROUTE 2 WEST to ROUTE 202 SOUTH.
3. Take Route 202 South to EXIT 16 (Amherst/Belchertown).
4. Follow ROUTE 202 SOUTH for 15 miles towards Amherst/Belchertown.
5. Turn RIGHT to: Rte. 9-116/AMHERST/NORTHAMPTON at blinking yellow light.
6. Drive 7 miles to Amherst Center (your 3rd set of lights on this road.)
7. Continue straight, down AMITY STREET (between the two Banks) to stop lights.
8. Turn RIGHT at the lights on to UNIVERSITY DRIVE. Look for "Mobile Percussion Seminar" signs.

**PARKING**

The University has assigned designated parking lots to the Mobile Percussion Seminar. Commuting students and older students who will be driving themselves to and from the Seminar must use these assigned parking lots. Students will get information on where to park their cars from a staff member during Registration.

If you park in any area not specifically designated for the Mobile Percussion Seminar you may be subject to having your vehicle ticketed and towed at your own expense.

**HOUSING**

Once we receive confirmation of our dormitory in the Southwest Residential Area, you will be sent both an email and a letter via snail mail regarding the name of the dormitory and helpful tips for Registration. In the past few years, we have received dorm confirmation from as early as May 1<sup>st</sup> to as late as second week of July, so we thank you in advance for your patience regarding this matter.

\*Reminder: Linens are not provided, so be sure to bring pillows, extra long twin size sheets, and a blanket (if desired).

**COMMUTERS**

Students who choose the commuter option and are driving themselves to campus daily will be given parking instructions during Registration. Commuter students are expected

to report to campus before the start of the morning session (exact time will be announced at the end of the evening session the day before), and to remain with the Seminar until the end of the evening session. Commuters' cars are to remain "off limits" during the day.

## **ROOMING ASSIGNMENTS**

Rooming assignments will be made in advance. You will be most likely be roomed with a student from another school, as this will enhance your experience of meeting new friends and working with new people. However, if a specific roommate is desired, the request must be sent to Sally Johnson at [office@percussion.org](mailto:office@percussion.org) no later than JULY 21.

ROOMING ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE CHANGED DURING REGISTRATION.

## **MEALS**

All meals will be eaten in Berkshire Dining Commons. The \$505.00 resident fee includes tuition, housing, and meals. The first meal will be Dinner on Sunday, July 28, served from 4:30 to 5:30 PM. The final meal will be Lunch on Thursday, August 1.

Commuter students will have the option of bringing their own meals to campus or eating with the other students at the Dining Commons. The dormitory will have a refrigerator to store meals for commuting students. If a commuter student wishes to eat at the Dining Commons, he/she will have to pay cash for the meal.

Please visit [www.umassdining.com/nutrition](http://www.umassdining.com/nutrition) to view menus and special dietary needs options.

## **EQUIPMENT**

Marching percussion students should make every possible to bring their own instruments and harnesses. If this is logistically impossible, equipment can be loaned out from Mobile Percussion Seminar. All requests for equipment must be sent to our Business Office by either phone or email. Please Note: IF YOU WILL BE BORROWING MARCHING EQUIPMENT FROM THE SEMINAR, THE DRUMS WILL BE OF "COLLEGE/ DRUM CORPS" WEIGHT!

All Seminar students will receive a pair of sticks or mallets during Registration. Mallet players will be provided instruments at the Seminar. Students in the drum set program should bring their hi-hat stand, hi-hat and ride cymbal and stand, and a drum seat.

## **TELEPHONES**

The telephone number for the University Conference Services is (413) 545-2591. And in case of an emergency, call the University Police at (413) 545-2121. Students may bring cell phones; however, they must be either turned off or set to “vibrate” during each session. Students should not use their phones after “lights out” unless there is an emergency.

## **MEDICAL EMERGENCIES**

Any medical emergencies that arise will be handled through the University Health Services (UHS). The UHS Health Form is required for all students who attend a University sanctioned camp. This form will be kept confidential and on file at UHS in the case of an illness or accident. In extreme circumstances, students will be transported to Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton, which is approximately 20 minutes away. Please note that any ambulance transportation will be billed to the parent/guardian’s medical insurance policy.

## **CLOSING CEREMONY**

Family members and friends are invited to join us for our Closing Ceremony on Thursday, August 1. The Ceremony is scheduled to take place in the parking lot in front of Gladchuck Field—immediately adjacent to McGuirk Stadium with parking available in E Lot—in conjunction with the George N. Parks Drum Major Academy. The Academy and the Mobile Percussion Seminar students will perform a small demonstration for each other. The Closing Ceremony will start between 1:00-1:15 PM and it will last approximately an hour.

## **CHECKOUT**

Checkout will be Thursday, August 1<sup>st</sup> following the Closing Ceremony. All Resident students must return keys and meal cards as directed. There is a \$60.00 charge for any lost keys and a \$20.00 charge for any lost meal cards!! Please be sure to check all desk and closet drawers for belongings before you leave. The Mobile Percussion Seminar and the University of Massachusetts-Amherst are not responsible for any personal belongings left in dorm rooms.