



## RISING STARS PERCUSSION SOLO

Each participant will perform two pieces, the required test piece on snare drum and a choice piece to be played on either snare drum or mallet percussion. Participants may find links to purchase or download repertoire from the website:

[www.samusiccentral.org/rising-stars](http://www.samusiccentral.org/rising-stars)

All participants must provide two copies of the choice piece score, with all measures numbered and any cuts clearly marked.

**Uniform:** Salvation Army summer uniform or black/blue dress bottoms and white dress shirt.

**Time Limits:** All participants have a total of 7 minutes. This time should include performance of both pieces and transition time. Choice pieces may have a cut if it is notated in the provided score to the judges.

**Accompaniment:**

All soloists will use provided recorded accompaniment for the required test piece. This can be downloaded at [www.samusiccentral.org/rising-stars](http://www.samusiccentral.org/rising-stars)

**Deadline for Territorial Round:** All participants and information for the Territorial Round should be submitted via email to [usc.thq.music@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:usc.thq.music@usc.salvationarmy.org) by May 8, 2026.

| LEVEL | AGE RANGE | REQUIRED PIECE                      | CHOICE PIECE  |
|-------|-----------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1     | 7-10      | Our Song Shall Rise (Boynton)       | Any music from Salvation Army, Sacred or Classical Literature - Suggestions found on website. |
| 2     | 11-14     | Rejoice! (Boynton)                  |   |
| 3     | 15-18     | Fill the World with Glory (Boynton) |   |
| 4     | 19-25     | Heaven Came Down (Boynton)          |   |



## PERCUSSION SOLO SCORING GUIDELINES

### ACCURACY - 50 points

- Notes (20 points possible)
  - Are the notes and rests performed as written?
  - Are the notes placed smoothly and accurately?
- Rhythm (20 points possible)
  - Is the rhythm performed accurately?
  - Is the tempo steady with a good pulse?
  - Did the performer have any stop-restarts?
- Dynamics/Accents (10 points possible)
  - Are all dynamics played accurately?
  - Does the soloist have a wide range of dynamic capability?
  - Are all accents played accurately?

### TONE - 20 points

- Quality (10 points possible)
  - Is the soloist sticking in the proper playing area?
  - Is the soloist using the correct choice of sticks or mallets?
  - Is the correct method being used for the instrument? (Snare: traditional vs. matched grip / Mallets: Stevens vs. Burton grip)
- Articulation (10 points possible)
  - Is there proper snare/head tension? (snare only)
  - Is the soloist striking bars properly? (mallets only)

### INTERPRETATION - 20 points

- Technique (10 points possible)
  - Is the soloist using proper mechanics of hand/arm motion?
  - Is there good roll quality?
  - Are proper sticking patterns being used?
  - Is the soloist using proper hand control and lift?
- Musicality/Phrasing (10 points possible)
  - Is there a sense of musicality/phrasing?
  - Is the music correctly represented in tempo, style, and phrasing?

### PERFORMANCE - 10 points

- Stage Presence (5 points possible)
  - Does the soloist exhibit correct playing posture and position?
  - Does the soloist look neat and sharp?
  - Does the soloist introduce themselves well?
- Suitability (5 points possible)
  - Is this solo suitable for the soloist? Is it too easy or too hard?
  - Has the soloist chosen a piece that demonstrates their abilities?