There are three programs that help AFA achieve its goals: 1) AFA’s Year-Round Curriculum, including the Chamber Music Academy, the Houston Girls Chorus and the Composer Institute, all of which offer unique training opportunities during the school year in collaboration with Houston’s finest arts presenters; 2) AFA In Schools, offering in-school residencies, clinics and master classes to area schools throughout the region; and 3) AFA’s signature program, the Summer Music Conservatory, serving more than 350 3rd through 12th grade students each year.

In its 20th anniversary season (2014-15), AFA served over 1,500 young people and presented more than 50 free concerts throughout Southeast Texas.
Since 2010, AFA has offered Houston-area students in-depth, high-quality music education experiences during the school year, providing new opportunities for students to enrich their musical growth and learning. Instruction from AFA’s outstanding faculty artists provides a positive and unique learning experience for students and AFA’s Presenting Partnerships with some of Houston’s finest professional arts organizations further enhance our curriculum and enrich the student experience.

New for 2015–16

- Expanded eligibility for Houston Girls Chorus to grades 4 through 12
- Opportunities for middle school woodwind and brass musicians
- Advanced Ensembles-in-Residence program (part of the Chamber Music Academy)

Learn more at AFATEXAS.ORG

Each year, AFA’s Scholarship Enrichment Fund ensures that financial hardship will never be a barrier between an aspiring young musician and the experiences that will shape their futures. Each season, more than 60% of AFA students receive financial assistance, either through free school-based programs or need-based scholarships to one of AFA’s programs.

Apply for AFA programs at AFATEXAS.ORG

There is no cost to apply or audition for AFA. Call 713-522-9699 or email music@afatexas.org with questions about applications, auditions or AFA In Schools.

1. APPLICATION

Fill out the AFA application’s three online sections: General information (all programs and applicants), Audition Scheduling (Chamber Music Academy and Houston Girls Chorus only) and Scholarship Application (optional and open to all; parents/guardians are encouraged to complete this portion).

2. AUDITION

Auditions are required for Chamber Music Academy and Houston Girls Chorus applicants. See AFATEXAS.ORG for guidelines and audition requirements.

Composer Institute/Film Scoring Workshop applicants are required to submit examples of written work as part of their application.

3. ADMISSION

You will be notified of your admission status by email after your audition.

4. ENROLL

Enrollment materials and tuition statements (including scholarship decisions, if applicable) will be sent following notification of your admission.

Completed enrollment materials and tuition payments are due no later than the first meeting of each session/program.

AUDITION DATES AND LOCATIONS

Fall Programs:
May 2 and 9…Pershing Middle School
August 8 and 15…AFA Offices

Spring Programs:
December 12…AFA Offices
January 9…AFA Offices
Fall Session
September 12: Rehearsals begin
December 19: Recital

Spring Session
January 23: Rehearsals begin
May 7: Recital

Weekly Rehearsals
Saturdays, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. or 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Tuition $475 per session

Location
AFA Offices, 1718A Lubbock Street in Old Sixth Ward, just outside downtown Houston

Eligibility
Open to instrumentalists and pianists with at least 1 to 2 years of performance experience. All applicants are considered for inclusion in a group; enrollment is dependent on availability of appropriate instrumentation and peers of similar ability.

Activities
Participants learn and perform in small groups coached by faculty artists; includes music theory and performance practice.

NEW for 2015–16

Ensembles-in-Residence
Advanced musicians will work with professional faculty artists and perform several times a session.

Middle School Woodwind and Brass
Specialized instruction for woodwind and brass students in grades 6 – 8.

“I didn’t realize how much chamber music would help my playing—and it’s fun!”

Presenting Partner
AFA’s partnership with the Da Camera of Houston Young Artist Program gives students access to Da Camera performances and coaching by Houston’s most promising emerging professional musicians.

