



FSPA

Honors

PROGRAM

Background

- FSPA attracts and develops top young musicians in Flint-area
- Commitment to ensure our students are getting the highest quality instruction
- Want to challenge our motivated/talented students
 - Go beyond lessons and ensembles
 - Opportunities that are unique to FSPA
 - Make sure they are getting “well-rounded” education
- Give students recognition of hard work
- Prepare students for college/careers in music



How were the requirements determined?

- Based on programs we've had for nearly 20 years
- Revised in 2017
 - Looked at similar programs across the country
 - Flexibility and equity
 - No audition requirement
 - Learn-on-your-own theory
 - Take classes that YOU want
 - Considered FSPA's student body
 - Geographically spread out
 - Students doing music + dance (and theatre)
 - Utilize FSPA's unique strengths
 - Scholarship program
 - Hundreds of FREE concerts
 - Strong Large/Chamber Ensemble Program



FSPA Honors Program

The FSPA Honors Program is designed for highly motivated students in grades 9-12 seeking a comprehensive musical education. The Honors Program is designed to allow students the flexibility to pursue their personal interests, while ensuring each student gains experience in key areas of music study, including: music lessons, ensemble participation, concert attendance, solo performances, and music theory.



Eligibility and Costs

Open to all students in grades 9-12

- All lessons, classes, and ensembles must be done at FSPA

No audition

No additional costs beyond tuition

- Will likely be extra classes
 - Merit Scholarships
 - Tuition Assistance

Diploma vs. Certificate

Two “tracks” within the Honors Program

FSPA Diploma

2-3 years to complete, can begin in 9th, 10th or 11th grade

45- or 60-minute music lessons each year

One ensemble (or substitute) each year

2 solo performances each year

Two semesters (or 1 year) of “electives”

Attend 15 concerts

Pass music theory exam

Individualized Music Project

Final solo recital



FSPA Certificate

One year - high school juniors or seniors

45- or 60-minute music lessons each year

One ensemble (or substitute) each year

2 solo performances each year

One semester of an “elective”

Attend 5 concerts

Pass music theory exam

Individualized Music Project (could be a recital)



Requirements in Detail

Requirements in Detail

All lessons, classes, ensembles must be done at FSPA

Music lessons

- Every student must take 45- or 60-minute on primary instrument
- Lessons on secondary instruments can be 30-minutes
 - Count for elective or ensemble substitute

Ensembles

- Every student needs 1 ensemble per year
- FYSO, FYWE, Philharmonia, Rhythmic Fusion, Beatles, etc.
- If no ensemble, then you can substitute a class or extra lesson



Requirements in Detail

Electives (in addition to ensemble requirement)

- Another ensemble (including chamber ensembles)
- Lessons on second instrument
- A class (dance, Songwriting, Light Opera, etc.)
- A summer workshop (Guitar Workshop, Harp Camp)



Requirements in Detail

Music Theory Test

Can be taken at any time. Must pass with 80%.

- read and write pitches in treble and bass clefs
- identify major and minor key signatures in treble and bass clefs
- identify and write major and minor scales in treble and bass clefs
- identify and write major, minor, diminished and augmented triads in treble and bass clefs
- identify and write major, minor and perfect intervals in treble and bass clefs
- detect/correct rhythmical errors in a short musical example



How to learn music theory

- take music theory lessons at FSPA
- spend time in their weekly music lessons to cover music theory
- take music theory at school, if offered
- use a website such as Music Theory Skill Builder (there is a cost to some sites)

<http://global.oup.com/us/companion.websites/umbrella/mtsb/mtsb.html>
musictheory.net

Requirements in Detail

Concert attendance

Attend concerts as an audience member (cannot perform on the concert)

Lots of flexibility, but it must be an actual concert

- A guitar player playing on the patio of a restaurant you eat at **doesn't** count
- Seeing a local band play at a venue like the Flint Local 432 would count
- Seeing Bruno Mars at LCA would count
- Musicals, ballets with live music count (Nutcracker, Hamilton)

