



Music • Education • Collaboration

2024 SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Audition Guidelines & Information

Composition Studio

Applicants for Composition Studio (both the Intensive and Boot Camp) complete their “audition” by submitting materials to AFA and having a conversation with AFA’s Chair of Composition Studies. Here are the steps in this process:

1. Complete an application via the AFA Dashboard (start at www.afatexas.org/apply)
2. The applicant (and parent/guardian) will receive an email from AFA with acknowledgement of completed application and a link to submit their materials to AFA.
3. The applicant submits their materials within two weeks of receiving the submission link.
4. Once materials have been received, AFA staff will reach out to schedule a Zoom call.

Materials to Submit: Intensive

- Required: Three notated (written out) examples of work (pieces of music). These should be PDFs of handwritten and scanned music or created using music notation software like MuseScore, NoteFlight, Finale, Sibelius, Dorico, etc.
- Optional but encouraged when possible: Recordings of any of your work. This can include recordings of live performances, digital realizations (like MIDI files created in Finale), or a mix of both. These may be actual audio files and/or links to videos on YouTube, streaming sites, etc.

Materials to Submit: Boot Camp

- Any music you have written yourself (up to 5 items); this includes but isn’t limited to full pieces of music for an instrument, portions of music you have started, music theory exercises, arrangements of existing music, or improvisations that you wrote down later.
- The above may be sent in as PDFs (for written work or work using music notation software) or as video links/files. For example, if the applicant has video of themselves playing music they created (but it isn’t written down), send the video. Any of these should be at least 8 bars/measures and/or 20 seconds of music.

Frequently Asked Questions

(Intensive) Some of the work I have isn’t really a big, full piece/is unfinished. Is that okay?

Yes! Submit whatever current music you have, even if it is in progress. The goal is for us to see where you are as a composer, your growth so far, and your writing interests.

I only have a MIDI file of my music. Is that okay?

Yes! We would love to hear whatever you have.

Are there any rules or guidelines for my recording files and links?

Please make sure that privacy settings for sharing sites (like Google Drive or Dropbox) are set to “public” and that any streaming links do not require the reviewer to have an account with that site.

Do I need to play any of my music for my Zoom call?

No; We will have an informal chat about your composing process and your general experiences and goals as a musician.

February, 2024