



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA REDCOAT BAND

2020 Membership Information BRASS AND WOODWIND

For students not pursuing a major or minor in Music

HOW TO REACH US

General questions, ~~4/25~~ audition scheduling:
ugabands@uga.edu
706-542-1505

Instrument loans, questions for a director:
Prof. Rob Akridge
rakridge@uga.edu

Video ~~or~~ weekday auditions, questions for a director:
Dr. Brett Bawcum
bbawcum@uga.edu

Revised Procedures Effective 30 March 2020

All 2020 Redcoat Band brass and woodwind auditions will occur through submission of an audition video. The video is due April 25th at 5:00pm EDT. If the shelter-in-place order complicates your audition, contact Dr. Bawcum as soon as possible with details.

To Apply and Audition

1. Prepare your audition video. Basic requirements include:

- Any **FIVE (revised 3/30/2020) chromatically adjacent major scales**. No arpeggios.
- **Chromatic scale** through the full practical range of your instrument.
- One brief **technical etude** of your choice (1 minute in length)
- One brief **lyrical etude** of your choice (1 minute in length)
- Brief **demonstration of your marching technique**.

See *Video Audition Instructions* at the end of this document for more information.

2. [Apply for Redcoat Band membership](#). You will submit your audition video with the application.* You will need the email address of a reference (e.g., band director, private teacher) so we can request a recommendation from them. If the above link does not work, use <http://bit.ly/RedcoatApplication>

*If you have already submitted your application, you can use the return link from your email confirmation to submit your video. You do not need to submit a new application.

3. If you did not submit your video with your application, use the return link from the email confirmation of your application to reach the submission site. If you have any problems with this, contact our office.

Frequently Asked Questions

What wind instruments are included in the Redcoat Band? How many positions are available?

We won't know the number of available positions until late in the Spring Semester. But in Fall 2020 we hope to march 28 piccolos, 42 Bb soprano clarinets, 22 alto saxophones, 17 tenor saxophones, 69 trumpets, 40 mellophones, 40 trombones, 21 baritones, and 28 Sousaphones.

Should I audition on mellophone or horn? Flute or piccolo? Sousaphone or Concert Tuba?

You should audition on the instrument you play when preparing the audition. Students auditioning for mellophone may audition on F mellophone or horn. Students auditioning for piccolo may audition on piccolo or flute. Sousaphone auditions may be performed on any tuba.

May I audition on multiple instruments?

If you have extensive performing experience on multiple instruments, you are welcome to audition on each. But you should be well prepared on each instrument.

Can you recommend any audition etudes?

We don't have any specific recommendations. Consider etudes from any method book you use. Your technical etude should show us how you perform technically demanding music. The lyrical etude should exhibit your tone and musicality in slower passages. However, you should also strive for outstanding tone and musicality in your technical etude and accuracy in your lyrical etude. The bottom line is to select etudes that show us what you *can* do rather than what you *can't* do.

What are you looking for in the audition?

We are trying to determine how likely you are to be a strong contributor to the Redcoat Band. We are interested in finding exceptional musicians who exhibit thorough preparation by performing musically:

- with confidence and a clear characteristic tone throughout the range of their instrument
- with accuracy of pitch (intonation), rhythm, and tempo
- with a wide dynamic range informed by printed instructions and personal musical judgment
- with an educated and conscientious approach to musical style
- with attention to detail of every aspect of musical performance
- on an instrument that has been well maintained and is in good working order
- with a smooth, well-supported, sustained tone while marching.

Visually, we hope to find performers who march:

- with confident posture and control of their upper body
- with horn angle appropriate for marching performance
- with consistent step-size, precise timing, and well-defined technique and style.

You do not need to use our marching technique. Perform the *technique you know* with confidence, intention, and attention to detail.

What are you looking for in the recommendation?

We seek hard-working, committed, generous students who are outstanding musicians and performers.

What if I apply but then decide not to audition.

Please email as soon as you know, so we don't need to follow up or hope there wasn't a technical issue.

Is this the only audition Redcoat Band audition I will need to perform?

