

## ■ IB Music HL and SL

### Introduction

Music is a performing art and the IB course encourages performance and composition at both Higher and Standard level. In fact, 50% of the final mark at both HL and SL is for performance and / or composition. The course is designed for the music student with a background in performance or composition and is an ideal stepping stone to music at university and conservatoire level. Alongside the practical element all the courses include a common section on musical perception and analysis.

### Content

#### *Prescribed work*

This is a detailed study of substantial piece of work prescribed each year by the IB.

#### *Musical genres and styles*

A wide range of music from around the world is studied to compare structure and elements in different historical and cultural contexts.

#### *Musical Investigation*

This leads to a written media script (radio, TV, CD, website) of 1200-1500 words investigating the relationship between two musical genres.

#### *Performance and Composition*

At higher level, students complete **both** of the following.

- A Solo performance - one or more solo recitals lasting approx. 20 minutes.
- Composition - three contrasting pieces lasting 5-15 minutes, including written statement and score.

At Standard Level, students choose **one** of the following.

- A solo performance - one or more solo recitals lasting approx. 15 minutes.
- A group performance - two public performances lasting 15-30 minutes as part of an ensemble.
- Composition - two contrasting pieces lasting 5-15 minutes, including written statement and score.

#### **Assessment**

At both levels, the study of the prescribed work and the musical genres and styles leads to a listening paper of 2½ hours, for which a CD is provided. This paper makes up 30% of the final mark. The musical investigation making up a further 20% is also marked externally. The performance and composition, which are internally marked and externally moderated, makes up the remaining marks.