

*Sound
Foundations
2020*

- Equipping musicians for excellence -

- Welcome -

Greetings, fellow musicians!

We are excited to welcome you to Sound Foundations (or Advanced Sound Foundations), Class of 2020! Beginning on July 13, you will have the opportunity to learn from outstanding instructors in a hands-on musical environment where the first priority is to honor the Name of Christ.

In this setting, you will work towards musical and spiritual goals individually and corporately—goals that will prepare you and your classmates for greater service to the King of kings.

In the following pages, you will find the guidelines, packing lists, travel details, and recommendations that will prepare you for the course. Please check out our [Frequently Asked Questions page](#) for answers to other inquiries you may have. If you have additional questions, email the Music Office at music@iblp.org, or call (903) 636-2000.

As the class start date draws nearer, please be in prayer that:

- God will prepare you mentally, physically, and spiritually for all that He has in store for you during this course
- God will unify the hearts of all that are attending and instructing
- God would glorify His Word and His Name above all else

See you in Texas on July 13!

For His Glory,
The Sound Foundations Team

“ . . . with my song will I praise Him.” Psalm 28:7

-Orientation Manual -

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1. *Sound Foundations' Core Values*

Excellence

In all our settings and interactions, we want to show respect for a professional environment and conduct ourselves in such a manner that brings glory to the King of kings.

Respect

Deferring personal preferences contributes to excellence as a whole. As we come together from countless different backgrounds, we have the opportunity to limit our personal freedoms so that we may build a God-honoring spirit of unity as a class.

Encouragement

Through attitudes of gratefulness, contentment, and humility, we want to encourage each other through every aspect of the course.

This course is an opportunity for you to build healthy relationships with your classmates and instructors, advance your music skills, and honor the Lord in your heart and in your actions.

Join us in sharing these values as we come together to glorify God!

2. What to Expect

a. The Schedule: [access a sample class schedule here](#). Please note that some details may change, but this gives you a really good overview of what your time at Sound Foundations will look like! For Advanced Sound Foundations, see below.

b. The Instructors: Mr. Brian Fox, Mr. Aaron Baker, Ms. Anna Ferraro, Ms. Susannah Hulin, Ms. Carol Blair, Ms. Laura Johnson, Mr. David Waller, and others! [Coming from across the nation from a variety of professional backgrounds, meet the instructor line-up here!](#)

3. Course Content

- Choral/instrumental training — join your classmates in energizing vocal and instrumental workouts through rich repertoire in a creative and engaging environment.
- Music theory and composition classes — from learning music notation to actually writing your own songs, these classes will bring music to life for you!
- Hymn history — mine the rich depths of the great hymns of the faith and learn how you can use them to point others to Christ!
- Masterclasses — enjoy gleaning insights from musical professionals to take your instrumental command to the next level (for more info, see the section on How to Prepare)
- Presentations on practical topics — including children's choir and ministry, copyright navigation, music pedagogy, hymn improvisation, basic orchestrations, conducting, building a Biblical worldview of music, navigating notation software, how to develop and operate your own music business, and more!
- For Advanced Sound Foundations students, see next page.

[What to Expect at Advanced Sound Foundations]

Advanced Sound Foundations (ASF) focuses on training in music theory and ensemble experience, thus providing students with a strong platform for composing, arranging, and performing music for the glory of God.

While participating in some group activities with Sound Foundations, ASF students enter a new classroom -- where they learn how music is made -- and how to make it themselves!

So, you can expect a daily schedule similar to Sound Foundations, with the same times and places for devotions, meals, rehearsals, and performances. But... expect a different classroom, where you'll get to take many of the things you learned in Sound Foundations, and apply it at a more advanced level — mainly, music theory.

Course overview:

- Basic Music Theory review — In the first 1-2 days of class, let's revisit scales, key signatures, intervals, and triads. Then, let's take it all up a level!
- More Music Theory — Let's learn how to write four-part harmonies, work with cadences, use 7th chords, harmonize melodies, modulate, explore interchangeable harmonies, and more!
- Songwriting — Did you love creating your own music at Sound Foundations? You will love it here too, and best of all, you get to do it with new ideas and tools!
- Biblical music discernment — from the Old to the New Testament, let's put our personal preferences aside and see what the Bible has to say about music! At Advanced Sound Foundations, we'll bring in new classes on these topics that will direct you deeper in this area.
- Masterclasses — enjoy gleaning insights from musical professionals to take your instrumental command to the next level!

