

AMFS AfterWorks – Strings Fellowship Position

Founded in 1949, the Aspen Music Festival and School is regarded as one of the top classical music festivals in the United States, noted for its concert programming and its training of mostly young-adult music students. The typical eight-week summer season includes more than 400 classical music events - including concerts by three orchestras, solo and chamber music performances, fully staged opera productions, master classes, lectures, and children's programming - and attracts 70,000 audience members. The Aspen Music Festival and School's Education and Community programs offer a broad spectrum of the highest quality music education experiences to students and families in Colorado's Roaring Fork Valley (Aspen to Glenwood Springs), including in-school and after-school programming during the school year, plus family events, children's camps, and in-depth musical study for students in grades 1-12 during the summer.

Overview

The Aspen Music Festival and School (AMFS) seeks a dynamic and passionate strings educator to join the Education and Community Programs department as a Strings Fellow. This part-time, seasonal fellowship is designed for an early-career musician who is passionate about community music education and engagement. The Fellow will engage in three core areas during their fellowship from September 15, 2025, through May 15, 2026:

- Teaching and Educational Development
- Nonprofit Administration
- Community Engagement

This unique opportunity in Colorado's Roaring Fork Valley includes hands-on teaching experience and professional development opportunities with mentorship and training by AMFS staff. The ideal candidate will be committed to nurturing young musicianship, fostering collaborative skills, inspiring a love of music, and living in a rural mountain community.

Fellowship Components

Teaching and Educational Development:

- Teach in Beginning Strings (In-School and After-School Programs)
 - Lead group strings classes (violin, viola, cello, and double bass) with elementary school students
 - Create a welcoming and supportive learning environment
 - Collaborate with Teaching Artists and AMFS staff to align curriculum and performances
 - Approximate Schedule: Mondays, 3-5 PM (Aspen); Tuesdays, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM (Carbondale) and 3:15–5:15 PM (Glenwood Springs), Wednesdays, 1:45–3:45 PM (Basalt/Glenwood Springs); Tuesdays, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM (Carbondale) and Thursdays, 3:15–5:15 PM (Carbondale/Glenwood Springs)
 - Up to 12 hours of group teaching per week
- Coach in Chamber Music Lab (After-School Program)
 - Lead small chamber ensembles of beginning to intermediate string students
 - Develop ensemble skills, rehearsal techniques, and musical interpretation

- Support student growth through regular feedback and support performance opportunities
- Approximate Schedule: 1-2 hours/week, scheduled adjacent to Beginning Strings classes (above) or on Monday/Friday afternoons/evenings
- Teach Private Lessons to Beginning Strings and Chamber Music Lab students
 - Flexible scheduling based on teaching artist and student/family availability

Non-profit Administration Support

- Engage in 2-hour modules, monthly, focused on key areas of non-profit management and leadership
- Develop and practice administrative skills that extend beyond the classroom including but not limited to marketing, development, operations and production, and artistic programming
- Support program communications and supplies management with direction from AMFS staff

Community Engagement Opportunities

- Complete a self-designed capstone project that emphasizes the role of musicians as community advocates and leaders
- Engage with AMFS Youth Leadership Council to organize at least one community engagement concert featuring AMFS AfterWorks students

Additional Information

The work schedule may vary and will be determined between the candidate and AMFS staff. A scheduling example includes:

- Weekly Beginning Strings classes: 5-6 group classes (2 hours each) at designated Beginning Strings school locations
- Weekly Chamber Music Lab coachings: 1-3 ensembles (1 hour each) at designated Chamber Music Lab school locations
- Private lessons scheduled at times that work for the candidate and students (most often during after school hours, evenings, and/or weekends)
- Monthly Youth Leadership Council meetings
- Monthly staff meetings
- Monthly professional development modules
- 4-6 evening performances per year
- Additional duties as assigned

Candidate Profile

The ideal candidate will have a music degree or relevant experience and demonstrate:

- A passion for classical music or other performing arts and a commitment to non-profit arts organizations
- Proficiency in instrumental music performance on violin, viola, cello, and/or double bass
- Strong knowledge of string pedagogy methods (Suzuki or similar training preferred)
- Proven teaching or coaching experience with elementary/middle school students
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively within a teaching team
- Reliable transportation for travel between teaching sites in the Roaring Fork Valley (Aspen to Glenwood Springs)

Compensation and Benefits

- Seasonal, part-time position (September 15, 2025 - May 15, 2026)
- 15-20 hours per week, excluding school breaks and holidays
- Hours based on a combination of teaching and administrative duties
- Weekday afternoon availability required (4 days per week), some weekday morning availability required (approximately 2 days per week)
- \$20,000 stipend



- Housing support may be available
- Ongoing training in music education and classroom management
- Opportunities to engage with AMFS events and a vibrant musical community

How to Apply

To apply, please submit a current resume and brief cover letter detailing your teaching philosophy and relevant experience, to Heather Kendrick Stanton, Vice President for Education and Community Programs:

hkstanton@aspenmusic.org.