

Aspen Music Festival and School Fact Sheet

The Aspen Music Festival and School, now in its 63rd year, is a high-level training ground for the world's next generation of professional musicians. It is also America's premier music festival, presenting more than 300 musical events in eight weeks, and serving as a summer retreat for any of the world's great musical minds.

Music Directors: Robert Spano 2012 –
David Zinman, 1998 – 2010
Lawrence Foster, 1990 – 1996
Jorge Mester, 1970 – 1990

President and CEO: Alan Fletcher 2006 – present

Main Season: Eight weeks each summer, approximately early July to late August

Number of Events: 300+

Attendees: Approximately 75,000 concert attendees

Types of Events: Orchestral, opera, chamber music, contemporary music, children's events, lectures, panel discussions, master classes, house music concerts, tours

Orchestras: Aspen Festival Orchestra, professionals (principals) and students
Aspen Chamber Symphony, professionals (principals) and students
Aspen Concert Orchestra, all students
American Academy of Conducting at Aspen Orchestra, all students except professional concertmaster

Facilities: Benedict Music Tent, 2050 seats, opened June 2000
David Karetsky Music Lawn, fields outside the Music Tent, are always open and free
Harris Concert Hall, 500 seats, opened fall 1993
Castle Creek Campus, 38-acre site, beginning the second phase of renovation in 2015 with state-of-the-art teaching studios, 68 practice rooms, 2 rehearsal halls

Winter Events: Musical Odysseys Reaching Everyone (MORE) program brings 3-5 musical artists into area schools for presentations and teaching
Partial series of The Met: *Live in HD* opera broadcasts

Board of Trustees: 50 members
Chair, Bob Hurst

National Council Over 100 members

Annual Budget: Nearly \$14 million

Year-Round Staff: 34

Student Body: 630 enroll each summer
From approximately 39 U.S. states and 39 countries
Average age 21.9
Approximately 2000 applicants

Applications begin in October, final deadline is early January

- Educational programs: Orchestral (on all orchestral instruments) – lessons and orchestra placement
Aspen Opera Theater Center
Piano
Composition
American Academy of Conducting at Aspen
Guitar
Center for Advanced String Quartets
Aspen Contemporary Ensemble
Finckel-Wu Han Chamber Music Studio
- Artist-faculty: Approximately 130 from major conservatories and music schools all over the country
- 2015 Composers-in-Residence: Steven Stucky, George Tsontakis, Sydney Hodkinson, Jennifer Higdon, Steven Mackey, Shulamit Ran, Christopher Rouse, Judith Shatin, Steven Stucky, Christopher Theofanidis
- Founded: In 1949 by Chicagoans Elizabeth and Walter Paepcke as part of the Goethe Bicentennial and Convocation that they organized with participants such as Thornton Wilder, Albert Schweitzer, Ortega y Gasset, and Dmitri Mitropolous and the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra. This event spawned both the Aspen Music Festival and School and the political/intellectual think tank, The Aspen Institute.
- Alumni include: Violinists: Joshua Bell, Sarah Chang, Cho-Liang Lin, Robert McDuffie, Midori, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, Gil Shaham, Kyoko Takezawa
Pianists: Ingrid Fliter, Orli Shaham, Conrad Tao, Yuja Wang, Wu Han, Joyce Yang
Conductors: Marin Alsop, James Conlon, James Levine, Leonard Slatkin
Singers: Renée Fleming, Barbara Hendricks, Susanne Mentzer, Dawn Upshaw
Composers: Philip Glass, Adam Schoenberg, Bright Sheng, Morton Subotnick, Augusta Read Thomas
Other: Performer Peter Schickele, cellist Lynn Harrell, guitarist Sharon Isbin, bassist/composer Edgar Meyer, cellist Alisa Weilerstein, flutist Carol Wincenc
- Town of Aspen: Year-round population 6,000
Summer population approximately 16,000
3-1/2 hour drive from Denver
Altitude 8,000 feet
Average single-family home price \$4.6 million

Current as of March 2015