

“The Commandant’s Own”

United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps

Major Nathan D. Morris, Commanding Officer

Captain Courtney R. Lawrence, Director

ANNOUNCES A VACANCY FOR BARITONE

Interested euphonium and trombone players are encouraged to submit the enclosed Applicant Fact Sheet along with their current résumé and **audio recordings** to auditions.usmcdrumcorps@gmail.com by **Wednesday, July 15, 2026**. Well-qualified candidates will be notified and invited to attend the live audition held on **Monday, August 24, 2026**, at Marine Barracks Washington, 8th & I Streets SE in Washington, D.C. No specific audition time will be assigned; candidates will be heard in the order in which they appear and register.

"The Commandant's Own," founded in 1934, is the only active duty drum and bugle corps currently serving in our armed forces. Its mission is to provide music and drill ceremony to the Commandant of the Marine Corps and the Commanding Officer of Marine Barracks Washington, D.C. The Drum & Bugle Corps performs martial and popular music for hundreds of thousands of spectators each year. Comprised of over 70 Marine musicians dressed in ceremonial red and white uniforms, it is known world-wide as a premier musical marching unit. Throughout the summer months the unit performs in the traditional Evening Parades held at Marine Barracks Washington, and in the Sunset Parades at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia. The Drum & Bugle Corps travels more than 50,000 miles annually, performing in nearly 500 events across the nation and abroad.

Upon accepting employment with “The Commandant’s Own,” United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps, the hired candidate must be able to satisfy all requirements for enlistment in the United States Marine Corps and will be required to complete Marine Corps Recruit Training and Marine Combat Training prior to reporting for duty at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C.

Candidates that wish to be considered must submit **WAV or MP3 audio recordings** of the following excerpts:

1. March from “Suite in F for Military Band” (Holst) [mm.46 – mm.78]
2. Overture to “Russlan and Ludmilla” (Glinka) [mm.1 – mm.36]
3. “Roman Carnival Overture” (Berlioz/Safranek) [mm.1 – mm.24]

The live audition will consist of the following:

- A. Repertoire of the candidate’s choice – **Not to exceed three minutes (Euphonium or Marching Baritone)** (i.e. solos, excerpts, or etudes demonstrating the candidate’s range, lyrical, and technical abilities.)
- B. Excerpts (enclosed) – **To be selected from the following:**
 1. March from “Suite in F for Military Band” (Holst) [mm.46 – mm.78]
 2. Overture to “Russlan and Ludmilla” (Glinka) [mm.1 – mm.36]
 3. “Roman Carnival Overture” (Berlioz/Safranek) [mm.1 – mm.24]
 4. “Molly on the Shore” (Grainger) [mm.71 – mm.99]
 5. “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy” (The Andrews Sisters/Shaw) [mm.52 – mm.64]
 6. The Pines Near a Catacomb from “The Pines of Rome” (Respighi/Duker)
- C. Marching Assessment (enclosed) – Candidates must demonstrate competency in basic marching techniques using the provided marching exercises.
- D. Combined Marching & Playing Assessment (enclosed) – Candidates must perform the following excerpt from memory while marching the provided exercise.
 1. “Semper Fidelis” (Sousa) [mm.51 – mm.82]

-Candidates may be dismissed based on their performance after any assessment-

For further information, please write or call:
Audition & Enlistment Coordinator • Russell Road 3280 • Quantico, VA 22134
Office Phone: (667) 893-0856 • www.drumcorps.marines.mil

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Please print or type.

APPLICANT FACT SHEET

PERSONAL INFO.	First Name:	Middle Initial:	Last Name:
	Position(s) for which you are applying:		
	Street Address:		Apartment:
	City:	State:	Zip Code:
	Primary Phone:	Secondary Phone:	
	Email Address:	Are you a United States Citizen? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	Date of Birth	Date available for enlistment:	
	How did you learn about this audition?		

MILITARY	Do you have prior US Military Service? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If so, how long did you serve? Years: Months:
	Are you on Active Duty or Reserve Status? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	IF CURRENTLY SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY: Please include with your application an authorized conditional release from your present command.	

REFERENCES	Name	Name:
	Title / Position:	Title / Position:
	Phone:	Phone:
	E-mail:	Email:

Please return this completed application, your current résumé, and all required recordings to **auditions.usmcdrumcorps@gmail.com**
 If you need assistance in submitting application materials, please contact the Audition & Enlistment Coordinator at:
OFFICE PHONE: (667) 893-0856 **E-MAIL:** auditions.usmcdrumcorps@gmail.com

You will receive e-mail confirmation upon receipt of your application materials. Candidates who are invited to the live round will be notified promptly. **Applicants are responsible for all audition related travel expenses and participation in the audition does not guarantee selection or enlistment.** If you are unable to attend or have further questions, please call (667) 893-0856 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. eastern time on weekdays. In the event of severe weather or other events that could impact the audition, please refer to your e-mail or the U.S. Marine Drum & Bugle Corps’ website for updates.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT FOR U.S. MARINE DRUM & BUGLE CORPS APPLICANTS

This statement is provided in compliance with the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) which requires Federal agencies to inform individuals who are requested to furnish personal information about themselves.

