AFA
Music • Education • Collaboration

1718A Lubbock Street
Houston, Texas 77007
PHONE 713.522.9699
FAX 713.522.9631

AFATEXAS.ORG

Nonprofit
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 09789
HOUSTON, TX

AFA PROGRAMS ARE PRESENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH

HoustonBallet · DA CAMERA · The Lighthouse of Houston · The Center for Hearing and Speech · Lone Star Lyric Festival & Cabaret

AFA IS PROUD TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM AND WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS

ART WORKS. · National Endowment for the Arts · Texas Commission on the Arts · Arts Access Initiative · Houston arts partners

Nonprofit Partner DONORHOUSTON · National Guild for Community Arts Education · Houston Independent School District · Houston Public Media · Houston Methodist Leading Medicine

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo · Houston Endowment, A Philanthropy Endowed by Jesse H. and Mary Gibbs Jones · houstonartsalliance · The Brown Foundation, Inc.

AFA is funded in part by grants from the Texas Commission on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts and the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance. AFA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The official healthcare provider of AFA is Houston Methodist Hospital's Center for Performing Arts Medicine.

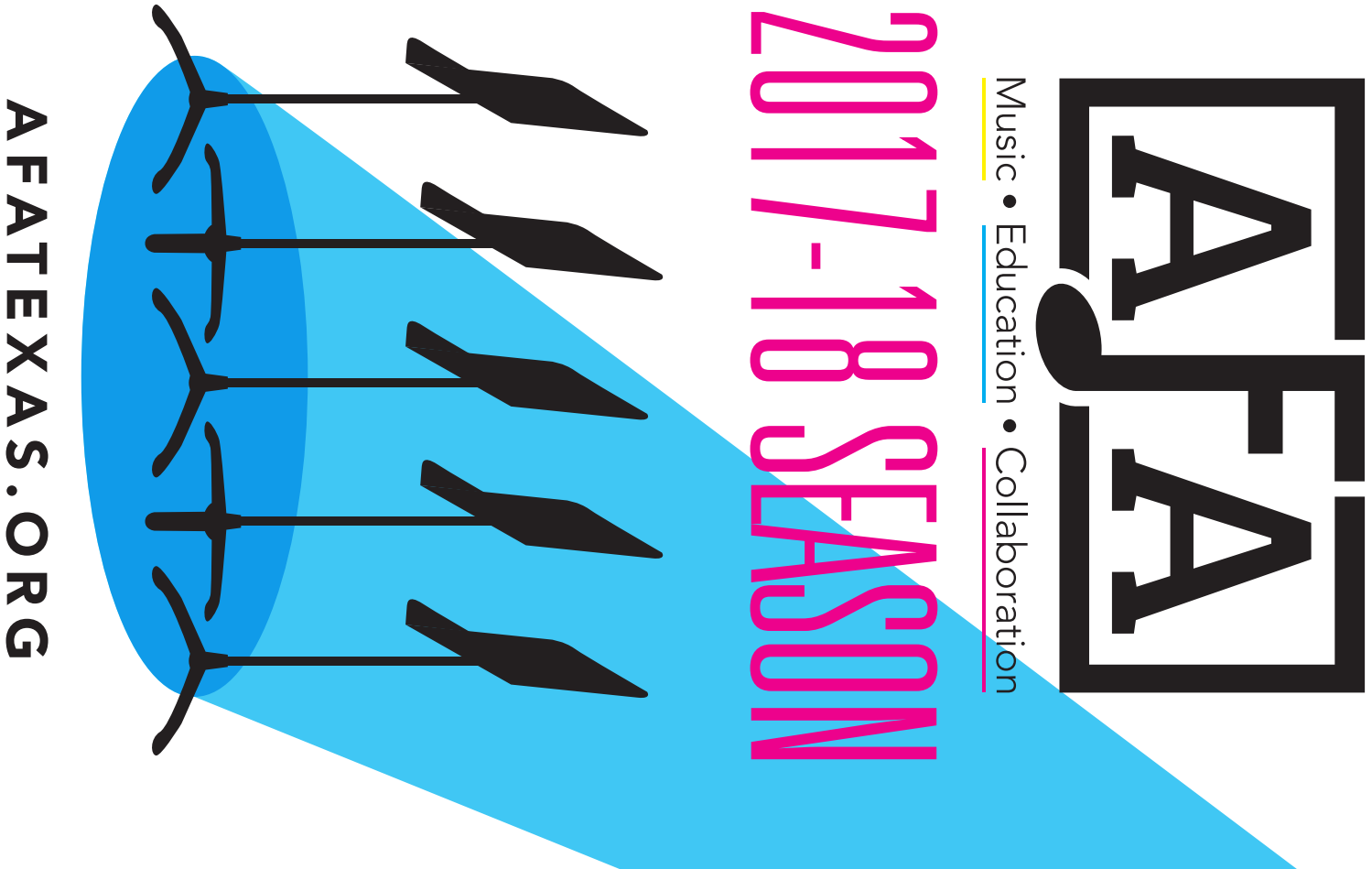


TABLE OF CONTENTS

About AFA 1

Pathways to Music at AFA 2

Program Overview: *AFA In Schools and AFA First* 3

Program Overview: *Year-Round Curriculum and Summer Music Festival* 4

AFA In Schools 5-6

Programs for

- Instrumentalists 7-8
- Vocalists 9-10
- Pianists 11-12
- Composers 13-14

How to Apply 15

Auditions and Financial Aid 16

Student Eligibility 17

2018 Summer Music Festival Preview 18

ABOUT AFA

AFA enriches the lives of young people through music. We accomplish this mission by:

