

Duff Timpani master class June 8–12, 2009

28th annual

Jim Atwood, director



In June 1982, Cloyd Duff presented his first Timpani Masterclass. In the years since, the class has become an annual event, attracting timpanists from across the country and around the world. Students and teachers, amateurs and professionals alike, have attended the class to learn about the Duff school of playing...an approach to the instrument that earned the late Cloyd Duff a reputation as one of the finest timpanists of the 20th century, known the world over for his beautiful, singing sound and his flawless musicianship. The class covers every aspect of the Cloyd Duff School, from the fundamentals of technique to the most advanced orchestral repertoire. The traditions of this great class have been preserved and several new sessions added: the specifics of instrument maintenance, stick making, calf head tucking, changing and clearing heads, and a new weeklong audition program. In 1999, Cloyd Duff asked Jim Atwood, his assistant at these classes for many years, to take over the direction of the masterclass program, saying: "Under Jim's direction, I expect that this class will continue to flourish for another two decades." Joining Jim once again this summer is the renowned artist, and a former student of Cloyd Duff, Tom Freer of the Cleveland Orchestra.

Daily Schedule

Monday

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: Lecture, Jim Atwood

- Complete study of the fundamentals of the Cloyd Duff School of timpani playing
- Placement and evolution of the instrument
- German and French grip, proper holding of the stick
- Proper stroke technique
- Wrists vs. the arm, size of the blows
- Introduction of full range of volume, pp-ff
- Long tonal legato strokes
- Staccato strokes and technique
- The effects of tension
- Touch and how to achieve it
- Styles and sounds, and how these will apply
- Interpreting the styles of different composers
- Achieving this through use of seven different pairs of timpani sticks
- Complete study of the grace notes

Questions and answers throughout all the lectures are encouraged.

3–5:30 p.m.

- Maintenance and storage of instruments
- Head discs, covers and trunks
- Discussion of calf and plastic heads
- Solving the problems of controlling calf heads in all kinds of weather
- Winter, heat and too dry conditions
- Too much humidity, damp weather—rain
- Conditions to be met in concert halls
- Outdoor performances
- Discussion of calf skin heads
- Question and answer period for solving any timpani maintenance problems

Afternoon Masterclass sessions:
Intermediate/advanced performers

Monday evening

Demonstration, with class participation:
Changing plastic heads

Tuesday

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: Lecture, Jim Atwood

- Playing ranges of each timpani and why
- More discussion and recommendation of calf and plastic heads
- Ear and tuning problems
- Use of tuning gauges
- Discussion on perfect and relative pitch
- Interval study—application as applied to timpani study
- Hand muffling the timpani and the use of suede pads
- Cross sticking—advantages and disadvantages
- Advantageous sticking
- Counting rests
- Careful preparation and marking of timpani parts

3–5:30 p.m.

Afternoon Masterclass sessions:
Advanced performers

Tuesday evening

Demonstration, with class participation:
Stick making and mallet recovering

Wednesday

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: Lecture, Tom Freer

- Complete study of rolls
- Developing an open, "singing", roll sound
- Tension and speed in rolls and what to do about it
- Interpreting roll notation
- Special roll techniques
- Stick choices for rolls
- Examples from the repertoire

3–5:30 p.m.

- Complete study of clearing heads
- Correction and maintenance
- How to develop your ability to clear heads
- Full discussion of timpani sticks
- Discussion of all the variables in timpani stick making
- Styles, makes, characteristics of different stick types
- Stick covering techniques
- Discussion of stick weights and tonal properties
- Question and answer period for any timpani
- Examples from the class

Afternoon Masterclass sessions:
Advanced-plus performers

Wednesday evening

Demonstration, with class participation:
Tucking a calfskin head

Thursday

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: Lecture, Tom Freer

- Complete study of rhythmic interpretation
- Working for rhythmic clarity at all dynamics
- Rhythmic interpretation applied to different periods and composers
- Stick choices to enhance both tone and definition
- Special muffling techniques to enhance clarity
- Examples from the repertoire
- Discussion of different timpani makes; advantages and disadvantages
- Results of different shaped kettles
- Discussion of pedals, ankle and leg use
- Resistance...too easy operation

3–5:30 p.m.

Afternoon Masterclass sessions:
Advanced-plus performers
Critique of Ability, Phrasing, Touch, Technique, Intonation, Musicianship, Performance.
Questions and answers throughout

Thursday evening

Mock audition session

Friday

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: Jim Atwood & Tom Freer

- Study of Duff's recordings and a special video presentation
- Discussion of symphony orchestra experience
- Special problems in recording sessions
- Mature ability, finesse and musicianship
- Timpani demonstration and display of repertory
- Questions and answers throughout

3–5:30 p.m.

Afternoon Masterclass sessions:
Professional performers
• Demonstrations of special and advanced repertoire
• Repertoire requests from the class

For more information or to apply,
call 816-235-2741 or visit

[http://conservatory.umkc.edu/
community_academy/
dufftimpani.aspx](http://conservatory.umkc.edu/community_academy/dufftimpani.aspx)

Scholarship available!

The family of Cloyd Duff has established a student scholarship fund in Mr. Duff's memory. For information, contact
Jim Atwood at DuffClass@aol.com.

Duff Timpani master class June 8-12, 2009

registration form due by May 4, 2009

Timpani for the class are supplied by ADAMS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS. The Duff School Timpani Masterclass is

cosponsored by Adams, distributed by Pearl. Dr. James Snell, assistant professor of percussion, hosts the workshop at the Performing Arts Center on the UMKC Campus.

Reasonably priced breakfast and lunch may be purchased a la carte at the University Center Cafeteria or at nearby local restaurants. The campus is in close proximity to the Country Club Plaza. Parking permits can be purchased at registration but must be reserved prior to the registration deadline. Housing information for UMKC's residential facility is available upon request.

For more information

Mail: UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance

Community Music and Dance Academy

301 E. 51 St., room 201

Kansas City, MO 64112

Phone: 816-235-2741

Fax: 816-235-5998

Web site: http://conservatory.umkc.edu/community-academy/festivals_summer_programs.aspx

E-mail: music-ce@umkc.edu

Relay Missouri: 1-800-735-2966 (TT)



Sponsored by:



Distributed by:

- Register me for the DUFF SCHOOL MASTERCCLASS.** Class fee is \$395 for the week, \$100 of which must be enclosed with form as a nonrefundable deposit.
- I am interested in private lessons following the class, if available.
- I am interested in participating in a group lesson following the class, if available.
- Please send a University housing reservation form (housing available at \$155, due by May 4, 2009).
- Please reserve a parking pass (\$15, due by May 4, 2009).

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO UMKC.

Name: _____

Home phone: _____

Cell/office: _____

Street address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

E-mail address: _____

Please charge: \$100 \$395 \$15 (parking) \$155 housing (double only w/out internet)

Check in June 7, 4-6 p.m. Check out June 12, 8-9 a.m.

To my credit card number: _____

UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance
COMMUNITY MUSIC AND DANCE ACADEMY

Duff Timpani master class June 8-12, 2009

28th annual

Jim Atwood, director



Jim Atwood



Tom Freer



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY
Conservatory of Music and Dance
301 E. 51 St.
Kansas City, MO 64112

UMKC is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Kansas City, MO
Permit #6113

COMMUNITY MUSIC AND DANCE ACADEMY

Duff Timpani master class June 8-12, 2009