



Aspen Music Festival and School 2025 Student Dinner Program

From July 2 to August 24, you'll have the opportunity to hear exceptionally talented young musicians perform during the second year of a three-year celebration of the Aspen Music Festival and School's 75th anniversary. As a volunteer host in our Student Dinner Program, you may find yourself welcoming a socially adept nine-year-old piano prodigy, a talented teenage trumpeter, a twenty-one-year-old future opera star, or a thirty-year-old composer or conductor—or even all of the above in a single evening! It's a joy to get to know these students personally, follow their progress through the summer, and often continue the connection as their careers unfold.

If you've hosted before, you know that dinners can range from a casual BBQ to a formal sit-down meal—anything in between is welcome. Please note that alcohol should not be served, as many students are underage. Six to ten students is typical, but you may host as many as you feel comfortable accommodating. The students are eager to engage with the community and appreciate the break from their rigorous schedules of practice, classes, and performances.

Important: This year, due to updated AMFS policy, all volunteers must complete a background check. A secure and simple form will be emailed to you directly by the Festival.

Please call me at 970-704-1904 (ideally at least two weeks in advance) with your planned dinner date, time, location, and the number of students you'd like to host. Once students sign up for your dinner, we'll send you their names and contact information. Students are asked to call you to confirm attendance. If they must cancel due to a class, rehearsal, or performance, we encourage them to notify you and, if possible, send another student in their place. You're also welcome to reach out to them directly.

As a thank-you for your generous support of our students, the Festival will provide a complimentary concert ticket voucher and an invitation to the AMFS Appreciation Event on July 11.

Down-valley hosts: Since it can be difficult for students to travel down valley, the Paepcke Terrace behind the Michael Klein Music Tent will once again be available for you to host a picnic dinner in Aspen. Available dates are **July 9, 16, and 23**, following Aspen Conducting Academy concerts.

Please don't hesitate to call if you have questions, or email sdw_jds@yahoo.com with "Student Dinner" in the subject line. Hope to hear from you soon!

Cordially,
Sylvia Wendrow,
Student Dinner Coordinator