

Music

Nature of Music

Music functions as a means of personal and communal identity and expression, and embodies the social and cultural values of individuals and communities. This scenario invites exciting exploration and sensitive study. Music, and all of its associations, may vary considerably from one musical culture to another: yet music may share similarities. Such richness offers a variety of ways to encounter and engage with a constantly changing world. A vibrant musical education fosters curiosity and openness to both familiar and unfamiliar musical worlds. Through such a study of music we learn to hear relationships of pitch in sound, pattern in rhythm and unfolding sonic structures. Through participating in the study of music we are able to explore the similarities, differences and links in music from within our own culture and that of others across time. Informed and active musical engagement allows us to explore and discover relationships between lived human experience and specific sound combinations and technologies, thus informing us more fully of the world around us, and the nature of humanity. This course also provides all students with the opportunity to engage in the world of music as lifelong participants.

Teaching Approach

Students are expected to develop their knowledge and potential as musicians, both personally and collaboratively. Involving aspects of the composition, performance and critical analysis of music, the course exposes students to forms, styles and functions of music from a wide range of historical and socio-cultural contexts. Students create, participate in, and reflect upon music from their own background and those of others. They develop practical and communicative skills which provide them with the opportunity to engage in music for further study, as well as for lifetime enjoyment.

Those students who have completed the Music in Year 10 will already have engaged in a structured learning process in the performing arts. This will allow them to develop further their experiences, skills, knowledge and conceptual understanding in music at Diploma Programme level. Reflection pursued in a sense of inquiry; evaluation; artistic self-expression; collaboration; and communication are all intrinsic to the beliefs and values that inspire IB arts courses.

The Diploma Programme music course is designed to offer students the opportunity to build on prior experience in music while encouraging a broad approach to the subject and developing new skills, techniques and ideas.

While prior music experience is not mandatory at SL, it is recommended. At HL it is very strongly recommended.

Where does it lead to

Through the study of Music, it is expected that students will become critical and creative thinkers, problem solvers, collaborative team members and independent learners, in addition to attaining and developing personal skills in particular aspects of Music. The study of Music leads to tertiary studies in Music. Occupations range from being a composer/arranger, conductor, music therapist, lecturer, piano tuner, instrument maker, professional performer, entertainer, music teacher etc. Some students may choose to be involved in local music groups, which open up a whole world of performing and social experiences too.

<http://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/curriculum/the-arts/music/>