- **Creating** music education programs for young people in safe and nurturing environments
- **Encouraging** talent and creativity in opportunities that make music a vehicle for social, personal, intellectual and emotional growth
- **Committing** to excellence in teaching, faculty and state-of-the-art initiatives
- **Leading** collaborations that meet the needs of Houston's arts education community

Each season, AFA serves as many as 3,000 young musicians who participate in 45,000+ hours of educational programming and perform in as many as 50 free concerts throughout Greater Houston. AFA's arts education model makes musical learning and accomplishment a vehicle for the kind of artistic, social and intellectual development that impacts every area of our students' lives.

PATHWAYS TO MUSIC AT AFA

AFA provides some of the finest opportunities available for young musicians in Southeast Texas. As AFA grows to serve even more young musicians, we remain committed to:

1. Meeting the evolving needs of young musicians throughout their school years
2. Offering unique experiences — through our curriculum and collaborations — you won't find anywhere else
3. Serving the multi-center city — expanding our programs and leveraging technology to impact more young people across the region
4. Staying true to our roots — every AFA program is based on what we do best: shared learning, intensive experiences, supportive camaraderie and personal growth

This catalog is a guide to each of the different types of programs that are available to you and your family. AFA's programs are consistent across our in-school, after-school, weekend, and summer experiences. This way, you can be sure that AFA's programs will continue to meet your needs, regardless of how or where you access them.

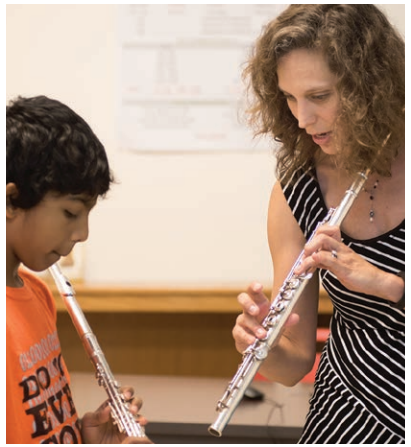
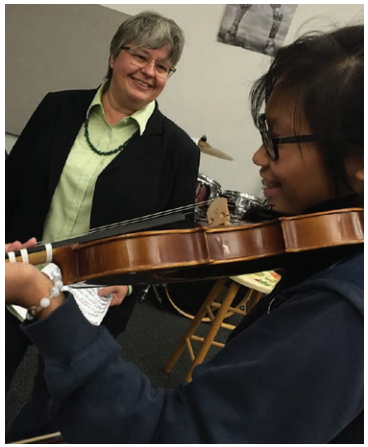
Learn more at AFATEXAS.ORG

