members of the ensemble are graduate or undergraduate percussionists majoring in music at the University of Oregon. Ensemble alumni hold graduate degrees from Juilliard, Eastman, Peabody, New England Conservatory, Manhattan, and USC, and perform in opera houses and recording studios in the United States, Canada, and Europe.

The University Percussion Ensemble is devoted to the performance of standard percussion ensemble repertoire which balances the avant-garde music performed by the Oregon Percussion Ensemble. Percussionists majoring in music performance perform in both of the two percussion ensembles.