TCNJ THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

Department of Music

Instructions for Recording Your Audition Video: PERCUSSION

Devices

A typical smartphone, or a computer with a built-in microphone and camera will usually suffice for making a video with satisfactory visual and audio elements.

Camera Frame and Microphone Placement

▶ Since in most cases, your camera and microphone are one device, you may need to experiment to achieve the following results:

Visual elements

- Make sure to have adequate lighting while recording with no bright lights or bright windows in your background.
- ▶ The camera should face you so that we can see you playing your instrument. Be certain that you are centered in the frame of the camera, and that the entire instrument is in the frame. The exception to this is the snare drum. We would prefer a profile shot so that you are not blocked by the music stand.

Audio Elements

- A clear and undistorted recording is your goal. If the sound is distorted, change the distance to the microphone. You may need to try another location in which to make your recording.
- ▶ Be certain to review the videos prior to submitting to ensure they meet the parameters outlined above.
- ▶ Applicants are encouraged to dress professionally for the audition videos.

Perfect or "Good Enough?"

• Correct rhythms, pitches, and tempi are musical elements that you can, and should record correctly, but absolute perfection is not always attainable. Your goal is to send recordings that you feel accurately demonstrate your ability, with as few misplayed notes as possible.

Editing and Recording Takes

- ▶ The entirety of each recording should be one unedited take.
- At the beginning of each recording, announce your full name, and the composer and title (movement) of the piece you will be performing (e.g. My name is John Smith, and I will perform the first etude from Cirrone's Portraits in Rhythm).

Audition Video Submission

▶ Go back to the PERCUSSION page and open the link to: Submit your Recordings