“CHAMBER MUSIC ACADEMY”

“DA CAMERA”
**Houston Girls Chorus**

**Dates**
- August 23: Rehearsals begin
- November 1: Fall Collaboration Concert with Axiom Quartet
- November and December: Rehearsals for and performances with Houston Ballet’s *The Nutcracker*
- May 7: Spring Concert, featuring the Houston Girls Chorus Opera Project

**Weekly Rehearsals**
Sundays, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**Tuition** $775

**Preparatory Choir** NEW!
A pre-professional experience for younger vocalists in grades 4 – 9.

**Eligibility**
Girls in grades 4 – 12. An audition will determine placement into either Houston Girls Chorus (generally grades 7 – 12) or the Preparatory Choir (generally grades 4 – 9).

**Activities**
High-quality choral instruction in a variety of musical styles, training in vocal technique, instruction in music theory and performance practice, and diverse performance opportunities.

**Houston Girls Chorus Artistic Director and Conductor**
Kimberly Tobola (Director of Choirs, Lanier Middle School)

**Location**
St. Paul’s United Methodist Church, 5501 Main Street in Houston’s Museum District

**Presenting Partner**
AFA’s partnership with Houston Grand Opera’s HGOco provides master classes, vocal coaching, exposure to the world of opera and access to HGO productions.

“AFA brings people together and creates long-lasting friendships. It opens up your eyes to the music world.”

“Rigorous work—but it’s worth every minute.”
COMPOSER INSTITUTE:
COLLABORATIONS

Dates
September 12: Classes begin
December 19: Performance

Weekly Classes
Saturdays, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Tuition
$475 ($700 if enrolling in both Collaborations and Film Scoring)

Eligibility
Open to composers in grades 8 – 12; the ability to notate music is necessary.

Activities
Participants will focus on writing a piece for solo voice while also honing music theory and piano writing skills.

Location
AFA Offices, 1718A Lubbock Street in Old Sixth Ward, just outside of downtown Houston

Presenting Partner
Singers and faculty from Houston Grand Opera’s High School Voice Studio will collaborate with student composers.

COMPOSER INSTITUTE:
FILM SCORING

Dates
March 26: Classes begin
May 7: Performance

Weekly Classes
Saturdays, 8:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Tuition
$375 ($700 total if enrolling in both Collaborations and Film Scoring)

Eligibility
Open to composers in grades 8 – 12; the ability to notate music is strongly recommended; access to a laptop computer is recommended.

Activities
Participants will be introduced to the art of film scoring, including software programs, digital instrumentation and an introduction to the history of the art form.

Location
AFA Offices, 1718A Lubbock Street in Old Sixth Ward, just outside of downtown Houston
AFA In Schools offers free or low-cost in-class and after-school music education activities taught by AFA faculty artists.

The Creative Classroom
Encouraging middle and high school students to experience music as a creative art through:

- Composition and songwriting classes
- Piano and composition workshops
- Film-making/film-scoring residencies
- Instrument making and improvisation workshops

Collaborations with area schools for students with learning and developmental disabilities also use music as a vehicle to achieve educational goals.

Chamber Music Residencies and Large Ensemble Clinics
Enhancing the ensemble experience through:

- Residencies and workshops with AFA Chamber Music Academy faculty
- Small ensemble coaching to prepare for concerts/competitions
- Orchestra, band and choir clinics taught by AFA faculty artists

Contact AFA at 713-522-9699 or music@afatexas.org about having AFA on your campus.

“Being an AFA student has given me a lot of really great opportunities.”

“Having AFA in my class was awesome!”
2016 SUMMER MUSIC CONSERVATORY PREVIEW

Apply online in January 2016

INSTRUMENTALISTS AND PIANISTS

String Orchestras
June 13 – 24
Symphony Orchestra
June 27 – July 15
Piano: Jr. Division
June 13 – June 24
Piano: Sr. Division
June 27 – July 15
Middle School Woodwind and Brass Chamber Music
June 13 – 24

VOCALISTS

Elementary School Choir
June 27 – July 1
Middle School Choir
June 13 – 24
High School Choral and Vocal Studies
June 20 – July 1

Composition
June 20 – July 15

COMPOSERS

“Being with AFA has helped me stretch and grow as a musician.”

“Learning from these teachers has been amazing!”

“It was so awesome to meet other people who love music as much as I do.”