

Flying Musicians Association, Inc.
501(C)(3) Nonprofit Organization
EIN: 80-0433326
PO Box 3325 Bella Vista, AR 72715
817.501.3641



2026 FMA SOLO Program Packet

The FMA Solo program was established by pilots who are musicians, spanning the globe, proficiency levels, and all musical genres. The skills required to play an instrument and fly an aircraft have marked similarities, from precision and multitasking to listening and fine motor skills. By pointing out and building on these common attributes, we hope to further interest in both aviation and music. Members share their passions to inspire, educate, encourage, and assist others by creating enthusiasm to promote personal growth through aviation and music.

Musician: A person who writes, sings, or plays music.

There are many pilot musicians around the world. Many are famous: Dierks Bentley, Kenny G, Aaron Tippin, to mention a few. Many are accomplished and at the top of their profession: Louise Vickerman - principal harpist with the Utah Symphony, Jay Mason – professional studio musician, ATP pilot, music and aviation educator, and Ted Piltzecker - world class vibraphonist, composer, performer and educator. The ability to concentrate and practice while seeking precision to perform are essential traits in music. These characteristics lead to success in many areas of life, but none more so than in flying an aircraft. Not surprisingly, airline studies have indicated that piloting an aircraft has much in common with a musical performance.

FMA hopes to expand the horizons of students who have been taught the right-stuff through their music training while encouraging them to continue music for life.

Included in this Packet

Guidelines:

Program Overview
Deadlines
Criteria
Nomination
Selection

Nomination Form:

School Information
Band/Music Director Information
Student/Nominee Information
Recommendation

The finalists will be notified through their nominating music directors/teachers to complete and return the Finalist form. This form will require the student to acknowledge that they meet the criteria, write a paragraph, sign and, if a minor, obtain the signature of their parent/guardian.

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FMA SOLO Program Guidelines

The Flying Musicians Solo program is more than the scholarships awarded to a high school junior or senior musician in good standing, nominated by their music director, but is also an introduction to all nominees into the FMA network - A network consisting of like-minded individuals who will be valuable assets throughout life. The scholarship award sponsors the student through their first solo in flight training with an FAA certified flight instructor. FMA will assist with training material and flight gear with the help of corporate members and sponsors when able. All nominees will receive a student membership, FMA shirt, swag, and will be offered a Youth ambassador position with opportunities to represent FMA at events.

Deadline:

1. Nominations Due January 31, 2026
2. Finalists Notified March 1, 2026
3. Finalists Acceptance Due March 31, 2026
4. Awards Announced and Recipients Notified May 1, 2026

Criteria:

1. High school junior or senior music student in good standing.
2. Student must be nominated by his/her music instructor.
3. Minimum of 16 years old (by March 31, 2026)
4. Proof of Citizenship (in the country of training)
5. For USA applicants: Able to obtain a 3rd Class FAA Medical Exam, State Issued Driver license or equivalent and or required in country of training
6. For Canadian applicants: Able to obtain a Category 3 Aviation Medical
7. Parental Approval if under 18 years of age

How to Nominate:

1. Fill out the attached nomination form
2. Include Basic information:
 - a. School
 - b. Music Instructor
 - c. Nominee
3. Write a paragraph about the nominee.

Please consider the criteria listed above using your firsthand knowledge of the student in selecting a junior or senior, male or female who has shown enthusiasm and passion for music, learning, growing and aviation along with a desire to learn to fly. Write a brief paragraph about the nominee to help us make our selection. Your nomination will be held in the highest esteem.
4. Email to: Education@FlyingMusicians.org

