AMFS FACT SHEET



The Campaign for the Aspen Music Festival and School

Founded By Chicagoans Elizabeth and Walter Paepcke in 1949, as part of the Goethe Bicentennial and

> Convocation that they organized with participants such as Thornton Wilder, Albert Schweitzer, Jose Ortega y Gassett, Herbert Bayer, and Dmitri Mitropolous and the Minneapolis

Symphony Orchestra

Music Robert Spano, 2011-present **Directors** David Zinman, 1998-2010

> Lawrence Foster, 1990–1996 Jorge Mester, 1970–1990

Board of 50 members Chair, Michael Klein **Trustees**

National Council More than 200 members Co-President, Carrie Wells

Co-President, Robert J. Hurst

Facilities Benedict Music Tent, 2050 seats, opened June 2000

Harris Concert Hall, 500 seats, opened fall 1993

AMFS Castle Creek Campus, 38-acre site with nine buildings

Summer **Events**

More than 400 in eight weeks; up to eight events a day; at least 25 percent are free. Presents performances by four full orchestras: Aspen Festival Orchestra, Aspen Chamber Symphony, Aspen Philharmonic Orchestra, and Aspen Conducting Academy Orchestra. Also presents Aspen Opera Center, chamber music, master classes, lectures, panels, children's events, and

more.

Winter Events Artist recitals in Harris Concert Hall with star musicians; three to five free family concerts

Year-Round Staff 35 **Annual Budget** \$15 million

Study Body 690 representing all orchestral instruments, piano, composition, conducting, guitar, voice,

opera, Advanced Quartet Studies, and the Seraphic Fire Professional Choral Institute

From 40 states and 34 countries

Average age 22 years, Students begin applying as early as October

Artist-Faculty Approximately 150 from major conservatories, music schools, and orchestras all over the world

Alumni VIOLINISTS: Joshua Bell, Sarah Chang, Cho-Liang Lin, Robert McDuffie, Midori, Nadja Salerno

> Sonnenberg, Gil Shaham PIANISTS: Ingrid Fliter, Orli Shaham, Joyce Yang CONDUCTORS: James Conlon, James Levine, Leonard Slatkin, Marin Alsop VOCALISTS: Renée Fleming, Dawn Upshaw COMPOSERS: Philip Glass, William Bolcom, Bright Sheng, Joan Tower CELLISTS: Lynn

Harrell, Alisa Weilerstein OTHER: Performer Peter Schickele, bassist Edgar Meyer