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

AFA's work in the community is divided into four main program areas:

AFA IN SCHOOLS presents a broad range of classroom-based residencies, clinics and masterclasses in area schools that enhance arts curricula and impact potentially underserved communities, including special needs populations, through innovative, customized programming for all grade levels. School-based residencies are divided into two experiential levels: *Discovery* (e.g., first encounters for all grades) and *Endeavor* (e.g., in-depth explorations targeted toward grades 3-8). An overview of the **AFA IN SCHOOLS** curriculum can be found on pages 5-6.

AFA's **YEAR-ROUND CURRICULUM** offers unique learning opportunities in the fall and spring semesters that challenge intermediate to advanced level musicians at their next level of musical achievement. The curriculum includes three programs: 1) the **Chamber Music Academy** (including an advanced Ensemble-In-Residence program), giving instrumentalists and pianists opportunities to learn, rehearse and perform in small groups; 2) **Houston Girls Chorus**, providing pre-professional vocal training for girls in grades 7-12; and 3) the **Composer Institute**, providing a sequenced curriculum for young musicians interested in creating their own music. Presented in collaboration with several of Houston's leading arts presenters, AFA's **YEAR-ROUND CURRICULUM** is an outstanding opportunity for developing musicians.

AFA's newest curriculum, **AFA FIRST**, gives beginning musicians in grades 2-7 the opportunity to participate in their first musical experiences through both group and private instruction in piano, violin and choir (HGC Prep). Like AFA IN SCHOOLS, **AFA FIRST** features *Discovery* (beginner) and *Endeavor* (in-depth) levels to address a broad range of student needs and to give students and families more options for musical training.

AFA's flagship program, the **SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL**, is the most intensive training at each skill level that AFA offers. As many as 500 vocalists, instrumentalists, pianists and composers in grades 2-12 participate in a challenging, multi-week curriculum in an atmosphere of supportive learning and camaraderie.

AFA IN SCHOOLS

Customized to help achieve the goals that area principals and teachers have for their students, **AFA IN SCHOOLS** provides opportunities for music education, cross-disciplinary arts integration, and creative self expression. Contact AFA for more information on bringing an **AFA IN SCHOOLS** program (whether one day or all year) to your school.

Instrumental Ensemble Coaching (K-12)

AFA faculty work with existing instrumental ensembles.

- *Discovery:* Short-term visits for limited instruments with any age group, especially useful for contest preparation (K-12)
- *Endeavor:* Year-long involvement with regular clinics, sectionals, group lessons, etc. for K-8 groups

Group Piano (K-8)

Students in K-8 are introduced to the keyboard in a small group (8-10 students) that emphasizes creativity, individual growth and ensemble performance.

- *Discovery:* Short-term residencies of 8-12 sessions
- *Endeavor:* Year-long programs that can include private lessons for interested students

Choral, Vocal and Musical Theater Coaching (K-12)

AFA faculty work with existing choirs or musical theater ensembles as they prepare for performances.

- *Discovery:* One-time visits with any age group, especially useful for contest preparation (K-12)
- *Endeavor:* Long-term involvement with regular clinics, sectionals, group lessons, etc. for K-8 groups

Group Violin (K-8)

Students in K-8 are introduced to the violin in a small group setting (6-8 students) that emphasizes both individual and ensemble performance. This is a year-long *Endeavor* program that can also include private lessons.

