



## **FREE Players Drum & Bugle Corps Audition Application**

### **Audition Eligibility Requirements**

1. Must be a HS Graduate or 21 years of age or older
2. In order to be eligible to audition, one of the following must apply to you. You must live at home with your family and be eligible to receive Respite Services, live in a FREE Residence, or attend a FREE program. Eligibility to audition will be determined on a case basis for individuals or participants residing or attending programs in other provider agencies.
3. Must live on Long Island and be able to travel to and from all Drum Corps Respite Rehearsals every Wednesday evening. Rehearsals begin at 4pm and conclude at 7pm.

*Rehearsals are usually held at Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE) headquarters located at 191 Bethpage/Sweet-Hollow Road, Old Bethpage NY, 11804, inside FREE's Theatre Arts Day programs music rooms (Rm K & Rm C) and multi-purpose room. During the summer (Drum Corps season) and fall (Marching Band season) Wednesday evening rehearsals are sometimes moved outdoors to an open field at the Old Bethpage Village Restoration site, located around the block from FREE's headquarters .*

Previous experience in Drum & Bugle Corps/Marching Band, playing an instrument, dance or gymnastics is not required to audition, although it is preferred. We cannot accept anyone at this time that needs extra behavioral support or medical support, as we do not have the behavioral support staff, or medical support staff on site during rehearsals and performances that can provide additional assistance. Our Corps frequently performs at world class events out in the community, it is very important that we are confident that all members are able to follow the rules and are capable of conducting themselves in a mature professional manner to the best of their ability, at all times. Failure to do so may result in not being allowed to participate in Drum Corps.

The most important rule we have for anyone that wants to join our Corps is, "You have to want to be here!" The **FREE Players Drum & Bugle Corps** only accepts people who display that they are extremely passionate, hardworking, dedicated individuals who want to learn and be the best they can be.

If you are selected to join the **FREE Players Drum & Bugle Corps** you will be required to attend all rehearsals and performances that correlate with your section. Sufficient notice is required in the event the individual or participant cannot attend a rehearsal or performance. All new members are strongly encouraged to receive weekly private instruction on their respective instruments at a local music school/store in order to maintain a prominent role in the Corps.

### **Audition Process**

1. To be considered for an audition you must email a video that is 2 mins or less to [FREEDrumCorps@FamilyRes.org](mailto:FREEDrumCorps@FamilyRes.org) (a smart phone/iPhone or tablet/iPad video will suffice, it does not have to be professionally filmed or edited) showing your natural talents, if you play an instrument already, dance or do gymnastics, as well as a brief explanation on why you want to join the **FREE Players Drum & Bugle Corps**, and what you hope to achieve. In the event you have no prior experience in Dance, Gymnastics or playing an instrument, a video explaining why you want to join our Corps and what you hope to achieve will suffice. If a needed a Family Member, MSC, Residential or Day Program Staff, Community Hab or Self Direction worker may provide assistance, either verbally or physically, for the individual or participant who is auditioning in the video. In the event the individual or participant who is auditioning does not have access to any device to be filmed, please email [FREEDrumCorps@FamilyRes.org](mailto:FREEDrumCorps@FamilyRes.org). Other arrangements will be made to see if the individual or participant meets the basic requirements to be eligible to audition.
2. If the individual or participant passes our video audition you will be contacted by a **FREE Drum Corps Staff** to arrange a Phone Interview with the individual or participants Family/MSC/Manager to confirm the individual or participant meets standards & requirements to be eligible to audition. Pending the individual or participant meets requirements and is eligible to audition, you will be emailed our official Audition Application and a date will be arranged for the individual or participant to visit a rehearsal. A Family Member, MSC, Residential/Community Hab or Self Direction worker must be present with the individual or participant for the full duration of their visit. On the day of their visit please make sure to bring in the completed Audition Application. The visit will be used as a meet and greet with members and staff. The

individual or participant may/or may not be asked to participate for a portion of the rehearsal during their visit.

3. If you are not able to conduct yourself in a respectful professional manner during the audition process you will not be asked to return after your visit. If your visit goes well, you will be scheduled to attend a two week trial period that will also include a private audition at the end based on the section, instrument and spot in the **FREE Players Drum & Bugle Corps** you are auditioning for.

4. In the event the person auditioning meets all standards, requirements, has a successful private audition and trial period, a decision will be made for you to join the **FREE Players Drum & Bugle Corps** based on your musical ability, natural talents and chemistry with existing Corps members. If you have been selected to join the Corps and do not already receive respite services, or are not a member of a FREE residence or program, arrangements will be made at this time for you to receive Respite services. Once you have been admitted into our Respite Program, this will finalize your membership with the **FREE Players Drum & Bugle Corps**. If you live in a Residential Group Home and are not eligible to receive Respite services, other arrangements will be made to finalize your membership with the **FREE Players Drum & Bugle Corps**. In the event the section, instrument or position you are best suited for is filled, you will be placed on a waiting list and called back to audition again, once the opening becomes available.

New members will only attend the **FREE Players Drum & Bugle Corps** Respite Rehearsals, Evening and Weekend performances. Weekday rehearsals and weekday performances between the hours of 8am - 4pm, Monday - Friday will continue to be reserved exclusively for members who are part of FREE's Day Programs. Overnight performance opportunities for world championship events out of state will be offered to all members, even if they fall on a weekday.

**\*\* As much as we would like to be able to accept everyone that is eligible to join our Corps, we have limited space and only certain positions available at this time. Our Drum & Bugle Corps is always growing and expanding. Even if the individual or participant had a good audition but is not accepted at this time, unless otherwise stated, the person that auditioned will be placed on a waiting list and called back to audition again once the position you are best suited for becomes available\*\***

### **Open Positions Can Include:**

#### **Drumline**

1 Tenor (Marching Multi-Toms)  
Bass 4 (Marching Bass Drum)  
Bass 5 (Marching Bass Drum)  
2 Marching Snare (spots open in November 2017)

#### **Brass (Horn Line)**

Trumpet  
Mellophone  
French Horn  
Baritone/Euphonium  
Tuba  
Trombone

#### **Front Ensemble (Pit)**

Marimba            Electric Guitar  
Vibraphone        Bass Guitar  
Xylophone  
Keyboards

#### **Color Guard**

Dancers, Gymnasts, Flags,  
Rifles, Sabers, Batons

#### **Drum Major - Conductor**

#### **Woodwinds**

*(We will not be formally adding Woodwinds to our Corps until 2018. Prior experience in one of the following instruments is required to audition for this section only)*

Piccolo            Clarinet            Tenor Saxophone  
Flute              Alto Saxophone    Baritone Saxophone

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please list below what section's (*Drumline, Front Ensemble, Color Guard, Brass, Woodwinds, Drum Major*) Instruments and or positions you would like to audition for.

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Please list any additional comments, information or talents you feel we should be aware of.

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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**FREE PLAYERS**  
**DRUM & BUGLE CORPS**



Family Residences and  
Essential Enterprises, Inc.  
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