



# DRUM MAJOR ACADEMY®

George N. Parks

George N. Parks Drum Major Academy®

39 Charnwood Road

Medford, Massachusetts 02155

Phone: 781-874-9728

E-mail: [info@drummajor.org](mailto:info@drummajor.org)

Web: [www.drummaj.org](http://www.drummaj.org)

Summer 2016

Dear Academy Student,

Thank you for registering for the 2016 **George N. Parks Drum Major Academy®** at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan. It should prove to be an exciting week. We have included in this letter all the information that you will need before arriving in Allendale, Michigan, on Wednesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June. READ IT CAREFULLY, and have your parents/guardians read it. Be sure to bring this letter with you to the Academy. You will be responsible for everything included here.

## **CHECK-IN:**

**Student tuitions must be paid in full prior to student's arrival at the Academy. No tuition payments will be accepted at check-in.**

Check-in for all participants will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> in the **Niemeyer Living Center at 4046 Calder Drive, Allendale, MI** (on the attached map it is building #55). The first session will be held that evening at 6:30 p.m. You will need to have a notebook and writing implements for this session. Drum Major maces/batons will not be needed until the second day.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

*If you are arriving by car:*

**From Chicago:** I-94 East to I-196/US-31 (Exit 34) at Benton Harbor. Continue on I-196 East toward Grand Rapids. Take US-31 (Exit 44) north to M-45 (Lake Michigan Drive). Turn right (east) on M-45 and go approximately 12 miles to Grand Valley's entrance and turn right (south). Approximately 200 miles from Chicago. PLEASE NOTE: Michigan is one hour ahead of Illinois (EST).

**From Detroit/Lansing:** I-96 West to I-196 West (Gerald R. Ford Freeway) through downtown Grand Rapids. Exit Lake Michigan Drive/M-45 (Exit 75). Take M-45 approximately 12 miles to Grand Valley's entrance and turn left (south). Approximately 160 miles from Detroit and 75 miles from Lansing.

**From Holland:** US-31 North to M-45 (Lake Michigan Drive). Turn right (east) on M-45 and go approximately 12 miles to Grand Valley's entrance and turn right (south). Approximately 25 miles from Holland.

**From Kalamazoo:** US-131 North to I-196 West (Gerald R. Ford Freeway). Exit Lake Michigan Drive/M-45 (Exit 75). Take M-45 approximately 12 miles to Grand Valley's entrance and turn left (south). Approximately 65 miles from Kalamazoo.

**From Muskegon:** I-96 East to Coopersville (exit 16). Turn left on 68th Avenue and go approximately 6 miles. Turn left (east) on M-45 (Lake Michigan Drive). Go approximately 3 miles to Grand Valley's entrance and turn right (south). Approximately 45 miles from Muskegon.

**From Northern Michigan:** US-131 South to Grand Rapids. Take I-196 West to Lake Michigan Drive/M-45 (Exit 75). Take M-45 approximately 12 miles to Grand Valley's entrance and turn left (south). Approximately 160 miles from Traverse City.



Arkansas registration letter continued

Please note: Directions above are to the main entrance of campus only. Please use the campus map included with this letter to get to the assigned dormitory.

If you are arriving by airplane:

Your final destination is the Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GRR).

You can find a list of transportation services on the Ford International Airport's website at <http://www.grr.org/ground.php> or on the GVSU Transportation Services website at <http://www.gvsu.edu/bus/directions-gvsu-gerald-rford-international-airport-23.htm>. The Drum Major Academy® has no affiliation with any of the transportation services listed on either of these websites.

**PARKING**

Specific parking area(s) have been assigned to the Academy by the University. Although we recommend having a parent/guardian drive you to and from the Academy, students driving themselves to the Academy must use these assigned parking lots. Students can get information on where to park their cars from a staff member during check-in on the first day.

**If you park in any area not specifically designated for the Drum Major Academy® you may be subject to having your vehicle ticketed or towed at your own expense.**

**HOUSING**

Separate areas in **Pickard Living Center (number 65 on the campus map)** have been set aside for males and females. Students are supervised by DMA staff, males for males and females for females. Dorms do not provide linens. You must bring sheets, blankets, pillows, towels, and an alarm clock. *Remember, Drum Majors are never late!*

Check-out will be Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> immediately following the closing session. The closing session will begin at 11:00 a.m. and last for approximately one hour. All students must check out and return keys and meal cards as directed. **There will be a \$100.00 charge for any keys not turned in at check out on June 26<sup>th</sup>.**

**ROOMING ASSIGNMENTS**

Rooming Assignments will be made in advance according to **Drum Major Academy®** policy. Students will be housed with students from other schools in order to enhance the experience of meeting new friends and working with new people. This is a firm **Drum Major Academy®** policy. **HOUSING ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE CHANGED. PLEASE DO NOT ASK.**

**MEALS**

All meals will be eaten in the University dining hall. The \$515.00 fee includes tuition, housing, and meals beginning with Wednesday dinner through Sunday breakfast.

