

Welcome!

PERCUSSIVE ARTS SOCIETY

Percussion Ensemble Competition and Festival

**The University of Tennessee
Percussion Festival
February 28, 2026**



Contact

The University of Tennessee Percussion Festival

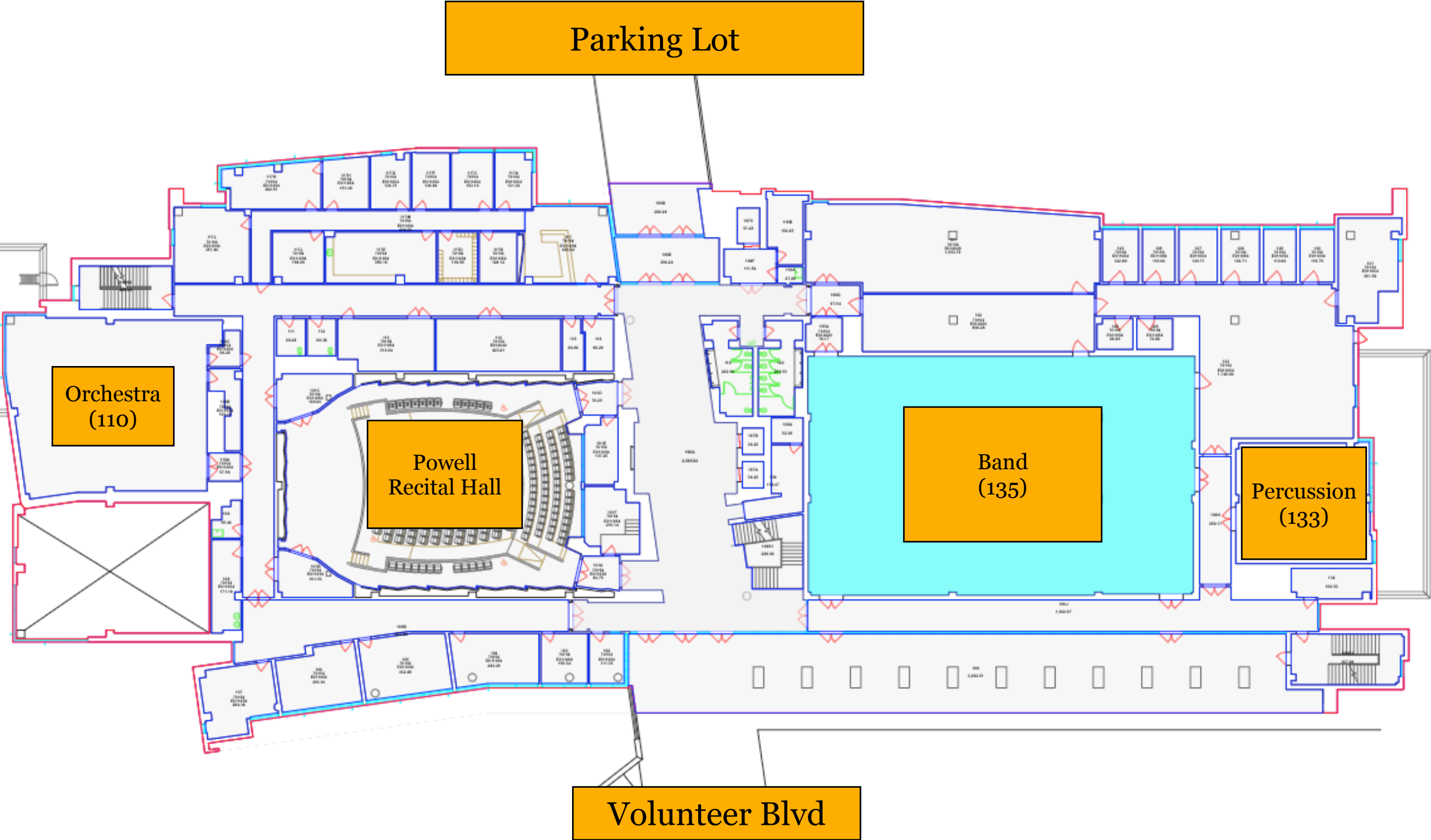
Thank you for registering your ensemble for the 2025 University of Tennessee Percussion Festival, sponsored by the Percussive Arts Society! Our goal is to provide you and your students with a fantastic day of percussion experiences. This packet should provide you with the necessary information you should need for the event, but please feel free to reach out with any additional questions/clarifications.

Host Contact Information

Kevin Zetina
kzetina@utk.edu



Location: Natalie L. Haslam Music Center
1741 Volunteer Blvd, Knoxville, TN 37996



Arrival

Parking will be free and available in the S23 parking lot just North of the Natalie L. Haslam Music Center (shown above). There is also additional parking on the other side of Volunteer Boulevard via the Volunteer Blvd. parking garage. The best way to bring gear in is through the front doors that face the parking lot (S23). The following maps can help you navigate campus to find the music building and other amenities.

[Campus Map](#)

[Interactive Map](#)

Registration will begin at 8:30 AM in the lobby of the Music Center. The registration fee you paid to PAS covers everything (except food!) for the day. There is no additional charge for parents, supporters, or other students to attend the event with your group.

Our crew will also be able to assist with any gear load-in/load-out should you need it.



Provided Instruments

We don't want you to have to bring a lot of gear! These instruments will be available for all groups and we can potentially provide any additional gear not listed here if you let us know in advance. You are certainly welcome to bring your own gear but we are happy to provide it as we are able. Regardless, please let us know what instruments you plan to bring and what instruments of ours you plan to use.