"My principal felt honored to have a program like this on campus."

Chamber Music Residencies (6-12)

AFA faculty mentors work with 3-5 instrumentalists in small group settings.

- *Discovery:* One-time and/or short-term residencies for contest preparation
- *Endeavor:* Year-long coaching and performance programs

Songwriting Workshops (4-12)

Students work in a group setting to write their own lyrics and set them to music. Excellent for choral groups wishing to learn about writing and performing their own music. (*Discovery* level only, grades 4-12.)

Composition Workshops (3-9)

Students in grades 3-9 learn the building blocks of composition and have opportunities to have their individual and group works performed.

- *Discovery:* Short-term projects
- *Endeavor:* Progressive curriculum resulting in more complex works

Instrument Making and Improvisation (K-5)

Workshops that guide K-5 students through building their own musical instruments, teach them how to use them, and create a group performance project (*Discovery* level only).

Filmmaking and Film Scoring (5-8)

Students in grades 5-8 work in small groups to create original films and then compose or arrange music to go with their creations.

- *Discovery:* Short-term focused projects
- *Endeavor:* Progressive curriculum resulting in more involved works

Programs for Special Needs Populations

AFA works with organizations serving special needs populations to develop music programs that dovetail with the educational goals of our partners. Contact AFA for more information.

"The parents love the AFA program and the sense of pride it brings to our students and community."

INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAMS

AFA FIRST
GROUP VIOLIN

Activities
Students learn the foundation of violin playing in group workshops.

Eligibility
Children in grades 2-7. No experience is necessary, but a placement interview is required.

Schedule
One weekly rehearsal every Tuesday or Thursday from 4:00-5:00 pm or 5:00-6:00 pm

Location
AFA Studios in Old Sixth Ward

Fall
September 12 to December 7, 2017 (including recital)

Spring
January 30 to April 26, 2018 (including recital)

Tuition
$300 per session (private lessons may be added at the *Endeavor* level for an additional $40 per ½ hour lesson). There is a $35 enrollment fee per session. Limited financial aid is available.

AFA IN SCHOOLS

Group Violin Workshop
Discovery and *Endeavor* Levels

Chamber Music Residencies
Discovery and *Endeavor* Levels

Clinics and Masterclasses
Discovery and *Endeavor* Levels

See pages 5-6 for program descriptions.

CHAMBER MUSIC ACADEMY

Activities
Intermediate to advanced level students learn and perform in small groups coached by AFA faculty artists; includes music theory and performance practice.

Eligibility
Instrumentalists with at least 1-2 years experience. All applicants complete an audition and are considered for inclusion in a group. Placement is dependent on availability of appropriate instruments and peers of similar ability.

Rehearsals
Two hours weekly; Saturdays 9:00-11:00 am, 11:00 am-1:00 pm, or 1:00-3:00 pm

Location
AFA Studios in Old Sixth Ward

Fall
September 9 to December 9, 2017 (including recital)

Spring
January 27 to April 28, 2018 (including recital)

Tuition
$525 per session (fall or spring). There is a $35 enrollment fee per session. Financial aid is available.

CMA: ENSEMBLES-IN-RESIDENCE

Advanced high school students will work with invited guest coaches and have additional performance opportunities each semester.

SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL
AFA @ HSPVA

Strings (grades 3-9)
June 9 to 23, 2018
July 2 to 14, 2018

Wind & Brass Chamber Music (grades 5-9)
June 9 to 23, 2018

Symphony Orchestra (grades 8-12)
June 25 to July 14, 2018

AFA NORTH @ KLEIN HIGH SCHOOL

Strings (grades 4-9)
July 2 to 14, 2018

Wind & Brass Chamber Music (grades 5-9)
July 2 to 14, 2018

"The entire experience brings people my age together to create music and it's pretty cool that we can work with each other to play chamber music."