- Authority. 10 U.S.C. 5063, MCO P5211.2
- Principle Purposes. The information that will be requested from you in the selection process and personal interview is intended to provide a basis on which to evaluate your suitability to hold a position with the U.S. Marine Drum & Bugle Corps.
- Routine Uses. In addition to being used by U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps’ staff in the audition and evaluation process, pertinent information will be provided to other government activities in a preliminary screening to determine your ability to obtain a security clearance, which is a requirement for duty with the U.S. Marine Drum & Bugle Corps.
- Disclosure of this information is voluntary, but failure to do so could result in the inability of the U.S. Marine Drum & Bugle Corps’ staff to evaluate your suitability for a position in the U.S. Marine Drum & Bugle Corps and could preclude further participation in the audition process.

Applicant’s Signature:	Date:
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BARITONE AUDITION

AUGUST 24, 2026

Marine Barracks Washington

8th & I Streets SE

Washington, DC

The live audition will consist of the following:

A. Repertoire of the candidate’s choice – **Not to exceed three minutes (Euphonium or Marching Baritone)**
(i.e. solos, excerpts, or etudes demonstrating the candidate’s range, lyrical, and technical abilities.)

B. Excerpts (enclosed) – **To be selected from the following:**

1. March from “Suite in F for Military Band” (Holst) [mm.46 – mm.78]

The musical score is for a baritone part, written in bass clef with a 2/2 time signature. It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 120 and a dynamic marking of *mf*. The key signature has one flat (F major). The excerpt is marked with a large 'E' and contains several measures of music with slurs and a 'cres.' marking at the end.

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2. Overture to "Russlan and Ludmilla" (Glinka) [mm.1 – mm.36]

Presto(144 bpm)

J 365

ff

ff

f

ff

sf

sf

3. "Roman Carnival Overture" (Berlioz/Safranek) [mm.1 – mm.24]

♩ = 66-72 **1**
Solo
mf *espressivo*

mf

poco cresc. *sf* 5

The musical score is written in bass clef with a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a tempo marking of ♩ = 66-72 and a first ending bracket labeled '1'. The piece is marked 'Solo' and 'mf espressivo'. The notation includes various dynamics such as 'mf' and 'sf', and performance markings like 'poco cresc.' and a fermata with a '5' above it. The score consists of seven staves of music, with the final staff ending with a fermata.

4. "Molly on the Shore" (Grainger) [mm.71 – mm.99]

♩ = 88-96

71 *f* *mp* Solo

75 *mp* Solo

83 *f* *f*

91 *mf* *cresc.* *ff* Solo *molto espr.*

123 *ppp* *ff*

ff

Detailed description: This is a musical score for the piece "Molly on the Shore" by Percy Grainger, covering measures 71 to 99. The score is written in bass clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a tempo of 88-96. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins at measure 71 with a forte (*f*) dynamic and a triplet of eighth notes. A bracket groups measures 71-75, which end with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and a "Solo" marking. The second staff continues with triplets and dynamic markings. The third staff starts at measure 83 with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The fourth staff begins at measure 91 with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic, a crescendo (*cresc.*) marking, and a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic, also featuring a "Solo" and "molto espr." marking. The fifth staff ends at measure 123 with a pianissimo (*ppp*) dynamic, followed by a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic. The sixth staff concludes with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic.

5. "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" (The Andrews Sisters/Shaw) [mm.52 – mm.64]

