



2024 American Brass Quintet Seminar @Aspen Program Manual

Information subject to change. Updated 2/23/2024

Dear American Brass Quintet Seminar @Aspen participants,

Congratulations on your acceptance to our program! You were selected from many outstanding applications and should be proud of your accomplishment. We are looking forward to getting to know each of you and mentoring your ensemble to the next stage of its evolution. The American Brass Quintet has been evolving since 1960, and we hope you will find inspiration and wisdom in our decades of experience.

Our new members are both alumni of the AMFS. Hillary Simms was a fellowship student in 2018. She is the first female member of the ABQ has as a lot of accolades as a soloist, having won several competitions. Brandon Ridenour was the trumpet player in our fellowship brass quintet in 2007 before playing quite a few years with the Canadian Brass. They're both really awesome players and people—we're thrilled to have them.

The Seminar is being restructured a little—we're accepting applicants not only from all manner of brass ensembles, but also individual brass players. So, other than quintets, we're inviting quartets, trios, sextets, and like ensembles such as trombone quartets, horn quartets, tuba quartets, and even mixed groups. For individual applicants, we will create ensembles to accommodate everyone for the best possible educational experience. We will have our usual offering of 2 topical classes per week, performance classes, private lessons, multiple coachings, and quite a few performance opportunities. The topical classes will be relevant to a professional life as a musician, performance practice, business tips, as well as an overview to peripheral careers. We have a lot of collective experience!

We designed a fairly rigorous curriculum for you. However, we've not imagined it as a "one size fits all" program. We expect you'll come to the ABQS @Aspen program with an agenda; a to-do list. In fact, your first assignment as a group, prior to arriving in Aspen, is to discuss your goals for the summer. In what ways should your ensemble evolve in Aspen? We look forward to hearing you articulate your plans, and we'll work together to arrive at your goals. We look forward to meeting you in Aspen!

Best wishes,
The American Brass Quintet



PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

All AMFS participants must adhere to the expectations outlined in the [Student Handbook](#).

School District Orientation (Date / Time TBA)

Students will need to bring government IDs for a background check scan, required by the Aspen School District. AMFS students, faculty, and staff must wear & display IDs while on the School District campus. Lanyards will be provided at Check-In / Registration.

Program Kick-Off with the ABQ (Required)

Groups will gather together and meet with ABQ artist-faculty to learn about all the opportunities available this summer.

- Monday, June 24 at the Aspen School District (time TBA)

Performance Opportunities (Required)

In addition to coachings, rehearsals, lessons, and open rehearsals with the American Brass Quintet, we've lined up many performance opportunities for you. Community engagement and public performances are a requirement for participating groups. We want you to conceive of your preparation for these performances as part performance skill, and part development of your artist-citizenship. Fully realizing how to communicate and advocate your music and message to communities of all backgrounds is equally important to the finely tuned artistry you've worked to develop.

- Dedicated **Spotlight Recitals** at the Pitkin County Library
 - Monday, July 1, 2:30 pm
 - Friday, July 5, 2:30 pm
- Community Engagement Performances at the **Whitcomb Terrace**
 - Saturday June 29, 11 am
 - Saturday July 6, 11 am
- **Music on the Mountain** community engagement performance on the top of Aspen Mountain
 - Saturday(s) 1-2:30 pm, to be coordinated by Artist-Faculty
- **Program Recital** on the Spotlight Recital series at Harris Concert Hall
 - Thursday, July 18, 3-4:30 pm
 - Dress rehearsal: Thursday, July 18, 12-2 pm

Performance Expectations

You will have dedicated administrators to facilitate performances and printed programs for your public engagements. The deadline to submit repertoire is usually one week prior to the recital. Please be on the lookout for communication from these administrators and be respectful of the required timelines.

Coordinated (i.e., matching) concert attire for your ensemble is acceptable, otherwise please wear formal concert attire as listed in the [Student Handbook](#).



Additional Classes

Outside of ABQS@A, there are also brass classes and workshops led by our orchestral faculty which you are welcome to audit and participate in. However, priority of assignments will be given to festival students as we want to provide as many performance opportunities for the festival folks as well. Visit the Class and Non-Orchestral Performance Schedule (to be available electronically through the Student Portal) for a complete listing of classes, locations, and dates. Be sure to check this schedule regularly, as it will continue to be updated throughout the summer season.

Brass Bash

Brass Bash is a dedicated brass chamber music recital for all students in the Aspen Chamber Music program. ABQS@A involvement with this recital (if any) will be communicated by artist-faculty.

A Recital by the American Brass Quintet

All ABQS@A participants will attend the American Brass Quintet Recital in Harris Concert Hall on Saturday, July 20 at 7:30 pm. See the [Student Handbook](#) for information about the Box Office and how to request free tickets.

MUSIC AND BUCKSBAUM LIBRARY

The Aspen Music Festival has a decent collection of chamber music for brass in the chamber music library. You'll be able to check out and use this music. However, please bring music you hope to perform or read this summer to Aspen. The Chamber Music Library is centrally located on the Bucksbaum Campus. See the All-School Directory (to be available on your Student Portal) for the Chamber Music Librarian's contact information.

- The online chamber music catalog can be found at: <https://18523.rmwebopac.com/>

REHEARSAL SPACE AND ROOM RESERVATIONS

Aspen School District

Rehearsals, coachings, private practice, and lessons will take place at the Aspen School District. Specific rooms will be reserved and available for ABQS@A students to use during specified hours. For security purposes, the Aspen School District requires all personnel to wear a lanyard displaying identification while on district property. Each ABQS@A member will receive a lanyard and Student ID at Check-In / Registration.

- Wifi: ASD Public Wifi (no password required)

Bucksbaum Campus

Some activities may take place on the Bucksbaum Campus (see attached schedule for specific locations). Space on the Bucksbaum Campus is very limited, but can be reserved through the AMFS Schedule Coordinator – located at the Lobby desk in the Hardy Administration building on the Bucksbaum Campus. See the All-School Directory (to be available on your Student Portal) for contact information.

Instructions for reserving individual practice rooms on the Bucksbaum Campus will be communicated upon arrival and available on your Student Portal.



TRANSPORTATION AND TO-GO MEALS

Bikes

RFTA buses offer free transportation between venues. See the RFTA bus schedule on your AMFS Student Portal for details and routes. If you would prefer to travel by bicycle (recommended and FUN!), you can rent a bicycle from the School for \$25. The Bike Purchase Form and Waiver will be announced and posted to your Student Portal in June. Bikes are rented on a first-come, first-served basis, but the Student Services office will reserve some bikes for members of the ABQS@A, before being released to the general pool.

To-Go Meals

In most cases, ample time has been reserved for the lunch period so that you can travel from the School District to the Bucksbaum Campus to eat in the main cafeteria. Alternatively, students may request “to go” meals. Meals are included for those living in On-Campus Housing. Those living off-campus will need to pay the per-meal rate. Information regarding to-go meal options will be provided closer to the start of the summer.

This Program Manual will be updated and re-announced this Spring with a list of group and faculty contact information and a weekly schedule.