[For students' reference, the main text for this course is based on the college textbook, "Principles of Harmony" by Dr. Dean Kincaid, American Conservatory of Music]

4. What to Bring

Please mark everything clearly with your name!

- You + your instrument(s) (pianos will be provided)
- Bible & journal
- Portable music stand (for string & woodwind players)
- Audio or video recording device, preferably a smartphone, to use during personal practice times
- Your favorite snacks for those late-night homework sprints, weekends, or.... just because snacks are great, bring some!
- Laundry detergent and supplies for doing your laundry
- \$2.50 in quarters per load of laundry (there is a full laundry room in each dorm)
- Umbrella & jacket
- Money or card for the campus store or supplemental music items (instructors may bring resources that you want to purchase, and the campus store also has a coffee shop!)
- Metronome (optional) -- we highly recommend the Pro Metronome app: [Pro Metronome for iOS](#) / [Pro Metronome for Android](#)
- Tote bag or backpack for a large binder and other class materials
- Pens, pencils, and highlighters, for lots and LOTS of notes!
- Notebook or journal for extra notes and devotions
- If you want your Hymnology final exam returned to you, bring a long, business-size envelope, stamped (one Forever / \$0.55 stamp), and self-addressed, including the return address (not necessary for ASF students)
- Extra items that are helpful, but not required: Paper clips, scissors, Post-it notes, stapler
- Clothing that aligns with guidelines (see next section.)

For students that are flying: you will be given a syllabus (2-3" binder) of class notes at the course, as well as a hymnal, and some small pamphlets and materials that you will want to take home! Hopefully knowing this ahead of time allows you to pack and plan your luggage accordingly.

[What NOT to bring]

- Contemporary music that may be questionable or distracting for you or your fellow classmates
- Video Games (if you have gaming on your phone or device, you will be asked to refrain from accessing it for the entire duration of the course)
- Clothing that does not meet guidelines (see next section).

MAIL: Letters and packages can be sent to (Students' name), C/O Sound Foundations, One Academy Blvd, Big Sandy, TX, 75755

5. What to Wear

Lead the way among your classmates by wearing clothing that is traditional, classic, and professional, inviting your peers to take you and your skills seriously. As we focus on equipping students for excellence, our choice of clothing can drive us toward or distract us from that goal.

Young Ladies' Attire

In the Classroom

Wear this:

- Professional and feminine outfits: blouses/dress tops w/skirts or dresses (Pants for females are only allowed during recreation times.)
- Modest fitting clothes that do not accentuate anything physical

Not that:

- Sleeveless tops, shirts that cling and accentuate the chest, skirts that come above the knee when sitting, any kind of ragged or lettered clothing, sneakers, flip-flops, or clothing that is decidedly trendy or casual.

In Recreation

Wear this:

- Modest-fitting shirts that do not show skin/cleavage in athletic positions.
- Skirts that reach over the knees when standing with leggings/pants underneath (pants must reach over the knee), or loose fitting capris (below the knees) or pants
- Casual shoes: sneakers, flip flops, etc.

Not that:

- tank tops, sleeveless tops, shorts, or any stretchy and tight-fitting clothing

In Concert

Wear this:

- Formal, solid black tops/skirts or dresses
- Sleeves must reach over shoulders, skirt must reach ankles or floor
- Sashes or rosettes (provided at course)

Young Mens' Attire

In the Classroom

Wear this:

- Professional and masculine outfits: dress slacks and collared shirts; ties are appropriate but not required.

Not that:

- Skinny jeans, tight-fitting shirts, any kind of ragged or lettered clothing, sneakers, flip-flops, or clothing that is decidedly trendy or casual.

In Recreation

Wear this:

- Modest-fitting shirts that do not show skin in athletic positions
- Loose-fitting pants or shorts that reach the knees when standing
- Casual shoes: sneakers, flip flops, etc.

