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Calgary Stampede

SHOWBAND

**Marching Audition Packet
2017**



What to Expect at Auditions for the Calgary Stampede Showband

What should I bring?

Bring what you would normally bring to a band rehearsal: your instrument, music, a water bottle etc. You also need to bring the audition material which is provided online at www.stampedeshowband.com. Prospective guard members should bring a flag or rifle if they have access to equipment. If not, we can supply you with a flag to use for the evening. Percussionists should bring sticks or mallets appropriate for their audition instrument. If adequate sticks are not available, they will be provided for the evening. Instruments for drumline and pit will also be provided so that recruits do not need to bring their own.

What should I wear?

Be sure to wear clothes that are comfortable and shoes you are able to march in. Colour Guard members should wear tight fitting dance clothes and dance shoes if possible.

Do I need to prepare anything?

Please review the Audition Materials section of www.stampedeshowband.com. Each section has its own individual audition material to prepare. Please note this material does not need to be memorized.

What will I be doing at auditions?

When you arrive, you will be asked to check in at a table for your section. You will be given a number. Try to arrive early, as check-in can be hectic. You will be split into sections, and evaluated by current Showband staff and some guest evaluators. You will also be doing some marching fundamental basics. You do not need to prepare anything for this section of the evaluation. There will also be a short interview so our staff can get to know you and see if you are prepared to take on the Stampede Showband.

What are we looking for?

We are looking for individuals who adapt well to new situations, learn quickly, and have a positive, friendly personality. Have fun at the audition and be yourself. Try not to be nervous! The audition is also an opportunity for you to see if Showband is really right for you.

Who will be watching me?

You will be auditioned by the sectional staff of the current Stampede Showband and some special guests. These people are not judging you; they are just trying to find out if you would be a good fit in next year's band.

When will I find out if I'm in?

All auditioning members will be notified of their audition results by email before July 17, 2017.

What if I missed the audition dates?

Call the band office at 403.261.9318 and we may try to arrange an individual audition. However, every effort should be made to come to the group audition.

Additional note for field percussion

All field percussionists will audition for a spot in the drumline, but not for a specific instrument (i.e. snare, tenor, and bass drum). All drummers must be prepared to audition on *at least* two drumline instruments. You may request a specific instrument by speaking to the instructors present on the night of auditions, but there are no guarantees.



2017 Marching Audition

The Stampede Showband Marching Audition is an assessment of your ability to learn how to march using the Showband's technique.

While no experience is required, the audition process does take into consideration your potential to learn on-the-go and execute a new skill within a short timeframe. During this process you will be given a high-level overview of the Showband's visual program and will be assessed on your ability to take in all the information and perform it. Considerations are made for those who have never marched before, as well as those with previous experience.

Time permitting; you will learn and execute the following visual responsibilities during the audition process:

- Physical fitness*
- Basic movement/across the floors
- Posture
- Forward and backwards marching at different tempos
- Step size
- Sliding exercises

**Marching band is inherently a physical activity and the Showband requires individuals to meet a very modest minimum standard.*

Please bring the following items to your marching audition:

- Running Shoes
- Comfortable workout appropriate clothing (i.e., no jeans, skirts, etc.)
- Water bottle
- Your instrument (members will be provided with Marching Instruments when necessary)

It is the Showband's goal that you enjoy your marching audition experience. Have Fun! If you have any questions at anytime, please don't hesitate to contact the band office at 403.261.9318.