Yes and no. Some university bands hold final auditions and cut members at camp; this is not currently the case at UGA. The spring audition is used to offer membership. If you are offered and accept membership, you are a Redcoat—period. Woodwinds and brass in Redcoats also perform a placement audition at fall camp to determine part and marching assignments. We will discuss further details after your audition and in the summer membership materials. But if you have questions, just email or call. Though there is a yearly audition requirement, woodwinds and brass who receive a *renewable membership offer* may waive this requirement by fulfilling a few simple responsibilities.

How are scholarships awarded?

If you audition for Redcoat Band membership, you are also auditioning for scholarship consideration. Scholarships are awarded to students who display the performance ability, musicianship, and character we seek in the band's musical leaders, based on the same criteria used for membership consideration.]

If I have not received my UGA admission decision, may I still audition?

Yes. It is important that you submit your audition video by the April 25 deadline.

May I participate in the Redcoat Band if I am offered Spring Semester admission to UGA?

Current enrollment at UGA is a requirement of Redcoat Band membership. If offered Spring admission, you would need to apply and audition in the spring prior to the first Fall Semester when you would be enrolled in classes at UGA.

May I participate in the Redcoat Band if I am denied UGA admission?

All Redcoats must be enrolled at UGA in the semester of participation. If you are not accepted to UGA, we are unable to offer membership. We encourage you to re-apply and audition if you transfer to UGA.

Does an offer of band membership improve my chance of UGA admission?

No. While your participation in band and other ensembles in high school may be helpful, an offer of band membership (which is contingent upon your acceptance and enrollment at UGA) has no effect.

What if my school doesn't have a marching band or I have never been in one?

No problem. Every year, we have members who have never been in marching band before. Some eventually fill our leadership positions. ~~The in-person audition is probably better for you, and you'll have a little catching-up to do.~~ But this is more common than you might think.

What if I have a question that isn't covered here?

Email us via the contact information at the top of this document.



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2020 Membership Information Video Audition Instructions

Guidelines

1. Both portions of the video are **intended to emulate a live audition**. The entire music portion should be one continuous **unedited** shot; the marching portion should be one *additional* **unedited** shot. Use the best recording equipment available, but make clear that the audio we hear is generated from the video we see.
2. We don't expect studio quality, but **clear audio** is important for the music portion. Your mobile device *may* provide an accurate representation of your tone. If it doesn't, adjust the recording environment or use better equipment. In particular, weak or distorted audio is undesirable. We can evaluate only what you send.
3. If your prepared selections are from an obscure source that we are unlikely to be able to find, please scan or photograph the part and submit it with your video.

Content

Music portion:

- Get the entire front of your body in the frame, especially fingers and embouchure.
- Introduce yourself, and spell your last name. Identify the five chromatically adjacent major scales you are going to play. For transposing instruments, specify *concert* or *transposed* pitch.
- Perform those scales.
- Perform chromatic scale.
- Introduce your technical etude, including printed title and any other identifying information.
- Perform your technical etude. Then briefly (just a few seconds) tell us what you thought you did well and what you thought you did poorly.
- Introduce your lyrical etude, including printed title and any other identifying information.
- Perform your lyrical etude. Then tell us what you thought you did well and poorly.

Marching portion:

- Record in a space where you have room to play and move freely. A lined football field is ideal. Have someone record from your side, without moving, at a distance that keeps your entire body in frame.
- If you use a metronome and can capture its sound, please do.
- At $\text{♩} = 128$, starting from attention, perform the following in a style comfortable to you. All steps should be 8-to-5 (22.5"):
 - **Mark time 8** counts, bringing your instrument up on count 5.
 - **Forward march 16** counts.
 - Without stopping, **backward march 16** counts.
 - **Halt. Horn down** on the third beat of the halt ("Halt-2-Down").
 - **Repeat** the above while **playing a forte sustained concert F** (or a pitch of your choosing). Breathe as necessary.

Bonus:

If you have other abilities, show us! A recent mellophone player was also an accomplished baton twirler. Others excel on non-band instruments, other performing arts, or an uncommon skill (e.g., juggling, whistling really loud with your fingers, or something weird...). We're looking for things that might interest or surprise an audience. And if it's super-weird, try us! We will not judge or share.

If any of these instructions are unclear, or if the shelter-in-place order complicates your audition, please **do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bawcum**.