



## 2021 Blue Knights Drum Major Auditions - Conducting

You will submit a series of videos, which will serve to showcase quality of technique and grasp of fundamentals, as well as provide opportunity for expressive interpretation if so chosen. Essentially, you are being asked to perform these pieces in order to display your level of comfort and skill in using the Blue Knights' conducting style; all additional personal expression and interpretation is optional, though encouraged *if you are comfortable*.

You will be able to practice the given pieces as much as you would like before the deadline, and take as many recordings as you would like before your final submission. The chosen pieces this year are slightly longer, more dynamic, and/or more difficult because of that fact.

### **Showcase Piece Number 1:**

Blue Knights 2017, Opening Hit and Battery Break, Start of Movement 2.

The first half of this piece presents a great opportunity to showcase clarity at upper dynamics, and provides room for expressive choices. The second half of this piece presents a considerable rhythmic challenge in following the battery across a very complex composition, sometimes "not adhering" to the bar lines. The skill of being able to hold time consistently both with and over very complex material is essential, and this piece will test that!

<https://youtu.be/2SjQJUBvyO8?t=93> (~1:33 to 2:40)

- Use the above for the recording.

<https://youtu.be/7m5of7twaEM?t=90> (~1:30 to 2:48)

<https://youtu.be/8-YakgGoaSY?t=20> (Battery with Met, for Practice)  
<https://youtu.be/wvQdMMUWkuc> (More Practice, Music on the Bottom)

### **Showcase Piece Number 2:**

Blue Knights 2019, End of Show - Mello Solo to Last Cutoff.

This piece provides the opportunity to showcase conducting technique at a wide range of dynamics, tempos, and styles, all packed into one two and a half minute chunk. There are several meter changes, an accel, and a lot happening to warrant a very wide range of possible expressive interpretations.

<https://soundcloud.com/user-911674463/blue-knights-2019-i-remember-1>

(Start at 10:00)

<https://youtu.be/ysgv5koodd8?t=565> (~9:30 to 12:10)

### ***Due Date For Videos: January 9th (Leadership Camp)***

#### **Tips for recording videos:**

Attempt to have as good of audio and video quality as possible. It may be helpful to have one device recording you, and another device playing the audio. If ever you find it difficult to get good audio quality on your recording, just try layering in the audio from the piece directly onto the video of yourself.

Make sure that your entire upper body is clearly visible in the frame, ideally your whole body if possible. Do your best to film yourself from straight on, or even slightly above. Avoid filming from below, as much as is possible. Please do not add any post-processing to your video other than trimming and/or layering audio of the pieces.