

The AIM Examinations

Illinois State Music Teacher Association Exam for Achievement in Music Program

What are the benefits of taking AIM examinations?

These exams enhance musicianship, develop performance confidence, and can make a significant difference in college application process. Universities appreciate students with extensive, relevant and successful track record in extracurricular activities. The AIM exams are demanding and require daily instrument and vocal practice and theory study. The goal is for students to have a positive experience, and feel rewarded for their dedication and diligent work. Students receive a certificate for successful completion of the theory and the performance exams.

Deadline

Inform your teacher about the intention of taking the exam as soon as possible. Early preparation is the key to good scores. Please talk to your teacher about the appropriate level for your child.

Are there any age limitations?

There is no age limit for instruments. Voice students can start at age 14, and there is pre-syllabus exam for voice students age 13.

Who are the NMA teachers prepared in exam preparation?

Piano: Dr. Reddington, Mr. Bobik, Mr. Hylland, Mr. Pulikowski, Mr. Wilson,

Violin: Ms. Hinrichs

Voice: Mr. Pulikowski and Dr. Mihelcic

How are the exams structured?

AIM examinations are divided by level and content. There are specific technique, theory, and repertoire requirements for each level, and the levels are defined differently for different instruments. Please consult your teacher about the requirements for your specific instrument.

When and where are the AIM examinations?

There are the usual dates. We will post the actual dates as soon as they are announced.

Piano Exam:

- Levels 1A, 1B, 1C, and 2, first Sunday in February.
- Theory level 3-12, first weekend in December.
- Performance level 3-12, mid to late March each year.

In order to enroll in the performance examination in March, students must successfully complete the theory examination in December.

Violin, viola exam:

- Usually in later spring, exact date TBD

Voice:

- Early April at Naperville Music Academy premises, exact date TBA.

Who adjudicates the examinations?

Members of Music Teacher Association in our area are the adjudicators at AIM examinations, and they are experienced teachers and adjudicators

Are there any extra fees for AIM examinations and materials?

Yes, in the past there was a fee of \$15 per student per exam, plus the cost of books needed for exam preparation. The tuition for the lessons is unchanged since AIM preparation can be a part of the normal weekly lesson program. For voice students, there is an accompanist fee to be determined by the accompanist.

How do I sign up?

Talk to your teacher at your earliest convenience to set everything up and order the materials. The sooner you sign up the greater chance of the student's success at the examinations.