



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Rhythm X Announces Plans For Online School, The X Academy

DAYTON, OHIO (April 2, 2014) - Today, Rhythm X, the non-profit music performance and education company, announced plans to launch a new product named The X Academy. The online school will feature downloadable and streaming content for student drummers and percussionists as well as their teachers.

A new announcement page (rhythmx.org/academy) on the organization's website outlines plans for the site which will be divided into four "portals," including an area for Rhythm X etudes and warm-ups and free streaming video content. Most notably, the website will feature live private lessons using Google Helpouts technology. This feature will also be used for live consultations in the Design Portal, a section of the school devoted to helping directors and designers produce an effective program.

All together, the website's sections include Exercises, Video, Lessons, and Design. "The portals are designed to work together," said Operations Director Mike Scott, "students, for instance, can download a Rhythm X etude from the Exercises portal then - on the Video portal - watch the drumline perform the music or even download a video of Tim Jackson breaking it down measure by measure. They can even schedule a live lesson with a Rhythm X instructor and work on it together for 30 minutes." Scott took to the Rhythm X blog today to highlight the site's features (rhythmx.org/blog).

The Lessons and Design sections of the site will have the option for patrons to either schedule a streaming lesson via webcam or to submit a previously recorded video. Percussionists will receive a video reply with comments and demonstrations about the work and directors will receive recorded commentary about their show.

Tim Fairbanks, Ensemble Director at Rhythm X spoke of the plans, "I'm extremely excited for Rhythm X to be opening the X Academy. This is an opportunity for percussionists and teachers around the world to learn from Rhythm X's talented faculty and designers, without ever leaving their homes... At Rhythm X we have a commitment to music education and to providing state of the art educational access to everyone."

The Rhythm X Percussion Ensemble is the current Winter Guard International World Class Champion after winning the WGI World Championships last April. The ensemble will return to the World Championships stage on April 10th, 11th, and 12th at the University of Dayton Arena in Ohio.

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