

About our

Institute for the Early Advancement of the Musically Highly Gifted (IFF)

Director

Prof. Martin Brauß

Executive Board

Prof. Martin Brauß

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Founded in 2000 as an official study program at the Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media (HMTMH)

IFF Portrait:

- Pre-college training and support for young musical talents; professional and responsible instruction, artistic guidance and pedagogical care
- Strengthening the international competitiveness of exceptional young talent
- Training and development of strong, independent musical personalities

The Program:

- Average age of entering class is 13 years
- The entrance exam: in awareness of the high standard in the three core subjects (see below), candidates must pass technical and musical requirements and show an above average potential for development.
- Length of program: 3 years
- Program content:
 - o Three main subject areas:
 - A. instrument or composition or voice,
 - B. music theory / ear training,
 - C. rhythmic studies (in the 3rd year of study: conducting)
 - o Optional minor subjects: chamber Music, interpretation/performance practice, composition, voice, etc.
- Course work may be carried forward to future studies at the Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media

- Instruction is mainly on weekends and runs parallel to studies in school (ie. all IFF students are also enrolled in the public school system)
- Numerous possibilities for public concert performances in recitals, chamber music concerts and as soloist with orchestra
- An annual week-long summer academy is offered, featuring extra courses in improvisation, composition, drama, choir, body - and relaxation techniques, as well as the opportunity for solo performances with orchestra

VIFF:

- The pre-IFF program for musically talented primary school children was founded in 2004.
- After passing an entrance exam the children are supported for up to three years as guest students.
- Group instruction in theory and rhythmic studies is offered on weekends.
- Instrumental lessons are normally handled privately.
- Possibility to continue into the IFF Program (after successful entrance examination)

Regional VIFF:

- A pilot project was initiated in 2007 by the Ministry of Culture of Lower Saxony in cooperation with the Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media and the Association of Lower Saxony Music Schools: at various pre-selected music schools in the state particularly gifted children, having passed an aptitude test, are given extra support in their further musical development through special courses at their music school.

GrIFF:

- Since 2011 the GrIFF program offers weekly group instruction in elementary musical skills: music theory, ear training and rhythmic studies to pre-school and elementary school students showing significant musical potential.