



Drum Circle FAQ

What is a drum circle?

Drum circles are participatory music-making groups with no requirements for expertise. The goal of drum circles isn't rhythmic precision or flawless performance; rather, the drumming experience is centered on *focused listening* and *non-verbal communication*. Summerglen drum circles are led by a facilitator, who guides participants toward learning, communicating, and relieving stress through improvised music-making.

What do we do in a drum circle?

When you participate in a drum circle, you have a chance to let your hair down, relax, and enjoy some musical fun! Your facilitator will help you understand how to play your drum and will guide your group in playing patterns, trading solos, and exploring the different combinations of sounds a group of drummers can make. Often, your facilitator will help your group create its own improvised "song"--all you have to do is listen and play what feels good to you. Drum circles are here to help you express yourself and relate to your work in new and creative ways--there are no mistakes!

What kinds of instruments are used in a drum circle?

Drum circles are comprised mainly of hand drums and small percussion instruments. To provide a wide range of interesting sounds, Summerglen drum circles incorporate instruments made of various materials like wood, metal, plastic, and natural objects. While large hand drums like djembes and congas comprise most of our drum circle, we also include a variety of small percussion instruments, like cowbells, maracas, claves, and guiros to add color and variety to the circle. Each participant will have his or her own large drum, plus access to an ample supply of smaller percussion instruments.

Do we have to be musicians to enjoy a drum circle?

Absolutely not! Facilitated drum circles are designed to provide a fun experience for all people, regardless of their musical experience. The hand drums and other percussion instruments used in drum circles are easily accessible--even absolute beginners can get the hang of playing within only a few minutes! Also, drum circles don't require participants to memorize and perform complex rhythms perfectly; because the music we create is improvised, there are no mistakes!

Do we have to buy the drums?

No! Summerglen provides all the instruments you'll need for your drum circle. However, if you would like to bring your own drums from home, you're welcome to do so.

Who will lead our drum circle?

All Summerglen drum circles are facilitated by professional musicians Andrew Munger and Christina Thompson. Andrew and Christina are both classically-trained musicians who have spent years teaching, performing, and leading drum circles. We're dedicated to giving your organization the best possible drum circle experience--we'll never subcontract your drumming event to anyone else!

How many people can you accommodate in one drum circle session?

Generally, we limit our drum circles to 15-20 participants per session. This allows us to provide a wide selection of instruments for participants to enjoy, and ensures that each group member will get plenty of personalized attention. If your organization would like to provide drum circles for a larger number of participants, we will be glad to hold multiple sessions so that your whole team can have a quality drum circle experience.

Why should we choose Summerglen to facilitate our drum circle?

At Summerglen, we're committed to designing drum circle programs that fit the needs of your organization and team members. We don't offer one-size-fits-all services; rather, we make every effort to learn about your organization and customize our drum circles to reflect your unique challenges and goals. Likewise, we treat every participant as a valuable member of our circle, encouraging them to share their ideas and input throughout each session. At Summerglen, YOU are our top priority!

Want to learn more about Summerglen Drum Circles? Please visit:

<http://www.summerglen-music.com/drumcircles.php>

Or, send us an e-mail:



Andrew Munger

andrew@summerglen-music.com



Christina Thompson

christina@summerglen-music.com