



The Nickelodeon Youth Music Scholarship

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is FAMI?

The **Foothills Acoustic Music Institute** is a registered non-profit organization set up to promote and encourage the learning and playing of acoustic music including bluegrass, fiddle, old time, traditional, Celtic, folk, swing and blues. FAMI is run by a volunteer board of directors.

Each year, FAMI hosts Workshops in May and August and a Jam Camp in late September or early October. These camps provide encouragement to beginning and intermediate musicians through classes, mini workshops, facilitated jam sessions or one on one. The more advanced players have an opportunity to play in a jam session or ensemble setting or to just share their talents with others.

The FAMI website (<http://www.fami.ca>) provides a list of available classes and a daily activity schedule for each camp. Visit their "Camp Facilities" page for camp rules and additional information.

2. Who will be teaching?

The instructors are experienced musicians, not necessarily professional musicians. Some have years of teaching experience. Others just love to share their knowledge and skills.

3. How many students will be in each class?

There is a minimum of three students per class and a maximum of twelve in most classes.

4. How many instruments do you learn to play in one weekend?

Classes usually focus on learning to play one instrument. The "ensemble" classes focus on a particular style of music and often involve more than one type of instrument.

5. Do you need your own instrument?

Each participant is responsible for providing their own instrument in working order. The instructors will not make any adjustments to instruments beyond demonstrating how to tune the instrument.

6. What are the transportation arrangements?

The chaperone will drive all of the participants (if transportation is required) from central Calgary to the camp.

7. What accommodations are available?

Accommodations are provided in dorm style rooms. Each room holds 4 to 16 campers on bunk beds. There are shared washrooms with showers located within the main buildings.

8. What meals are provided?

The food is provided by the same catering service that provides food for many other events at Kamp Kiwanis. At the May camp, there is a “travellers supper” on Friday night, three meals on Saturday and Sunday and breakfast and lunch on Monday. The meal schedule at the August camp is similar. The caterer can provide vegetarian dishes if given advance notice. Salads and fruit are also provided with the main meals. FAMI volunteers provide snacks after each evening concert.

9. What do I need to bring?

In addition to their personal needs, campers must bring their own bedding (sleeping bag, pillow, sheets etc), towel, soap and other toiletries, musical instrument, recording device (optional) etc.

10. What is the weather like at that time of year?

The camp is in the foothills, ten kilometres from the mountains. Bring spring weather gear. It may get very cold in the evenings.

11. Who will take responsibility for the youth?

Adult participants from the Nickelodeon Music Club will chaperone the youth. We will provide one male and one female chaperone if needed.

12. Where is the camp?

At the junction of highways #8 and #22 twenty minutes west of Calgary.

13. Is there any medically trained person in attendance at the camp?

There is no formally designated medically trained person at the camp; several people who attend the camp have CPR and first aid skills.

14. What activities can you do when you are not in classes?

You can take a walk in the woods or by the river on the camp property, play sports in the open field or just take a rest. Organized jam sessions for all skill levels are offered every evening and spontaneous jam sessions occur at any time of day. Jam sessions after midnight are limited to locations where they won't disturb any sleepers.

15. Is the unstructured time supervised?

The chaperones will supervise the scholarship participants, with more independence permitted for older participants.