Drum Major Audition Information:

Step 1: Prerequisites

* In addition to all of the information in this packet you must also:
  + Complete everything in the leadership packet.
  + Organize a time with the director to audition.
  + Conduct one stand tune in front of the band. (You will not get to pick which one.)

Step 2: Verbal & Whistle Commands

* Stand at attention with good posture.
* Remember you are presenting yourself: look and sound confident.
* It may feel silly yelling commands at home out of context, but practicing is the best way to prepare for the audition.
* When calling the commands, support your voice the way you would an instrument. Breathe deep into your diaphragm and use plenty of air.
* BE LOUD! But also remember to be crisp and understandable. Make sure that you aren’t

sacrificing your understandability for volume.

* Each command should be preceded by 4 claps.
* Please pause after each command. If you forget which command you are on, take a second to remember. Memorize and perform the commands in this order:
  + Verbal Commands:
    - Set
    - Band, Ten Hut
    - Band, Horns Up
  + Whistle Commands (You need to provide your own whistle.)
    - Parade rest
      * Two short tweets (think staccato – 1e)
    - Attention (after parade rest)
      * One long tweet and one short tweet
    - Count off
      * In the same style as a verbal count off, but with a whistle.
        + Do this in 4/4 time.
        + (1… 2… 1 2 3 4)

Step 3: Conducting

*Conducting Part 1:*

* You will conduct 8 measures of each time: 4/4, 3/4, and 2/4. These should be done consecutively as 24 continuous measures.
* Ritard the last 4 beats, then give a fermata on the downbeat after the ritard.
* Give an “and down” after the release of the fermata.

*Conducting Part 2:*

* Conduct 4 measures in 4/4 time of each style: Legato, Staccato, Marcato.
* This will total 12 measures. Like before, don’t stop in between, start the Staccato measures as soon as the Legato ones are finished.

*Conducting Part 3:*

* You will conduct along with a recording of Neck.
* Be sure to add style, dynamics, cues and energy.

Northridge High School Drum Major Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Marching Instrument(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What leadership skills have you already brought to the Band? (i.e., tell me what you have done to earn Drum Major):

Have you held a leadership position in any organization (including Band) before? (If yes, please elaborate):

Have you ever missed a Band rehearsal or performance, excused or unexcused? (If yes, please elaborate):

What plans do you have for the future of the Band, how can they be implemented, and what do you see as their long-term results?