Drum Kit Audition Information

All drum kit applicants applying to the Performance Track, Music Business - Audition Track, or Recording Arts - Audition Track must either submit an audition video or conduct a live audition. While a live audition is preferred, applicants may upload an audition video through Acceptd at https://app.getacceptd.com/ucdenver for consideration.

All drum kit audition videos or live auditions must include the following:

1) Repertoire: Perform two styles from the following grooves.
   a) Swing/Bebop
   b) Funk/Rock
   c) Afro-Cuban (mambo, Mozambique)
   d) Brazilian (bossa nova, samba)
   e) Jazz waltz

2) Brushes: Demonstrate a 4/4 or 3/4 groove with brushes.

3) Solo piece: Perform a media-tempo piece. The piece can be in any of the styles listed above.
   a) Introduce a theme.
   b) Develop or improvise on the theme.
   c) Return to the original theme with a clear, definite ending.

How to submit your audition video:

1) Record your audition video per the guidelines listed above. All selections must be verbally labeled.
2) Go to https://app.getacceptd.com/ucdenver; choose your Program Group (emphasis area) and Program (instrument). Click “Get Started!”
3) Follow the registration instructions to create your account and upload your video.
4) Physical CD’s, DVD’s, and tapes will not be accepted. Emailed files and YouTube links are not acceptable.
5) Audition videos for new MEIS applicants must be received no later than April 1st.
6) Audition videos for current CU Denver MEIS students who wish to switch their emphasis/track for the Spring Semester must be received no later than November 20th.

Live audition information

Audition videos will be reviewed by our faculty within three weeks of receipt. Faculty will contact applicants about next steps. Faculty may request that applicants conduct a live audition in addition to the video submission. Applicants may also choose to live audition instead of submitting an audition video. The live audition dates are listed on the MEIS admission page on our website: http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/CAM/programs/meis/Pages/Admissions.aspx

Live auditions typically take 20-30 minutes and will take place in the Arts Building on the Auraria Campus. The audition will consist of sight-reading and a short demonstration of the pieces described above. The audition will also feature an opportunity for the prospective student to ask questions regarding the program, applied lessons, ensemble placement, etc. For the live audition, please prepare one piece to perform. Snare drum is preferred, but no drum corps parts, please. Acceptable pieces can be found in “Portraits in Rhythm” by Anthony Cirone.

Contact Information:

If you want to schedule a live audition or have questions about the drum kit audition process, please contact the Todd Reid at Todd.Reid@ucdenver.edu.