**TELEPHONES**

In the event of an emergency, the number for the Campus Police is 616-331-3255. Students may bring cell phones; however, students are not to use phones during sessions or after lights out unless there is an emergency.

**MEDICAL EMERGENCIES**

Any medical emergencies that arise will be handled through the Campus Health Center on the GVSU campus or the emergency room at Holland Hospital in Holland Michigan. The telephone number for the Campus Health Center is 616-252-3060 and the telephone number for the Holland Hospital is 616-392-5142.



Arkansas registration letter continued

**SCHEDULE** (*sample schedule included in this letter*)

A full day at the Academy begins at approximately 8:00 a.m. and concludes at approximately 10:30 p.m. Breaks are taken for lunch and dinner. Students will also be given multiple water breaks throughout each session.

**PHYSICAL FITNESS**

It is strongly recommended that you do your best to "be in shape" when you arrive at the Academy. A daily exercise program consisting of stretching and jogging, etc. might be helpful. Your work at the Academy could become relatively strenuous if you are not physically prepared.

**DMA T-SHIRT**

Students will receive a t-shirt, which is included in the tuition cost. This t-shirt is to be worn to the final session on Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>.

**CLOSING CEREMONY**

We invite your family, friends and band directors to join us for our final session. This session will include your final class lecture, demonstration of the work you have done throughout the week, final competition for the best marching squad, presentation of certificates and the closing ceremony. This session will be held on Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. All students must check-out and return keys immediately following the closing ceremony. **Again, there will be a \$100.00 charge for any keys not turned in at check-out on June 26<sup>th</sup>.**

We are very excited about this year's Academy, and we look forward to meeting you. If you have questions, please call the Drum Major Academy® at **781-874-9728**.

With Pride,

The Drum Major Academy® Staff



## **Rules and Regulations**

**\*As a student who has been selected to be a Drum Major/Student Leader of your school band, there is no need to stress the importance of good conduct. Drum Major Academy® students are expected to uphold the highest standards of behavior and attitude. Failure to comply with any of the following regulations established by the Drum Major Academy® may result in immediate dismissal from the Academy without a refund of fees. Your parents/guardians will be responsible for immediate transportation home.**

Drum majors and ALL band student leaders are never late. Remember the old saying, "To be early is to be on time. To be on time is to be late." You should plan on being at least five minutes early to each session. This is a security issue as well as a self-discipline issue.

The Drum Major Academy® needs to know your whereabouts throughout the entire workshop. If you feel ill at any time, you MUST contact an Academy staff member immediately.

Nametags must be worn at all times.

Visitation by persons who are not enrolled in the Academy is not permitted.

Please keep your room locked at all times. Also, do not leave money or other valuables anywhere on campus. The Drum Major Academy® and Grand Valley State University cannot be held responsible for loss of personal property.

You have all been selected as intelligent leaders of your high school bands. Please use discretion in wearing appropriate clothing during the DMA workshop in order to maintain a respectful, professional atmosphere. Please no bathing suits, tube tops, short shorts, or low-cut arm hole shirts for girls or boys. A closed shoe such as sneaker or boat shoe is required. Shoes and shirts must be worn for reasons of safety, hygiene, and courtesy to others.

The Drum Major Academy® values civility, diversity, education, equality, freedom, and honesty. We are firmly committed to maintaining a safe environment. Any type of sexual misconduct is contrary to Drum Major Academy® policies and philosophies and therefore will not be tolerated. Anything deemed by our staff of professional educators as sexual misconduct will result in immediate dismissal from the Academy, with parents/guardians being responsible for immediate transportation home.

Bullying/Intimidation behaviors are strictly prohibited and will result in immediate dismissal from the Academy.

Alcohol, tobacco (cigarettes or chewing tobacco) or controlled/illegal substances are prohibited while at the Academy. Use of any of these items is STRICTLY PROHIBITED and will result in immediate dismissal from the Academy.

Non-performance weapons of any type, including but not limited to: pocket knives/Swiss army knives, firearms, etc., are not permitted at the Academy. Possession of any non-performance weapon will result in immediate dismissal from the Academy.

Students are not permitted to leave campus at any time. If you drive to campus, your vehicle is to be parked, locked and remain off-limits throughout the Academy.