FSPA has 200 concerts per year - most are FREE



Requirements in Detail

Performance Requirements

Everyone must do 2 solo performances per year at FSPA/FIM events

- School-wide recitals (once per month)
- Studio and department recitals
- Scholarship Winners Recitals
- Seeing Stars!, FIM Auction, Music on the Move

Diploma Students must do a full recital

- Most likely a Senior Recital



Requirements in Detail

Individualized Music Project

Opportunity to explore a topic of personal interest

Examples:

- Concert Production Internship
- Record an album and assist with editing
- Prepare a business plan for operating a teaching studio
- Research music therapy as a career and do a public presentation
- Do a research paper/experiment on the effect that listening to music has on blood pressure
- An extra recital



FSPA Diploma

2-3 years to complete

45- or 60-minute music lessons each year

One ensemble (or substitute) each year

2 solo performances each year

Two semesters (or 1 year) of “electives”

Attend 15 concerts

Pass theory exam

Final solo recital

Individualized Music Project



FSPA Certificate

One year - high school juniors or seniors

45- or 60-minute music lessons each year

One ensemble (or substitute) each year

2 solo performances each year

One semester of an “elective”

Attend 5 concerts

Pass theory exam

Individualized Music Project (could be a recital)



Examples

Example #1 - Susie Smith, violinist

Year 1 (Sophomore)

Year 2

Year 3

Lessons

Lessons

Lessons

FYSO

FYSO

FYSO

Played at School-Wide Recital
Recital

Scholarship Winner's Recital

Scholarship Winner's

Played at Studio Recital

Studio Recital

Seeing Stars! performance

(began studying music theory)
(elective)

Passed Theory Test

FSP: ...

Attended 3 concerts

Attended 3 concerts

Teaching Approaches

Senior Recital



Example #2 - John Doe, pianist

Year 1 (Junior)

60-minute Piano Lessons
30-minute Guitar Lessons (Ensemble)
(Ensemble)

Played at Scholarship Winner's
Recital

Played at Studio Recital

Got 65% on Theory Test
Junior Recital (IMP)
Took Music Theatre Camp (Elective)
Attended 10 concerts

Year 2 (Senior)

60-minute Piano Lessons
30-minute Organ Lessons

Played at School-Wide

Played before FSO Concert

Passed Mus
Ser
Accompanist Worksho
Atte...



Example #3 - Sam Samuels, percussion

12th Grade - Certificate Track

60-minute Percussion Lessons

Rhythmic Fusion Steel Drum Band (ensemble)

Performed at School-Wide Recital

Performed at Studio Recital

Transcribed and analyzed 2 Andy Narrell steel drum solos, gave presentation (IMP)

Took 1 semester of jazz piano lessons (elective)

Passed theory test



So...what should I do?

Freshmen + sophomores

- Diploma
- Not feeling it? Think about it for the future

Juniors + Seniors

- Done a lot at FSPA already? Diploma (look at next slide)
- Certificate



Can get credit for past year(s) if:

You did ALL of the following:

- Were in high school
- 45 or 60-minute lessons
- 1 ensemble for full year (or equivalent in electives)
- 2 solo performances

Before graduation, you must:

- Attend 15 concerts [can count from previous year(s)]
- Do IMP
- Present recital
- 2 semesters of electives [can count from previous year(s)]



Enrollment, Theory Test and Advising

Fill out and return enrollment form to Program Director to begin track.

Theory Test can be taken at any time

- Practice test is included in your packet
- Schedule with FSPA Program Director, Dare Stogner;
dstogner@thefim.org

All students should should keep in contact with Program Director to:

- Make sure you are on appropriate track
- Approve Individualized Music Projects
- Approve substitutions

Students keep track of their own progress checklist. Primary instructors can assist with planning solo performances and developing Individualized Music Project.