Not that:

- Shorts that are too short (above the knee), sleeveless tops, or any stretchy and tight-fitting clothing

In Concert

Wear this:

- Black suits with white shirts underneath
- Ties (provided at course)

For your planning purposes, here are the recreational options: full-size track, disc golf course, basketball and volleyball courts, a lakefront with canoes (used under supervision, with lifejackets, and at scheduled times), walking areas, and more.

6. What to Do About:

a. Guy & Girl interactions

In the classroom and on the campus, we will all come together to serve the Lord and honor each other. Remember the core values of Sound Foundations in all your interactions, and let purity be your guiding principle as you interact with your brothers and sisters in Christ. Below are some further guidelines.

What is okay:

- Interacting professionally in GROUP and public settings
- Conversing around the course content, and engaging in discussions and activities that build fellow students up in the course
- Treating all classmates of the opposite gender as equals in pursuit of the common goal: excellence as individuals for the glory of God and maintaining a respectful level of restraint in all interactions.

What is NOT okay:

- Interacting casually in PRIVATE or enclosed settings
- Conversing extensively outside of course content, and engaging in activities that are not scheduled or do not relate to the course
- Treating certain classmates of the opposite gender with special attention, or engaging in actions and conversations that could be regarded as flirtatious or too inviting

b. Music guidelines

At Sound Foundations, our choices of musical repertoire are conservative, drawing from classical or sacred selections that will feed students mentally and spiritually. We will avoid contemporary styles that may be edifying in some settings, but could cause conflict in others. We want to teach you how to be excellent in music, and upon your return home, it is up to you to seek the Lord on how “excellence in music” looks in your own life and ministry.

This means don't worry about bringing your own music for listening or pastime. Think of your time here in this way: If you were a culinary student attending a cake-baking workshop, you would leave your grilling supplies at home. Since you are attending a course that is focused more on classical and conservative music, leave other music at home. In this way, you and your classmates can benefit the most from the goals and opportunities of this environment. When in doubt, err on the side of conservatism.

Exception: if you have music that needs to be rehearsed during your time at the course for

professional or required purposes, let us know! Bring your music along and we will make sure it is appropriate and that you have sufficient time to meet your teacher's or job's requirements within the classroom schedule. If you have questions, contact the Music Office (music@iblp.org).

7. How to Prepare (SF & ASF)

For masterclasses: (piano, voice, strings, woodwinds, & brass) Prepare a single solo piece on your instrument - preferably sacred or classical. At the beginning of the class, you will have a chance to sign up for coaching, and audition for Masterclasses. Have your selections performance-ready by the start of the class, as practice time there will be limited.

For ensembles: If you are an intermediate-advanced instrumentalist, prepare a piece on your instrument that you can use for an audition at the beginning of the course! You will be asked to sight read some excerpts and play some scales/arpeggios in this audition, so brush up on those skills as well!

For choral training: Listen to the great choral works performed by well-known ensembles such as the London Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra and Chorale, and others: "Messiah" by George Frideric Handel, "The Creation" by Franz Joseph Haydn, "Elijah" by Felix Mendelssohn.

For Advanced Sound Foundations only: Brush up on your music theory! Begin by reviewing your music theory notes from Sound Foundations. Then, if you had questions while taking the placement exam, use the internet to research those terms and concepts. Finally, practice playing all scales on your instrument: major scales and their corresponding minor scales in all forms (natural, harmonic, and melodic).

For Sound Foundations only: Memorize all four stanzas and be able to play on your instrument before the start of class the following two hymns, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross," by Isaac Watts, and "A Mighty Fortress is Our God," by Martin Luther (hymns lyrics are featured on the following pages).

“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

- by Martin Luther, 1529 -

1) A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;

Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe;

His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

2) Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,

Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing.

You ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;

Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same; and He must win the battle.

3) And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,

We will not fear, for God has willed his truth to triumph through us.

The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;

His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

4) That Word above all earthly powers no thanks to them abideth;

The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;

The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still; His kingdom is forever!

