Meghan Wald

Percussion Techniques

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November 13th, 2017

Curriculum 6-12th Grade: Snare Drum
Objective and Vision for all Percussion Students:

All percussion students should have a developed snare drum technique appropriate for their level of study. Students will develop a general knowledge of the structure, playing area, playing technique of the snare drum, and will also learn about appropriate stylistic playing of the snare drum as well as the techniques that correlate to performance. By the end of each school year, each percussion student should be able to apply techniques learned during the year through rudiment, solo and ensemble music study to be able to sight read and interpret a piece as part of a final assessment that is appropriate for the students’ performance level. All of this anticipated instruction and learning should take place throughout the school year and be appropriate for the performance level and age of the students.

**Beginners (6th Graders):**

* Materials needed for each beginner student:
**- V. Firth *Snare Drum Method Book I***: for students to take to and from school in order to practice at home. This book is a comprehensive introduction to snare drum and will help students develop technique and reading skills when materials are assigned to practice as well as sight read in lessons or class time. **Link to Required book:** [*https://www.amazon.com/O4653-Snare-Drum-MethodElementary/dp/0825809398/ref=sr\_1\_fkmr1\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1510533576&sr=8-1-fkmr1&keywords=vic+firth+snare+drum+mentions+book+1*](https://www.amazon.com/O4653-Snare-Drum-MethodElementary/dp/0825809398/ref%3Dsr_1_fkmr1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1510533576&sr=8-1-fkmr1&keywords=vic+firth+snare+drum+mentions+book+1)
**-Optional Solo Book:** Students will be given a solo at the end of the year to learn as part of their final assessment in order to show that the goals of the year were met. Students may practice the types of techniques that will be used by studying snare drum solos from the following book: [https://www.amazon.com/ABRSM-Graded-Music-Hathway-Wright/dp/B007O002N4/ref=sr\_1\_2?s=musical-instruments&ie=UTF8&qid=1510536705&sr=8-2&keywords=Hathway%2FWright+Graded+Music+for+Snare+Drum%2C+Book+1&dpID=41dgDlD-LgL&preST=\_SY291\_BO1,204,203,200\_QL40\_&dpSrc=srch](https://www.amazon.com/ABRSM-Graded-Music-Hathway-Wright/dp/B007O002N4/ref%3Dsr_1_2?s=musical-instruments&ie=UTF8&qid=1510536705&sr=8-2&keywords=Hathway%2FWright+Graded+Music+for+Snare+Drum%2C+Book+1&dpID=41dgDlD-LgL&preST=_SY291_BO1,204,203,200_QL40_&dpSrc=srch)
***-* Concert Drum Sticks:** For students to develop good technique, they need proper playing materials. Therefore, students need at least one good pair of drum sticks in order to be successful in percussion.
**Link to sticks:** [https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0002F4TKA/ref=oh\_aui\_detailpage\_o07\_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0002F4TKA/ref%3Doh_aui_detailpage_o07_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1)

**-Practice Pad:** Because most students will not have access to a snare drum to practice with at home, each student needs to have a practice pad to use. Each student will bring their practice pad and drum sticks to lessons and ensemble rehearsals. In the event that there are more percussionists than parts, students who are left without a part to play during the ensemble will be doubling the snare drum parts on the drum bad.
**-Link to drum pad**: [https://www.amazon.com/Remo-RT-0008-00-PracticeAmbassadorDrumhead/dp/B0002E56H6/ref=pd\_bxgy\_267\_img\_2?\_encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=JP15WSJY40FYQN2TK6WP&dpID=41s3R13WCYL&preST=\_SY300\_QL70\_&dpSrc=detail](https://www.amazon.com/Remo-RT-0008-00-PracticeAmbassadorDrumhead/dp/B0002E56H6/ref%3Dpd_bxgy_267_img_2?_encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=JP15WSJY40FYQN2TK6WP&dpID=41s3R13WCYL&preST=_SY300_QL70_&dpSrc=detail)