You may not, under any circumstances, visit the rooms or floors housing members of the opposite sex.

Room checks will be performed each evening. Room check/lights out times will be given at the end of each evening session. At room check, you are expected to be in and stay in your assigned room. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Please leave your room in the same condition at the close of the Academy as when you moved in at the beginning of the Academy. You and your parents/guardians will be held financially responsible for any cleaning or repairs that need to take place in your room as a result of your stay.

Any inappropriate behavior that reflects poorly on yourself, your school, or the Drum Major Academy® will not be tolerated.



## THINGS TO BRING

**Student tuitions must be paid in full prior to student's arrival at the Academy. No tuition payments will be accepted at check-in.** \**For Schools Who Will Be Submitting A Purchase Order: A valid purchase order will be considered payment for registration purposes only. If your school submits a valid purchase order to the Drum Major Academy, the student for whom the purchase order is to be applied will be considered paid up to the amount of the purchase order. Any amount not covered in the purchase order must be paid by other means (check, credit card) prior to check-in.*

The textbook: The most recent edition of **The Dynamic Drum Major** (black cover) will be needed throughout the week for reference and reading assignments. If you pre-ordered a copy of the Dynamic Drum Major on your registration form, it will be available for pick-up at check-in on the first day of the Academy. Students who need a copy can purchase it during the session for \$20.00.

Comfortable clothes - clothes suitable for marching and working on warm days and in air conditioned rooms. (Please see the "Rules and Regulations" page for dress code information)

Sneakers are required for all sessions. Be sure your sneakers have already been broken in BEFORE arriving at the Academy. Sandals, flip-flops or clogs are not acceptable.

Sunburn protection - please be prepared to work in the sun. Hats, sun block, sunglasses, and other precautionary items are strongly recommended.

You will need writing implements and a notebook for all sessions. Make sure you bring this letter as the first section in your notebook.

You must provide your own linens which should include sheets (most dormitory beds are extra long twin) or a sleeping bag, a pillow and pillowcase, blanket(s), towels, washcloths, shower shoes and other necessary toiletries. An alarm clock is highly recommended as you will be responsible for getting yourself up and to breakfast on time.

Students may wish to bring a portable fan. Although most dormitories are air conditioned, we do not control the temperature in the dormitories. Dormitory temperatures will vary year to year, location to location.

Although they are **not** required, we recommend that all drum majors bring a whistle and a drum major baton/mace or practice baton/mace. Even though many bands do not use this equipment, after seeing the showmanship potential for this equipment, many students wish they could attend the baton/mace and whistle sessions and practice some of the techniques. For many drum majors, this can become the special effect that sets them apart from the competition. Therefore, although it is **not** required, we highly recommend that students bring a drum major baton/mace and whistle. If you do not have access to a drum major baton or mace, a 42" wooden dowel or broomstick handle will suffice. Students who bring a good drum major baton/mace should also have a "practice stick" to use when practicing new, difficult twirling techniques.

Students may bring snacks. But please be aware, most dorm rooms are **not** equipped with refrigerators. Please do not bring anything that requires refrigeration.



Michigan Registration Letter Continued

Although water breaks are provided throughout each session, we always recommend students bring their own water bottles that they can fill up before each session.

Students may bring cell phones; however, students are not to use phones during sessions or after lights out unless there is an emergency.

Students can bring money with them to the Academy. We do discourage students from bringing excessive amounts of cash to the Academy. Your tuition covers all your necessities. Occasionally dormitory areas have vending machines and the academy does sell souvenirs. We, the Drum Major Academy® and Grand Valley State University, cannot be held responsible for any lost or stolen money.

Please do not bring anything of value to the Drum Major Academy®. Although we very rarely have instances where a student's valuables will get lost or stolen, it does happen. We, the Drum Major Academy® and Grand Valley State University, cannot be held responsible for any lost or stolen items.



## **Daily Schedule**

*This is a **tentative** schedule and is only to be used as basic outline of a typical DMA session and will most likely vary at each location. Schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the staff.*

### **DAY 1:**

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 3:00 - 5:00 PM  | Check In                                  |
| 5:00 - 6:00 PM  | Dinner offered                            |
| 6:30 - 10:00 PM | Opening Session (both outside and inside) |

### **DAY 2 - 4:**

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 7:00 - 8:00 AM  | Breakfast   |
| 8:00 - 11:30 AM | Outside Session   |
| 11:30 - 1:00 PM | Lunch / Break   |
| 1:00 - 4:45 PM  | Afternoon Session (large and small inside classes plus outside classes) |
| 4:45 - 6:00 PM  | Dinner / Break  |
| 6:00 - 8:00 PM  | Outside Session   |
| 8:00 - 10:00 PM | Inside Session  |

