

FAQ Double Bass Course 2024-2025

Who can apply for the "Double Bass" programme?

The programme is open to double bass players with exceptional artistic talent to prepare them for a professional career in the concert field.

What are the differences between the Annual Course (AC) and the Stauffer Performance Diploma (SPD) course?

The main differences are:

- a. **Duration:** The SPD is a three-year programme that allows for structuring the planning of one's educational and artistic path at Stauffer over a longer period, provided the intermediate exams are passed; the duration can be shortened to two years in agreement with the teachers and the academic direction.
- b. **Attendance:** For the SPD, attendance at 10 monthly sessions (instead of 8 for the AC) is required, and priority access to integrative activities such as masterclasses, artistic projects, and concert opportunities; the attendance modalities are the same for both courses.
- c. **Midterm, end-of-year and diploma examinations:** the SPD requires midterm and end-of-year exams (passing which you are automatically enrolled in the following year), and a final diploma exam at the end of the entire course. In the AC, each academic year concludes with the last session; the continuation to the following year is decided by the teacher after the admission exams for the new year have been completed.

What do the SPD exams consist of?

The midterm and end-of-year examinations will entail performances at the Sala Stradivari of the Stauffer Academy or at alternative venues; the music programmes are agreed upon with the teacher. The diploma exam at the end of the course involves the execution of an artistic project proposed by the graduating student, consisting of a concert to be held in the presence of the public and a commission of artists and music operators.

Are the admission exams separate for each course?

No, the admission exam is the same for both courses.

How many students can be admitted to the SPD?

The SPD is reserved for a limited number of students. Their number will be defined by the professors and the academic director on a yearly basis.

I am a Stauffer student and have attended the annual course in the latest academic year. If I want to access the SPD, will mine previous year(s) of attendance be recognized?
Certainly, the teacher and the academic direction will evaluate individual cases, and the overall duration will be agreed upon, also based on the continuity of attendance in recent years.

Do I have to specify the course I wish to enroll in?

When submitting the application, you can indicate your preference for one or the other course by sending an email to accademia@stauffer.org.

If I am not admitted to the SPD, will I lose the opportunity to enroll in the annual course?

Absolutely not: if, based on the available places and the merit ranking, it is not possible to access the SPD course, admission to the annual course may be considered.

What do the supplementary activities consist of?

Each year, in addition to sessions with Alberto Bocini, the Double Bass course includes a series of supplementary activities consisting of:

- masterclasses with distinguished guest professors;
- ample opportunities for public performances, from session recitals organized monthly at the Academy's Sala Stradivari, to concerts organized by institutions with which the Academy collaborates;
- the opportunity to record your performances at the Academy.

Who can access the integrative activities?

All the students attending the SPD and the AC.

What is the "Ad Hoc" Double Bass formula?

This formula is aimed to offer students who want to get to know the Stauffer programme or participate in a masterclass with Maestro Alberto Bocini. The admitted students will have the opportunity to attend up to a maximum of two sessions of the annual course. It will also be possible to register for this formula during the academic year, by submitting a video recording, subject to the professors' availability.

If you have further doubts or questions, do not hesitate to contact us at accademia@stauffer.org.