-**OPTIONAL SNARE DRUM**: Students whose families are willing and able to purchase a snare drum for their child to practice on at home should consider doing so. This is because although practice pads are made to play just like a normal drum, they do not perfectly mimic that of a snare drum. So, in order to get the full benefits of practicing their parts and developing good technique, parents should heavily consider purchasing or renting a student snare drum kit. The School will purchase and own between 3 and 5 of these instruments to be used in school.
**Recommended Student Snare Drum Kit**-[https://www.amazon.com/Yamaha-Student-Snare-DrumBackpack/dp/B004GHC7KO/ref=sr\_1\_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1510535567&sr=8-3&keywords=Yamaha+snare+drum+kit](https://www.amazon.com/Yamaha-Student-Snare-Drum-Backpack/dp/B004GHC7KO/ref%3Dsr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1510535567&sr=8-3&keywords=Yamaha+snare+drum+kit)
* Objectives for Beginners:
 -Beginner percussion students should start instruction with simple snare drum technique from the recommended methods book. When followed in order, the sequence of instruction should flow and make it easier for the students to understand and develop technique and rhythmic accuracy
 -By the end of the school year beginning students will know the symbols and techniques for the following **playing techniques at 100 beats per minute, with predetermined sticking (from the method book)**:
 -Flam
 -ruff
 -5, 7, and 9 stroke rolls
 -buzz roll
 -single paradiddle
 -By the end of the school year, beginning percussionists should be able to:
 -tap their foot to the best and play, quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes in their hands
 -Play while watching the conductor in the ensemble
 -imitate rhythms played by the instructor or model student

 **Intermediate Performers (7th-8th grade)**
* Materials for Intermediate Performers: ***In addition to the materials that a beginning snare drum student should own, an student should also have:***
 **-Required Methods Book**: The next edition of Snare Drum Methods by Vic Firth will continue the students snare drum studies seamlessly. The methods in this book become more complex and challenging. This will help refine the techniques and skills that the students developed as beginners.
 **-Link to required book:** [https://www.amazon.com/O4654-Snare-Drum-Method-Book/dp/0825809126/ref=sr\_1\_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1510537936&sr=8-2&keywords=Vic+Firth+Snare+Drum+Method+Book](https://www.amazon.com/O4654-Snare-Drum-Method-Book/dp/0825809126/ref%3Dsr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1510537936&sr=8-2&keywords=Vic+Firth+Snare+Drum+Method+Book)

 **-Optional Solo Snare Drum Materials**: Students will be assessed at the beginning and end of the year by playing an excerpt from a standard solo for snare drum. This assessment will track rhythmic accuracy, tempo, dynamics and articulation, and general musicality. The final assessment will be graded, therefore students should practice this type of soloist playing and can find materials that will help develop all of these skills by learning and presenting solos to the class from the following solo book: [https://www.amazon.com/Southern-Special-Drum-Solos-Unaccompanied/dp/1581060610/ref=sr\_1\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1510538297&sr=8-1&keywords=Schinstine+Southern+Special+Drum+Solos](https://www.amazon.com/Southern-Special-Drum-Solos-Unaccompanied/dp/1581060610/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1510538297&sr=8-1&keywords=Schinstine+Southern+Special+Drum+Solos)
* Objectives for Intermediate students: II
 -Intermediate instruction of snare drum students should continue with Vic Firth *Snare Drum Method Book II.* This book will seamlessly flow from the first book by continuing the study of rudiments, sticking methods, strokes and time signatures like 6/8, 2/4, 4/4 and 3/4, as well as an introduction to cut time, 2/2, 3/8. 9/8, 12/8
 -**in addition to Beginner level performance techniques, intermediate students should learn:**