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

- by Isaac Watts, 1707 -

1) When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

2) Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them through his blood.

3) See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4) Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

For sheet music of these hymns, please visit www.hymnary.org.

[A Mighty Fortress](#) / [When I Survey](#)

Lyrics and music to both these hymns are in the public domain.

8. How to share about this class

It's not too late to bring a friend! Registration is open until July 1. To share about the course with a friend, or direct them to registration, use this link: www.familyconferences.org/soundfoundations

For additional information or to request brochures, contact the ATI office at (903) 636-2000, or at ati@iblp.org.

Here are some sample talking points as you update your friends and family on where you will be going this summer:

YOU: "I am headed to a three-week music course in northeast Texas this summer!"

FRIEND: "Sounds like fun! What do you think it will be like?"

YOU: "Well, I expect it to be a spiritually enriching, mentally challenging, fabulous musical experience!"

FRIEND: "Great! Give me some details..."

YOU: "In class, I'll get to study with instructors from around the nation, and work with them on various projects, such as writing my own song, taking a passage of Scripture and setting it to music, building skills in music theory, history, and learning the history of hymns. Outside of class, I'll have some free time and opportunities to fellowship with other students. I'll also get to do really fun things like conduct an orchestra, sing in a choir, and play with different ensembles in a final concert to which, hey! You're welcome to come!"
(See next section, Final Concert Info.)

9. *Final Concert Info*

WHO: for family & friends of the students

WHAT: musical presentation by the Sound Foundations Class of 2020

WHEN & WHERE: July 30, 6:30 — 9:30 p.m. at the International ALERT Academy, Field House Auditorium

Evening program:

- 6:30 p.m.—Family Conference session
- 7:30 p.m.—Sound Foundations Chorale & Orchestra Concert
- 8:30 p.m.—Open reception for students & instructors, with their families & friends

We would love for your friends and family to reserve meals and lodging on campus around when they bring you to the course, or for the final concert! All meals, including a continental breakfast, and full lunch and dinner are served in the campus dining hall. Our dining hall features a full cafeteria line, so there are always plenty of options - including options for those who are gluten free! (Must be pre-reserved.)

- Adult Lunches/Dinners: \$8 (ages 12+)
- Child Lunches/Dinners \$6 (ages 4–11)
- Continental breakfasts (weekdays): \$6/adult, \$4/child
- Hot breakfasts (Wednesday): \$8/adult, \$6/child
- Gluten-Free meals: \$10/adult, \$8/child

For lodging, Private Rooms are \$85/night, Semi-Private Rooms are \$75/night, & Cabins are \$40/night.

To reserve your meals or lodging, or for more info, contact our Events Department at 903-636-9201 or email: events@alertacademy.com

10. Travel Details

Please complete the [Travel Information form](#) by July 1st.

FOR THOSE DRIVING: Please arrive at the International ALERT Academy (One Academy Blvd, Big Sandy, TX, 75755) by 3:30pm on Saturday, July 11th. Dinner is provided in the dining room from 4:30 — 5:00pm. After that, the fun begins with an ice cream party and Orientation in the dining room at 6:30pm. If you are not staying for the [Instrumental Workshop](#), please plan to leave by 12:00pm on Saturday, August 1st. If you are interested in organizing a carpool from your area, let us know so we can connect you with other students.

FOR THOSE FLYING:

Flight Arrivals

- Class staff will meet you at your airlines' arrival curb.
- For flights into Dallas Fort Worth (DFW) or Dallas Love Field (DAL), plan to arrive before 2:30pm on Saturday, July 11th.
- For flights into Tyler Pounds Regional Airport (TYR), or East Texas Regional Airport in Longview (GGG), plan to arrive before 3:30pm on Saturday, July 11th.

Flight Departures

- Class Staff will deliver you back to your departing airline curb for your departing flight.
- For DFW or DAL, plan to depart after 12:30pm on Saturday, August 1st.
- For TYR or GGG, plan to depart any time after 8:00am on Saturday, August 1st
- If you are staying for the [Instrumental Workshop](#), you can book your flights for the same time on August 8th.

For travel questions, call the ATI office at (903) 636-2000.