CHORAL AND VOCAL PROGRAMS

AFA FIRST
HGC PREP

A division of **Houston Girls Chorus**

Activities
Introductory level choral singing and instruction in music reading, theory, ear training and vocal technique. Also includes rehearsals and performances as part of Houston Girls Chorus.

Eligibility
Girls in grades 4-8 may join. A placement interview is required.

Rehearsals
Sundays 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Location
AFA Studios in Old Sixth Ward

Fall
October 1 to December 10, 2017 (including performances), plus *The Nutcracker* through December 27 *

Spring
February 4 to May 6, 2018 (including performances)

Tuition
$850 total for combined fall and spring sessions. There is a $35 enrollment fee. Financial aid is available.

AFA IN SCHOOLS

Choral, Vocal and Music Theater Coaching
Discovery and *Endeavor* Levels

See pages 5-6 for program descriptions.

*Houston Girls Chorus members sing as part of Houston Ballet's annual production of *The Nutcracker* in November and December of each season.

HGC Prep girls may audition to participate.

HOUSTON GIRLS CHORUS

Activities
Intermediate to advanced choral singing and instruction in vocal technique, music theory, small group singing (madrigals) and, for older students, voice lessons.

Eligibility
Girls in grades 7-12 may audition for Houston Girls Chorus.

Rehearsals
Sundays from 2:00-6:00 pm

Location
AFA Studios in Old Sixth Ward

Fall
October 1 to December 10, 2017 (including performances), plus *The Nutcracker* through December 27.

Spring
February 4 to May 6, 2018 (including performances)

Tuition
$850 total for combined fall and spring sessions. There is a $35 enrollment fee. Financial aid is available.

Arts Partners
Houston Ballet; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

"AFA's choir program helped me become a more well-rounded musician."

SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL
AFA @ HSPVA

Elementary Choir (grades 3-5)
June 9 to 23, 2018

Middle School Choir (grades 6-8)
June 9 to 23, 2018

High School Choir (grades 9-12)
June 9 to 23, 2018

Sing Out! Cabaret Workshop
(grades 8-12)
June 25 to 29, 2018

PIANO PROGRAMS

AFA FIRST
GROUP PIANO

Activities
Students learn the foundations of playing piano in group workshops.

Eligibility
Children in grades 2-7. No experience is necessary, but a placement interview is required.

Schedule
One weekly rehearsal every Monday or Wednesday from 4:00-5:00 pm or 5:00-6:00 pm

Location
AFA Studios in Old Sixth Ward

Fall
September 11 to December 4, 2017 (including recital)

Spring
January 29 to April 23, 2018 (including recital)

Tuition
$300 per session (private lessons may be added at the *Endeavor* level for an additional $40 per ½ hour lesson). There is a $35 enrollment fee per session. Limited financial aid is available.

Presenting Partner
UH Moores School of Music, Department of Piano Pedagogy

AFA IN SCHOOLS

Group Piano Workshop
Discovery and *Endeavor* Levels

Chamber Music Residencies
Discovery and *Endeavor* Levels

See pages 5-6 for program descriptions.

CHAMBER MUSIC ACADEMY

Activities
Intermediate to advanced level pianists learn and perform in small groups coached by AFA faculty artists; includes music theory and performance practice.

Eligibility
Pianists with at least 2 years experience. All applicants are considered for inclusion in a group, and placement is dependent on availability of appropriate instruments and peers of similar ability.

Rehearsals
Two hours weekly; Saturdays 9:00-11:00 am, 11:00 am-1:00 pm, or 1:00-3:00 pm

Location
AFA Studios in Old Sixth Ward

Fall
September 9 to December 9, 2017 (including recital)

Spring
January 27 to April 28, 2018 (including recital)

Tuition
$525. There is a $35 enrollment fee per session. Financial aid is available.

CMA: ENSEMBLES IN RESIDENCE

Advanced high school students will work with invited guest coaches and have additional performing opportunities each semester.

SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL
AFA @ HSPVA

Piano (grades 5-9)
June 9 to 23, 2018

Piano (grades 8-12)
June 25 to July 14, 2018

AFA NORTH @ KLEIN HIGH SCHOOL

Piano (grades 4-9)
July 2 to 14, 2018

COMPOSITION PROGRAMS

AFA IN SCHOOLS

Composition Workshop
Discovery and *Endeavor* Levels

Filmmaking and Film Scoring
Discovery and *Endeavor* Levels

Songwriting Workshop
Discovery Level only

Instrument Making and Improvisation
Discovery Level only

See pages 5-6 for program descriptions.

COMPOSER INSTITUTE

FALL
FILMMAKING/FILM SCORING

Activities
Discovery level composers learn the building blocks of composing and related composition and notation programs in the context of film scoring projects.

Eligibility
Composers in grades 7-11

Weekly Meetings
Saturdays 9:00-11:00 am

Location
AFA Studios in Old Sixth Ward

Fall
September 9 to December 9, 2017 (including performance)

Tuition
$525. There is a $35 enrollment fee per session. Financial aid is available.

COMPOSER INSTITUTE

SPRING
COLLABORATIONS PROJECT

Activities
Intermediate to advanced composers work with professional musicians to write, workshop and record new works.

Eligibility
Composers who have, at a minimum, completed AFA's fall program or the equivalent. An audition and interview are required for new students.

Weekly Meetings
Saturdays 9:00-11:00 am

Location
AFA Studios in Old Sixth Ward

Spring
January 27 to April 28, 2018 (including performance)

Tuition
$525. There is a $35 enrollment fee per session. Financial aid is available.

COMPOSITION: ENDEAVOR TRACK

Composers who have completed at least one year of the AFA Summer Music Festival are eligible to participate in AFA's year-round "Endeavor Track" composition program, which may include:

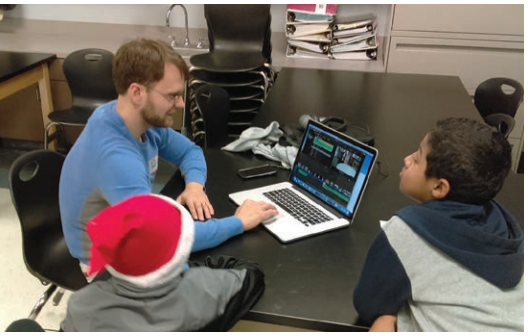
- *Endeavor* level participation in AFA year-round workshops or advanced projects
- Private lesson referral and support
- Monthly reading and workshop sessions with professional musicians including recordings of new works
- College portfolio development and mentoring

SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

AFA @ HSPVA

Composition (grades 8-12)
June 9 to July 14, 2018

"AFA's offerings for young composers are unique and well-done; our daughter learned so much in the program."



HOW TO APPLY

Apply at AFATEXAS.ORG

There is no fee to apply or audition for any AFA program. Contact AFA at 713-522-9699 or at music@afatexas.org with questions about the application, audition, or enrollment process.

1 APPLY

Go to AFATEXAS.ORG, click on "Apply" and follow the prompts. You will be asked to fill out general information and your preferred audition dates/ locations. You will also be given the opportunity to apply for financial aid. Parents/guardians are encouraged to supervise this process or to fill out the information themselves.

2 AUDITION/INTERVIEW

Your assigned audition or placement interview date, time, and location will be emailed to you within one week of applying. Audition requirements for each program can be found on that program's page.

3 ADMISSION

In most cases, your admission status will be emailed within two weeks of completing your audition.

4 ENROLL

Final enrollment and tuition payment instructions (including financial aid decisions, if applicable) will be sent with your admission status.

"This experience has been a gift - fun, educational, enriching, healing, challenging, and inspiring."

