

Performance Diploma College of Music Michigan State University

The Performance Diploma Program is an intensive four-semester (two-year) course of study for musicians who have already achieved a high level of performance and wish to focus on developing their performing skills through further study.

Admission to the program is by a 30-minute live audition on campus for the faculty of the area of study. There is no English language proficiency requirement.

The program provides for concentrated study in appropriate literature with a master teacher, without being enrolled in a degree program. The program features private study as well as chamber music and ensemble experience within the College of Music. In addition, Diploma students are required to perform one recital during each of the two years of enrollment.

During their time of study, Performance Diploma students concentrate almost exclusively on developing their performing skills. This program recognizes accomplishment but does not carry the privileges of a college degree. Instead, students would likely be preparing for auditions, competitions, or career entry positions.

All applicants in classical voice, saxophone, percussion, flute and piano must submit a prescreening recording. This recording must be received no later than December 1 (fall applicants). Separate committees from the piano and vocal arts areas will review recordings beginning the week following the December 1 deadline. You will be notified via email as to whether or not you have been invited for a live audition. The recording quality must be sufficient for us to make a reasonable judgment of your ability. Specific prescreening requirements can be found within the audition section of this website. (<http://www.music.msu.edu/admissions/audition-information1>)

The program requires 16 credits take over two years to complete. During each of the four semesters, students enroll for 3 credits of private lessons and 1 credit of chamber music for each of the four semesters. (Voice students substitute Opera Workshop for the chamber music requirement.) Ensemble participation is also required during every semester. Two recitals are required and must be approved in advance, according to the College of Music policy for graduate recitals. Additional requirements will be determined in consultation with the major teacher. Courses may not be transferred into the Performance Diploma Program.

Students in the program will enroll through Lifelong Graduate Education and will be responsible for the cost of 4 credits of tuition each semester at the Lifelong Graduate rate. There is no additional fee for the program. The College of Music does not offer financial assistance (scholarships, fellowships, or graduate assistantships) for participants in the Diploma Program.

Performance Diploma students are subject to all the rules and regulations of the College of Music and the University.

Prospective students should contact the College of Music Admissions Office for information on admission procedures to the Diploma Program in Performance. Students must complete a graduate application to the College of Music and pass the audition before a decision can be made on acceptance into the program.

The College of Music application is available at <http://www.music.msu.edu/admissions>

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The program is administered by the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research of the College of Music. All students in the program are required to meet for with the Associate Dean for advising prior to the beginning of each semester. You may contact the Graduate Office (207 Music Practice Building). To set up an appointment, contact musgrad@msu.edu or 517-353.9122