

Overview of Aspen Music Festival

Summer:

The Aspen Music Festival presents more than 300 orchestral and chamber music events during its annual eight-week summer season. The town is immersed in music and musicians as they prepare for an unusually rich and comprehensive menu of events, which include symphonic and chamber music recitals, children's workshops, and private-home musicales.

- Audiences enjoy the music in a variety of venues: the graceful Benedict Music Tent; the acoustically superior Harris Concert Hall; the historic Wheeler Opera House; and even atop Aspen Mountain.
- Unlike most summer festivals, which play host to one professional orchestra, the Aspen Music Festival creates four orchestras each summer, two of which consist entirely of Aspen Music School students. The Aspen Festival Orchestra and the Aspen Chamber Symphony are composed of seasoned artists who make up the faculty and gifted young student musicians. All the orchestras are regularly joined by guest soloists and conductors.

Winter:

The Festival's winter music programs bring a sophisticated cultural dimension to the traditional offerings of a ski resort town. Approximately fifteen events are presented November through May

- Three Winter Music Series recitals featuring the world's top musicians performing in the intimate 500-seat Harris Concert Hall.
- Free family concerts for school-age children attract new audiences to the concert hall during the winter season. AMFS educational offerings have offered valley schools enrichment programs in classical music under the auspices of the Musical Odysseys Reaching Everyone (M.O.R.E.) music program and the AfterWorks program.
- Five select encore presentations of The Met: *Live in HD* opera broadcasts shown in Aspen's historic Wheeler Opera House.