

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

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

Director

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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
- First of its kind in Germany and continues to play a leading role nationwide

General Course Information

The IFF is an institute for highly gifted young musicians aged 13-17 and the 6-semester-study runs parallel to the attendance of a regular German public school.

As German is the language of instruction, being able to understand, speak and write German fluently is a required precondition to be accepted as IFF student.

Foreign students must not be older than 14 years at the beginning of their IFF studies.

Applicants who are younger than 16 years must be accompanied by their parents or one parent and live with them or him/her.

In the case of the entrance examination applicants must sit a German language exam (Level B2) which corresponds to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) (written and oral).

Program content

Three principal subjects

A 90 min instrument or voice or composition

B 90 min music theory/ear training

C 45 min rhythmic studies in 1st and 2nd year; 90 min elementary conducting and score studies in 3rd year

Optional minor subjects

Chamber music, interpretation/performance practice, composition, voice etc.

There are six-monthly tests, annual examinations and final examinations.

Tuition day is Saturdays during the regular term-time, place of tuition is the Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media (HMTMH). Lessons in instrument, composition or singing will be fixed after individual agreements with the teacher.

IFF courses start in October.

Application has to be sent to the IFF office by April 30th.

Audition will take place in June.

Information about VIFF, the IFF pre-class

The IFF pre-class VIFF offers courses for highly gifted young musicians aged 9-12.

The children are guest students for 6 semesters.

As in IFF, the classes run parallel with the attendance of a regular public school.

Classes in theory and rhythmic studies take place on weekends.

There are yearly examinations.

Language of instruction is German.

Instrumental lessons are normally handled privately.

Classes run in parallel with schooldays in Lower Saxony.

Application has to be sent to the IFF office by January 31st.

Audition will take place at the end of February/beginning of March.

Classes start in April.