Keyboards

5 low C (5.0) marimbas
2 low A (4.3) marimbas
5 vibraphones
1 set of chimes
3 glockenspiels
2 xylophones
1 set of crotales (2 octaves)
1 grand piano

Drums

3 concert bass drums
4 concert snare drums
2 sets of six concert toms
(graduated sizes)
4 congas
2 set of bongos
1 drumset

Metals

6 suspended cymbals
4 sets of crash cymbals
2 china cymbals
1 ride cymbal
3 tam-tams
Almglocken
Thai gongs

Miscellaneous

Music stands
Trap tables
Hardware
Additional instruments as
requested



Performance/judging



Dr. Annie Stevens

Praised for her “arresting spirit, tonal richness, and razor-sharp ensemble performance” by Fanfare Magazine, Annie Stevens is an active soloist, chamber player, and orchestral musician throughout the U.S. and internationally. Annie has performed and lectured at over 40 universities, numerous international conferences, and her most recent solo engagements include the UNLV Nextet Concert Series where she worked with composer-in-residence Christopher Cerrone, the Oberlin College Conservatory, and the Northwestern University Summer Percussion Symposium. As an educator, Annie's students have won several awards and competitions, including acceptance into Carnegie Hall's prestigious NYO2 and NYO touring orchestras, winning first place at the Percussive Arts Society Chamber Music Competition at PASIC, and being awarded full scholarships for graduate study after completing their degrees at Virginia Tech. Annie is frequently asked to adjudicate percussion events, with recent engagements including the Great Plains International Marimba Competition and several Percussive Arts Society solo and ensemble competitions.

As a member of the percussion duo, Escape Ten, Annie maintains an active performance calendar, with recent performances including the U.S. premiere of John Psathas' double concerto, *The All-Seeing Sky*, with the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra. 2025-26 performance invitations include Northern Illinois University, The University of North Alabama, The Center for Mallet Percussion Research at Kutztown University, and the University of Tennessee. The duo has performed a keyboard showcase concert at the 2016 PASIC, the Leigh Howard Stevens Summer Marimba Festival, Atlanta's coveted Spivey Hall, Orlando's Steinmetz Hall, the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia, Jacksonville's Cummer Museum, and appeared on numerous concert series. The duo has been featured on NPR's "Performance Today" and they have released two albums, *Colours of a Groove* and *Our Favorite Things*. They worked alongside Leigh Stevens to develop their Escape Ten Signature Mallets through Mallettech. Escape Ten is dedicated to commissioning new works for percussion duo, with several works published under the Escape X Series through Keyboard Percussion Publications.

Annie is the Associate Professor of Percussion at Virginia Tech where she has been a member of the faculty since 2013. In 2025 she was presented with the Award for Outreach Excellence by the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design. Her primary teachers include Michael Burritt, Alan Abel, Chip Ross, Bill Cahn, She-e Wu, and Tom McGowan, and she holds degrees from Northwestern University (B.M.), Rutgers University (M.M.) and The Eastman School of Music (D.M.A). Annie endorses Mallettech, Remo, Blackswamp Percussion, and Dream Cymbals and Gongs, and she is the Chapter President for the Percussive Arts Society, Virginia/D.C. Region and serves on the PAS University Pedagogy Committee. She lives in Blacksburg, VA with her husband and violinist, John Irrera, and their two young daughters.

Performance/judging



Dr. Andrea Venet

Dr. Andrea Venet is a percussion artist, soloist, educator, and composer specializing in contemporary and classical genres. She is currently Associate Professor and head of the percussion department at the University of North Florida. As an international soloist, chamber musician, and clinician, she maintains an active performance schedule with appointments held in Europe, Japan, Argentina, Canada, and Trinidad. Highlights include the WASBE & Àgora Actual Festivals (Spain), Banda Sinfónica de la Provincia de Córdoba (Argentina), Kyoto City University University of Arts, PASIC, McGill University (Montreal), Eastman School of Music, Steve Weiss Mallet Festival, Celebrate Marimba Festival, and with the PMR Brass Band (Canada). Her duo, Escape Ten, are signature performing artists and regularly commission new works for percussion. They have their own line of chamber mallets through Mallettech and publication series through KPP. Escape Ten has performed and lectured at over 40 universities, at five international conferences, and was featured on NPR's "Performance Today".

An award-winning pedagogue and passionate educator, Andrea has been the recipient of the Gerson Yessin Distinguished Professorship in Classical Studies, the UNF Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, and multiple STARS awards for her research and creative activity. She directs the UNF percussion ensemble, teaches applied lessons, pedagogy, methods, percussion literature, and co-directs the UNF NuMIX ensemble. Her areas of research and creative activity include composition, pedagogy, improvisation, marimba and voice, and historically informed Baroque performance practice techniques for playing Bach on marimba. Andrea is commissioned regularly; her works have been performed internationally with world premieres at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention, by Grammy-Award winning Third Coast Percussion, and by Drumily Percussion Group in Taiwan. You can hear Andrea on albums *Revelations* (DrGlocken AV), *This Prismasonic Rock I Stand* (Mark Records), *Our Favorite Things* (Ravello), *Colours of a Groove* (Escape Ten), and *Viñao* (Rockwell Records). Andrea is an artist for Mallettech, Black Swamp, Remo, DREAM Cymbals, and currently serves on the Percussive Arts Society Board of Advisors.

Amenities

Food Options

On Campus

- Chic-Fil-A
- Panda Express
- Chipotle
- K Brew coffee

Short Walk/Drive from Campus

- Mellow Mushroom
- Sunspot
- Whataburger
- Raising Canes
- Capybara Coffee

Short Drive from Campus

- Market Square
- Old City
- Gay Street
- Old Sevier