 -17, 10, 11 and 13 stroke rolls
 -single drag and double drags

 -double paradiddle

 -flam paradiddle
 -flamacue,

 -both multiple and rudimental buzz rolls
 -**Intermediate students should also be able to**:
 -imitate/repeat 2-4 measure phrases, mostly using familiar rudiments.
 -be able to maintain skills as in level 1 in 2/4, ¾, and 6/8 signatures. Be able to play triplets within context of 2/4 and ¾ while tapping foot.
 -play and affectively keep time and blend and in the form of an ensemble
 -**ALL SKILLS FROM THE BEGINNING LEVEL SHOULD REMAIN AND BE ELABORATED AND DEVELOPED FUTHER AS AN INTERMEDIATE PERCUSSIONIST.**

 **Advanced Students (9th -12th grade)**

* **Materials For Advanced Students**:
In addition to the materials acquired at the beginning and intermediate levels, advanced students should obtain/have access to the following materials:
 -**Methods Books**: Because the skill level of advanced students varies, a younger advanced student (9th-10th grade) may use the Mitchell Peters Intermediate *Studies for Snare Drum,* while an older/developed advanced player may Use Mitchel Peters Advanced Studies for Snare Drum.

 LINKS: int: [https://www.amazon.com/TRY1064-Intermediate-Snare-Drum- Studies/dp/1934638196/ref=sr\_1\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1510540929&sr=8- 1&keywords=Mitchell+Peters+Intermediate+Studies+for+Snare+Drum](https://www.amazon.com/TRY1064-Intermediate-Snare-Drum-%09Studies/dp/1934638196/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1510540929&sr=8-%091&keywords=Mitchell+Peters+Intermediate+Studies+for+Snare+Drum)

 Adv: [https://www.amazon.com/TRY1065-Advanced-Snare-Drum- Studies/dp/1934638145/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1510540967&sr=1- 1&keywords=Mitchell+Peters+advanced+Studies+for+Snare+Drum&dpID=51Avj1UZz JL&preST=\_SX218\_BO1,204,203,200\_QL40\_&dpSrc=srch](https://www.amazon.com/TRY1065-Advanced-Snare-Drum-%09Studies/dp/1934638145/ref%3Dsr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1510540967&sr=1-%091&keywords=Mitchell+Peters+advanced+Studies+for+Snare+Drum&dpID=51Avj1UZz%09JL&preST=_SX218_BO1,204,203,200_QL40_&dpSrc=srch)

 - **Optional Solo Snare Drum Materials**: Students will be assessed at the beginning and end of the year by playing an excerpt from a standard solo for snare drum. This assessment will track rhythmic accuracy, tempo, dynamics and articulation, and general musicality. The final assessment will be graded, therefore students should practice this type of soloist playing and can find materials that will help develop all of these skills by learning and presenting solos to the class from the following solo book: <https://www.amazon.com/Hal-Leonard-Progressive-Solos-Snare/dp/B001SRKU5O>

 -At this point in their musical careers, **students may need to repurchase or purchase intermediate or professional instruments and sticks**, should they have the means and the desire to continue in music. The first thing a student should look to replace are their concert snare drum sticks.

#  Link to recommended sticks: [https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0007XMETA/ref=oh\_aui\_detailpage\_o02\_s0 0?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0007XMETA/ref%3Doh_aui_detailpage_o02_s0%090?ie=UTF8&psc=1)

# Objectives for Advanced Percussion students: -The Advanced percussion study continues with the Mitchell Peters Studies for

#  Snare Drum books. These books continue with the study of rudiments and etudes

#  to refine the technique of materials presented in the other levels of study. These

#  books will be used in lessons and will over time help the percussionist learn more

#  complex music focusing more at this point in their careers in ensemble playing. -Advanced percussionists should be able to play, in addition to what they

#  learned as beginners and as intermediate level students:

 **-** four stroke ruff,

 - 15 stroke roll,

 - excellent quality single stroke roll

 - open and closed rudimental long roll,

 - drag paradiddle #2

#  -Students should be able to phrase music without being specifically

#  instructed to do so.  -Students should be able to balance and blend within an ensemble.

#  -Students should be able to follow a conductor and follow not only the

# \ conductors lead but the lead of the other musicians in any given group.

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