AUDITIONS

All auditions and placement interviews for fall and spring sessions take place at AFA's offices and studios in Old Sixth Ward near downtown Houston.

FALL 2017 SESSIONS

August 5, 19 and 26, 2017 . . . . . All programs

September 16, 2017 . . . . . Houston Girls Chorus and HGC Prep only

SPRING 2018 SESSIONS

January 6 and 13, 2018 . . . . . All programs

January 20, 2018 . . . . . Houston Girls Chorus and HGC Prep only

FINANCIAL AID

AFA subsidizes over 60% of the total costs of all programs through its fundraising efforts. AFA is proudly supported by many of Houston's philanthropic foundations, families, and corporations as well as by public funding agencies including the Houston Arts Alliance, the Texas Commission on the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

To meet the needs of families who need additional assistance, AFA's **Scholarship Enrichment Fund** offers need-based financial aid that ensures financial hardship will never be a barrier between young musicians and the experiences that will shape their futures. In 2016, more than 60% of students in AFA programs received financial aid and many **AFA IN SCHOOLS** programs were offered free of charge or at reduced cost to participating students.

Applications for financial aid may be completed as part of the application process on AFA's website. Please contact AFA if you have any questions about financial aid.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

GRADE (2017-2018)	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
AFA FIRST													
Violin			■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Piano			■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Choir					■	■	■	■	■	■			
AFA IN SCHOOLS													
Clinics and Masterclasses	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Choral, Vocal and Musical Theater Coaching	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Group Piano	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Group Violin	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Chamber Music							■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Instrument-Making/Improvisation	■	■	■	■	■	■							
Songwriting Workshop					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Filmmaking/Film Scoring						■	■	■	■				
Composition Workshops				■	■	■	■	■	■	■			
Special Needs Programming	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
YEAR-ROUND CURRICULUM													
Chamber Music Academy				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
CMA Ensembles-in-Residence									■	■	■	■	■
Houston Girls Chorus					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Composer Institute: Film Scoring								■	■	■	■	■	
Composer Institute: Collaborations									■	■	■	■	■
Composer Institute: *Endeavor* Track										■	■	■	■
SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL @ HSPVA													
Strings				■	■	■	■	■	■	■			
Wind & Brass Chamber Music						■	■	■	■	■			
Symphony Orchestra									■	■	■	■	■
Elementary Choir				■	■	■							
Middle School Choir							■	■	■				
High School Choir										■	■	■	■
Sing Out! Cabaret Workshop									■	■	■	■	■
Piano						■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Composition									■	■	■	■	■
SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL NORTH @ KLEIN HS													
Strings					■	■	■	■	■	■			
Piano					■	■	■	■	■	■			
Wind & Brass Chamber Music						■	■	■	■	■			
GRADE (2017-2018)	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

SUMMER 2018 PREVIEW

SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL @ HSPVA

INSTRUMENTAL	VOCAL	PIANO	COMPOSITION
Strings (grades 3-9) June 9 to 23 July 2 to 14 **Wind & Brass Chamber Music** (grades 5-9) June 9 to 23 **Symphony Orchestra** (grades 8-12) June 25 to July 14	**Elementary Choir** (grades 3-5) June 9 to 23 **Middle School Choir** (grades 6-8) June 9 to 23 **High School Choir** (grades 9-12) June 9 to 23 **Sing Out! Cabaret Workshop** (grades 8-12) June 25 to 29	**Piano** (grades 5-9) June 9 to 23 (grades 8-12) June 25 to July 14	**Composition** (grades 8-12) June 9 to July 14

SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL NORTH @ KLEIN HIGH SCHOOL

INSTRUMENTAL	VOCAL	PIANO	COMPOSITION
Strings (grades 4-9) July 2 to 14 **Wind & Brass Chamber Music** (grades 5-9) July 2 to 14	*HSPVA campus only*	**Piano I** (grades 4-9) July 2 to 14	*HSPVA campus only*