



# University of Toledo Rocket Marching Band 2022-2023 Feature Twirler Auditions Sunday, April 10th 2022

## INTRODUCTION

- The University of Toledo (UToledo) Department of Music invites interested candidates to audition for the Rocket Marching Band (RMB) Feature Twirler positions. Participants perform with the RMB at all home football games, selected away games, parades, and a possible post-season bowl game. The band accepts 1-3 twirlers that fit the criteria.

- Auditions will take place Sunday April 10th at the University of Toledo Rec Center. The gym will be open a half hour before the start of try outs for twirlers to warm up. Please read below for audition requirements.

## AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

**1**

**Email the UToledo Audition Information Form to the UToledo Twirling Coordinator by March 25th.**

**2**

**On audition day, you will audition with the following items:**

- **A freestyle routine**
  - Time limit can be no more than 3 ½ minutes
  - You may include any number of batons
  - No props or other novelty items will be allowed
  - Bodywork and gymnastics as well as floor coverage are encouraged
  - Song of your choice. Choreograph the routine to the music. UToledo feature twirlers are expected to choreograph routines to match the music.
  
- **A down field routine** to the University of Toledo fight song

- Your routine should show you starting on one end of the gym and finishing on the other, to replicate how you would move down the field during a pregame performance.
  - Incorporate:
    - Big moving tricks in addition to flips and stationary tricks
    - A variety of leaps and other body work
    - Marching is optional and shouldn't be more than a count of 8
  - The version of the fightsong that will be played at try outs will be sent by email after completing the UT Audition Information Form.
- **45-60 second improvisational routine**
    - We will give you a recording of music and allow two minutes for you to listen to it prior to performing the routine.
    - The routine must be performed using one baton and should implement tricks from the required list.

*Required Tricks (should be shown at least once in the 3 routines):*

- 4 spin vertical/ 3 spin horizontal
- Variety of catches
- Low contact/ flip material
- Toss double leap
- Double illusion
- Toss cartwheel or toss walkover
- Rolls (back neck rolls, long arm roll, elbow pops, fujimis)
- Strong 2 baton skills (variety in types of tosses)
- Strong 3-baton skills (high toss with a variety of tricks underneath, box, stacks)
- Strong bodywork (leg holds, kicks, laybacks, leaps, jumps)

- **Participate in an interview**

- Topics of discussion may include goals and ambitions as a UToledo student, twirling accomplishments and experience, dedication and work ethic, ability and desire to represent UToledo at national twirling competitions if selected as a feature twirler, and other relevant issues.

**Attire for Auditions:** Please wear a baton costume with performance hair and make-up.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

- Candidates will be contacted with the results by phone within one week following the audition. We plan to offer two (2) positions but reserve the right to alter this based on the talent presented and vision for the band. The directors also reserve the right to not name a feature twirler if none of the applicants meet the criteria.

## **WHAT QUALITIES DO WE LOOK FOR?**

- We seek twirlers with well-developed technique who can adapt their skills to a variety of musical styles and perform their routines within the rhythmic foundation of the music. We also look for members who are excited to be a part of rehearsals and performances, a willingness to be flexible as the needs of any change, and obtain a strong sense of professionalism while on and off the field. We continue to follow the expectations of the Rocket Marching Band along with additional responsibilities the Feature Twirler position instills. As we do not field a "twirling line" as do other college bands, our positions are more selective in scope. Being a Feature Twirler for the University of Toledo is a privilege, so twirlers must be willing to participate/perform in events outside the football season.

### **Questions?**

**Please contact:**

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