### **DAY 5:**

- |                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 7:00 - 8:00 AM  | Breakfast           |
| 8:00 - 11:00 AM | Outside Session     |
| 11:00 - 12:00PM | Final Demonstration |

**BUILDING KEY**

1. Alumni House & Visitor Center (AH)-C1
2. Au Sable Hall (ASH)-E5
3. Alexander Calder Fine Arts Center (CAC)-F6
4. Art Gallery Support Building (AGS)-C8
5. Calder Residence (CR)-F6
6. Campus Health Center (UHC)-C8
7. Central Utilities Building-E1
8. Children's Enrichment Center (CC)-B5
9. The Commons (COM)-E4
10. The Connection (CON)-D7
11. Cook Carillon Tower-D5
12. Cook-DeWitt Center (CDC)-D5
13. James M. Copeland Living Center (COP)-E3
14. Richard M. DeVos Living Center (DLC)-F2
15. Fieldhouse (FH)-D3
  - a. Arena-(D3)
  - b. Pool-(D4)
  - c. Recreation Center (RC)-C4
16. Football Center (FC)-B2
17. Edward J. Frey Living Center (FLC)-F2
- Grand Valley Apartments (GVA):
  - 18. Benzie-E9
  - 19. Keweenaw-E9
  - 20. Mackinac-E9
  - 21. Oakland-E8
  - 22. Office-E9
  - 23. Tuscola-E8
  - 24. Wexford-E8
25. Grand Valley State Univ. Arboretum-E5
26. Great Lakes Plaza-E5
27. Henry Hall (HRY)-D4
28. Arthur C. Hills Living Center (HLL)-F3
29. Icie Macy Hoobler Living Center (HLC)-E2
30. Paul A. Johnson Living Center (JLC)-E3
31. Kelly Family Sports Center (KTR)-C3
32. Russel H. Kirkhof Center (KC)-D5
33. William A. Kirkpatrick Living Center (KRP)-F3
34. Robert Kleiner Commons (KLC)-E2
35. Grace Olsen Kistler Living Center (KIS)-E2
36. P. Douglas Kindsch Hall of Science (KHS)-D4
37. Ella Koeze-Weed Living Center (WLC)-E2
38. Lake Huron Hall (LHH)-E5
39. Lake Michigan Hall (LMH)-E6
40. Lake Ontario Hall (LOH)-E6
41. Lake Superior Hall (LSH)-E6
42. Laker Village Apartments (LVA)-C7
43. Loutit Lecture Halls (LTT)-D4
44. Arend D. Lubbers Stadium -B2
45. Mackinac Hall (MAK)-E4
46. Maple Living Center (MLPC)-F4
47. Manitou Hall (MAN)-D4
48. The Marketplace
49. Mary Idema Pew Library Learning & Information Commons-D5
50. Meadows Club House (MCH)-A4
51. Meadows Learning Center (MLC)-A4
52. Multi-Purpose Facility (MPF)-B2
53. Mark A. Murray Living Center (MUR)-D7
54. Glenn A. Niemeyer East Living Center (NMR)-E7
55. Glenn A. Niemeyer Honors Hall (HON)-E7
56. Glenn A. Niemeyer West Living Center (NMR)-E7
57. North C Living Center (NLC)-E2
58. Oak Living Center (OLC)-E4
59. Arnold C. Ott Living Center (OCC)-E4
60. Outdoor Recreation & Athletic Fields-A,B6
61. Seymour & Esther Padnos Hall of Science (PAD)-D4
62. Performing Arts Center (PAC)-D6
  - a. Louis Armstrong Theatre (LAT)-D6
63. Pine Living Center (PNLC)-E4
64. Robert C. Pew Living Center (PLC)-F2
65. William F. Pickard Living Center (PKC)-F3
66. Ravine Apartments (RA)-C2
67. Ravine Center (RC)-C2
68. Kenneth W. Robinson Living Center (ROB)-E3
69. Seidman House (SH)-E6
70. Bill & Sally Seidman Living Center (SLC)-F3
71. Service Building (SER)-D1
72. South Apartment C (SAC)-D8
73. South Apartment D (SAD)-D9
74. South Apartment E (SAE)-D8
75. South Utilities Building (SUB)-F7
76. Dale Stafford Living Center (STA)-F3
77. Student Services Building (STU)-D5
78. Maxine M. Swanson Living Center (SWN)-F3
79. Traditional Style Housing (Coming 2016)
80. Ronald F. VanSteeland Living Center (VLC)-D7
81. James H. Zumberge Hall (JHZ)-E5

