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TEPS Abstract
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With thanks to the TEPS Committee and Dr. Frahm, I was able to attend the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC), November 8-11 in Indianapolis, IN. Having previously attended this convention, I knew that I would learn a great deal about percussion performance and instruction – from reinforcement of standard practices to new innovations. For instance, seeing Christopher Lamb, principal percussionist for the New York Philharmonic, playing several classic orchestral percussion excerpts on a variety of percussion instruments reminded me that there is a huge amount of repertoire that can be used as quality teaching material without needing to buy into the “latest and greatest” newly published method books. Having another opportunity to speak with Garwood Whaley, respected author of numerous percussion method books (as I was able to do in 2019), gave me confidence that the methods I have been using were well researched and practiced before being published, and that they weren’t created just to generate a paycheck. I returned home from PASIC with a feeling of validation that the performance skills I teach and the methods I use are still very current and valuable to the students I teach, while also being reminded that there are many other materials available to supplement those that I use for more student-specific needs.