42 *ff*³ *fff* **D** 6 *soli* *mf*

53 **E**

59 *mp*

63 *f* **F** 2 *f* 2

6. The Pines Near a Catacomb from "The Pines of Rome" (Respighi/Duker)

72 *ff*

12 *ff* *f* dim. poco a poco

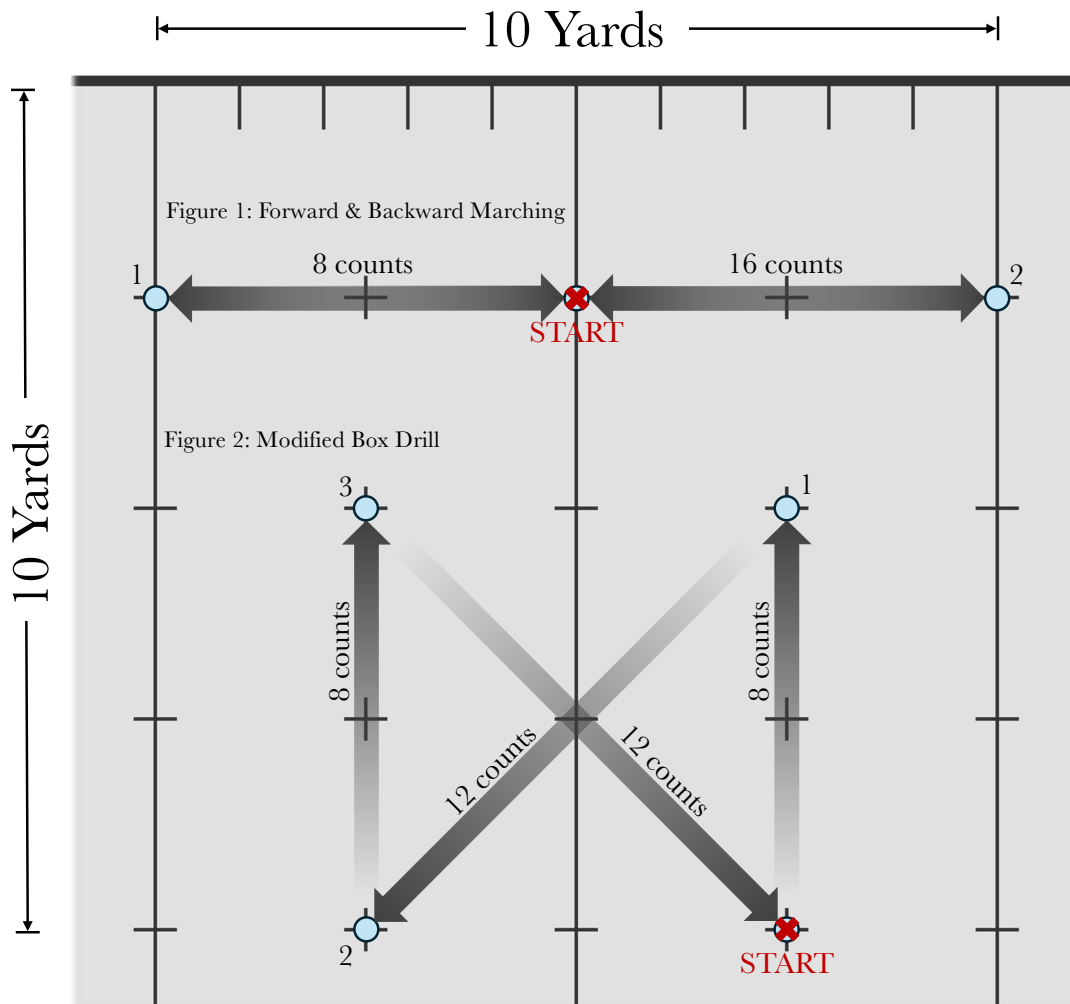
C. Marching Assessment (enclosed) – Candidates will demonstrate competency in basic marching techniques using the provided marching exercises. (To be performed in the playing position; instrument parallel to the ground.)

Forward & Backward Marching (see Figure 1):
The following drill sequence will be performed with a metronome twice; once at 100 bpm, and again at 144 bpm. The candidate will begin at the START position, facing position 1.

Counts	Instructions
8	Forward march to position 1
4	Hold
8	Backward march to the START position
4	Hold
16	Backward march to position 2
4	Hold
16	Forward march to the START position
4	Hold (exercise complete)

Modified Box Drill (see Figure 2):
The following drill sequence will be performed with a metronome at 120 bpm. The candidate will begin at the START position, facing the 'front sideline.' Shoulders should remain parallel to the 'front sideline' for the duration of the exercise.

Counts	Instructions
8	Forward march to position 1
12	Backward march to position 2
8	Forward march to position 3
12	Backward march to the START position
8	Forward march to position 1
12	Backward march to position 2
4	Hold (exercise complete)



D. Combined Marching & Playing Assessment (enclosed) – Candidates must perform the following excerpt from memory while marching the Modified Box Drill (see Figure 2 above).

1. “Semper Fidelis” (Sousa) [mm.67 – mm.96]

$\text{♩} = 120$ March Tempo.

62 $\text{♩} = 120$ March Tempo. *[mf]* *f* *cresc*

70 *poco* *a* *poco* *[f]* *cresc*

78 *poco* *a* *poco* *ff*

87 *[mf]* *(ff)* ****Halt feet****

98 *[mf]* *(ff)*