Master class inspires students

Taylor A. Boomsma, Staff Writer | Posted: Monday, February 5, 2018 12:23 pm

Students from different music classes trickled in the music building for a percussion master class session held by percussionist Bruce Carver.

Carver is one of the top music percussionists in Los Angeles who presented students with tips varying from taping double sticks, to how to succeed in the industry.

The master class was held Friday, Feb. 2 in the Music Building, room 105.

Having learned from world-renowned professionals, and by personal experience, Carver passed on some important lessons for aspiring student percussionists.

“‘You have to be mentally involved,’” Carver said.

Carver’s presentation demonstrated techniques to easing through difficult sections in music.

With pictures from different shows he has performed in, Carter explained the varying percussion setups, and how they differ from show to show.

He took the audience through a video tour of the “pit” that he played at the Pantages Theatre in Los Angeles, Calif.

Carver also featured music from different shows he has created in the past to demonstrate techniques for practicing through hard passages.

Carver also played his favorite beats and taught how to work through difficult transitions.

Students and faculty members interacted with Carver asking questions about his experiences throughout the event.

Carver was able to introduce students to the famous musical numbers in broadways shows such as, Aladdin and Hamilton, and he compared the styles, composition and even instrument use.

He also used videos of conductors, and projected sheet music to play along to some of his favorite sections.
The goal of this event was to showcase different aspects of percussion available in the music and theatre industry.

With an easygoing style and bold sense of humor, Carver told stories of his experiences while working in musical theatre.