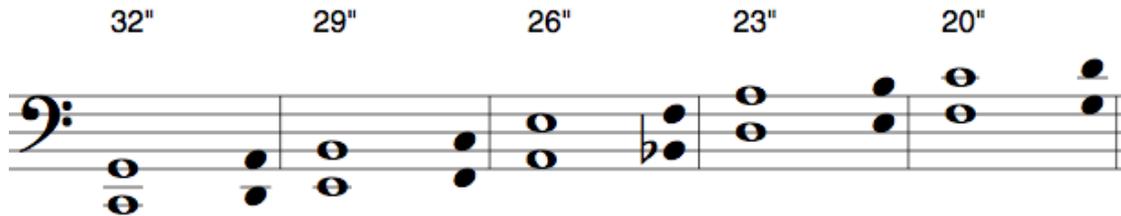


Esteemed ETSBOA colleagues,

Our ETSBOA Jr. Clinic 7th & 8th grade percussion auditions are in need of our attention regarding the range of the pitches assigned to the timpani. The Percussive Arts Society suggests the following regarding the range:



In regards to the chart above, the Percussive Arts Society also offers the following recommendation concerning assigned pitches per drum: “The black notes indicate the range in which the **best** tone quality can usually be achieved. The timpani can be tuned to the ranges shown by the white notes, but achieving **good tone quality is less certain**. Tone quality within these ranges will vary among different makes and models of timpani” (Retrieved from <http://www.pas.org/docs/default-source/pasic-archives/TimpRanges.pdf>).

Concerning the 7th grade timpani auditions, the assigned pitches for the *moderato* section is 29” = F and 26” = Bb. The *andante* section calls for 29” = Bb and 26” = Eb (which are well placed within the range). Finally, the *allegro* section requires 29” = F and 26” = C. As noted above, PAS recommends F – C as the suggested range for the 29” drum and Bb – F as the suggested range of the 26” drum. Our current *moderato* and *allegro* sections of the timpani auditions require pitches that are at the extreme low end of the range for each drum. It is being suggested by the ETSBOA percussion committee that a simple change of “flipping” the pitches of the 29” and 26” drum would place the pitch in a more desirable section of the suggested range. We suggest making the 29” = Bb and 26” = F as a better assignment of the two required pitches, seated at a more appropriate place within the range (top of the range being preferred to the extreme bottom).

Likewise, concerning the 8th grade timpani auditions, the assigned pitches for the *allegro con moto* section is 29” = F and 26” = Bb. The *andante espressivo* section calls for 29” = C and 26” = G. As noted above, PAS recommends F – C as the suggested range for the 29” drum and Bb – F as the suggested range of the 26” drum. Our current *allegro con moto* and *andante espressivo* sections of the timpani auditions require pitches that are at the extreme low end of the range for each drum. It is being suggested by the ETSBOA percussion committee that a simple change of “flipping” the pitches of the 29” and 26” drum would place the pitch in a more desirable section of the suggested range. We similarly suggest making the 29” = Bb and 26” = F as a better assignment of the two required pitches, seated at a more appropriate place within the range (top of the range being preferred to the extreme bottom).

An additional concern is the vast amount of prepared pieces that are being required of the percussion students. With preparation of the required snare drum rudiments, scales for mallets, and tuning for timpani – we suggest that only one prepared piece be required per room. For 7th grade percussionists, we recommend the *moderato* selections for both snare drum & timpani, and the *andante* piece for the mallets. We would also suggest that the official 7th grade snare drum rudiments required during the audition be the long roll and the single paradiddle, played slow-fast-slow. The mallet room would perform the same required scales as the winds. The timpani room would be required to tune the timpani to the assigned pitches in thirty seconds, as we have always required.

For the 8th grade percussionist, we recommend the *allegro con moto* pieces for both snare drum & timpani, and the *andante espressivo* selection for the mallets. We would also suggest that the official 8th grade snare drum rudiments required during the audition be the five-stroke and the flam accent, played slow-fast-slow. The mallet room would perform the same required scales as the winds. The timpani room would be required to tune the timpani to the assigned pitches in thirty seconds, as we have always required.

We are attaching the “flipped” timpani parts for you to review as a separate file for your consideration. Our hope is for ETSBOA to review our proposed changes to the music for 7th and 8th grade percussion auditions for Jr. Clinic. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

ETSBOA Percussion Committee
Jonathan Nichols
Dan McGuire
Eddie Dalton
Tyler Vittatoe