What is IRB?

IRB is an acronym for Institutional Review Board. This is a committee established to review and approve research involving human subjects.

The IRB office is part of the Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) whom facilitates the MSU IRB review processes in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations, university policies, and ethical standards. IRB administrators are assigned to incoming applications based primarily on the College and/or Department of the Principal Investigator, subject to workload and availability.

If you are planning to use interviews, observations, or other interactions with composers, musicians or performers for your research, you will need IRB approval or determination of exempt status.

What do I do?

**STEP ONE:** With the assistance of your Guidance Committee, determine if you will be using interviews, observations, or other interactions with composers, musicians or performers for your research.

**STEP TWO:** Go to the HRPP website and fill out the application: Determination whether activity involves human subject research.

Current link until December 4, 2017 is: https://hrpp.msu.edu/determination-whether-activity-involves-human-subject-research-application

**NOTE:** As of December 4, 2017 there will be a new CLICK system to find these forms. Please look at the HRPP website carefully for the new form

**STEP THREE:** If the determination comes back NO, then you are finished with the IRB process. If the determination comes back YES; then your will need to complete an additional form: Initial Application Exempt Determination

Current link until December 4, 2017 is: https://hrpp.msu.edu/initial-application-exempt-determination

**NOTE:** As of December 4, 2017 there will be a new CLICK system to find these forms. Please look at the HRPP website carefully for the new form

**NOTE:** Most, if not all proposals submitted by our DMA students are determined NO involving human subject research and EXEMPT if the process needs an exempt determination application. If you are not sure, the best thing to do is to fill out the form in STEP TWO to get the process started.