



Flint School of Performing Arts

Honors Program (2/1/24)

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 musical study, including: music lessons, ensemble participation, concert attendance, solo performances, and music theory.

There is no audition to participate in the Honors Program, and there are no additional fees. Students are encouraged to apply for tuition assistance and audition for Merit Scholarships.

The Honors Program has two levels of participation that students can choose from:

- The FSPA Diploma is designed for high school students entering 9th or 10th grade, and is to be completed in 2-3 years. Students may start the Diploma program in 11th grade, although it may be difficult to complete all of the requirements before graduation.
- The FSPA Certificate is designed for students in 11th or 12th grade, and is to be completed within 1 year.

	FSPA Diploma	FSPA Certificate
Grade to Enter Program	9 th -11 th	11 th or 12 th
Years to Complete	2-3 years	1 year
Music Lessons	Continually (excluding summer)	Continually (excluding summer)
Ensembles	Continually (excluding summer)	Continually (excluding summer)
Electives (additional class, lessons or ensemble)	2 semesters (or 1 year)	1 semester
Theory	Pass Exam	Pass Exam
Concert Attendance	Total of 15 concerts	Total of 5 concerts
Final Recital	Yes	No
Solo Performances (at FIM/FSPA events)	2 per year	2 per year
Individualized Music Project	Yes	Yes

Costs

Students will be responsible for the normal tuition costs for the music lessons and ensembles that they participate in. There is no additional administrative fee. Merit Scholarships and Financial Assistance are available. Most concerts offered by FIM/FSPA are free. Any additional costs for concert attendance is the responsibility of the student.

Music Lessons

All students must take 45- or 60-minute music lessons on their primary instrument throughout the duration of the program, excluding summer.

Ensembles

All students must participate in at least one FSPA ensemble per year throughout the duration of the program, excluding summer. In certain cases, other classes, ensembles, or music lessons on a secondary instrument may be substituted with the permission of the Program Coordinator.

Electives

Over the course of the program, students in the **Diploma** track must take 2 semesters of “electives”, and students in the **Certificate** track must take 1 semester of an “elective”. Electives could include: lessons on a secondary instrument, an additional ensemble, a music or dance class, or a summer camp (World Percussion, Guitar, etc.). **THIS IS IN ADDITION TO THE YEARLY ENSEMBLE REQUIREMENT.**

Piano students must take the Accompanying Workshop for the electives. Student will work with FSPA Faculty to serve as the accompanist for another FSPA student for a performance.

Theory

Students are expected to exhibit sufficient knowledge in music theory, equivalent to what would be expected on most college music entrance exams. Students must score an 80% on an exam covering the following topics:

- 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 clef
- detect rhythmical errors in a short musical example

In order to learn the above theory requirements, students are encouraged (but not required) to do one or more of the following:

- take music theory lessons at FSPA
- spend time in his/her 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>)

Concert Attendance

Students must attend a certain number of concerts in order to achieve the Diploma (15) or Certificate (5). These do not have to be FSPA/FIM related concerts, but must consist of live music (a dance concert with prerecorded music would not count), and the student must not be performing.

Performance requirements

All Honors Program students must perform as a soloist at 2 FSPA/FIM sponsored events during each school year. These could include performances at Studio Recitals, Scholarship Winners Recitals, Seeing Stars!, School-wide Recitals, and masterclasses, in addition to other events.

Students in the Diploma Program must also perform a full-length recital (45-60 minutes) before graduation. This could be done at any time, but most typically would be as a senior. Students who finish the other requirements by their junior year could postpone their recital until they are a senior.

Individualized Music Project

All Honors Program students must complete an Individualized Music Project in an area of personal interest. Examples of potential projects include:

- composing and presenting a concert of original music
- internship at FSPA/FIM (concert production, librarian, office support, etc)
- assisting with a FSPA class and creating sample lesson plans, or researching teaching techniques
- recording an album with a rock band
- research paper and presentation on a favorite composer
- full-length recital (in addition to the Final Recital)

All IMP ideas must be approved by the FSPA Program Director in advance.

Other Requirements:

Students should meet with the Program Director once per year to discuss the student's goals and plans to fulfill the requirements. **All course substitutions and Individualized Music Projects must be approved by the Program Director in advance.**