

# 2024 Solo Piano Program Manual

Information subject to change | Updates as of 2/23/2024

Piano students at the AMFS study with members of the internationally renowned artist-faculty, receiving an average of ninety minutes of lesson time per week, through a combination of private and class study. In addition, they attend weekly performance classes as well as panel discussions hosted by the faculty. Pianists can be nominated to perform in a weekly recital dedicated to pianists or apply to perform in Spotlight Recitals. Students may also apply to participate in the annual Piano Concerto Competition for the opportunity to perform a concerto with one of the Aspen orchestras. Students may also elect to study and perform mixed-ensemble literature, which may include chamber music with either strings or winds, two-piano/four-hand repertoire, duo sonata class, and mixed contemporary ensembles. Other music-related classes are available including keyboard studies, piano pedagogy, and lectures from the artist-faculty on a variety of relevant topics.

## **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

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

### **Program Kick-Off (Required)**

Students meet with colleagues and the piano artist-faculty to learn about all the opportunities available to Solo Piano students.

- First and Full-Session Students: Monday, June 24, time TBA
- Second-Session Students will be contacted by their Aspen teachers directly.

### **Lessons (Required)**

Weekly private lessons are considered a critical part of a student's educational experience. Full Session and Half Session I students will meet with their private teacher directly after Convocation to schedule their lessons unless the artist-faculty member has been directly in touch pre-season. Half Session II students will receive contact information for their private teacher at the beginning of their session. Visit the online [Student Handbook](#) for more information. Visit the [Solo Piano](#) program page of the AMFS Website for Teaching Faculty sessions of residence.

### **Campus Classes (Required)**

Classes are offered by world-renowned AMFS artist-faculty and visiting faculty.

- **Studio Classes** are offered by AMFS piano artist-faculty. Classes are scheduled within two weekly class blocks devoid of conflicts. Students should plan to take full advantage of the classes offered and should not schedule other conflicting activities. Students interested in performing should communicate with their teacher.

- **Piano Department Performance Classes** are offered in different venues throughout the summer. All solo piano students and artist-faculty in residence come together to exchange musical ideas in a public setting. Students interested in performing can apply through an online form located on their AMFS Student Portal.
  - **On-Campus Piano Department Performance Classes** take place on Sunday mornings, one in each session. In 2024, Anton Nel will teach the first-session class and Julian Martin will teach the second-session class.
  - **Harris Hall Piano Department Classes** take place on Thursday mornings, with three classes throughout the summer. In 2024, the following Artist-Faculty will teach Harris Hall performance classes: Mikhail Voskresensky, Hung-Kuan Chen, Arie Vardi.
- **Piano Notes** is an opportunity for artist-faculty to give presentations on relative topics to their field. Enrolled students can submit the **Piano Notes Survey** (available online through their AMFS Student Portal) to suggest topic ideas pre-season. The survey will remain open through Monday, June 24.
- Visit the **Class and Non-Orchestral Performance Schedule** (to be available electronically through the AMFS 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.

### PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

See the [Student Handbook](#) for a full list of performance opportunities in Aspen. Popular opportunities for Solo Piano students are detailed below.

#### **Aspen Center for Physics Recitals: Mondays at 5:30 pm**

Students in the Solo Piano program can apply to perform on the Physics Piano Recital series that takes place weekly at the Aspen Center for Physics. Students may apply to perform an entire piece or a single movement. The application is available through the AMFS Student Portal. All applications will be sent to Aspen teachers for approval. Performers will be selected by AMFS artist-faculty. Assignments and schedule details will be communicated by the Student Recitals Coordinator. See the application form for specific deadlines and recital dates.

#### **Harris Hall Performance Classes: Tuesdays at 1 pm**

Many of the world-renowned artists that visit Aspen in the summer present public classes in Harris Concert Hall. Each respective teaching artist is responsible for choosing the participants for their performance class. Applications are available through the AMFS Student Portal and will be sent to Aspen teachers for approval and the teaching artist for selection. In most cases, applications are due 10 days prior to the class date. See the application form for specific teaching artists, deadlines, and class dates.

#### **Spotlight Recitals**



Spotlight Recitals are a setting for students who wish to perform chamber and solo works. Solo and chamber works are encouraged and most appropriate. Concertos are accepted on a case by case basis. Students who are placed in chamber music will receive a preassigned performance date on this series. Those preparing solo projects or ad hoc chamber music projects may apply for a performance date by submitting a Spotlight Recital Application through their AMFS Student Portal. All applications will be sent to Aspen teachers for approval. Opportunities fill quickly in late summer so make sure to arrive at Aspen prepared to apply early. Students may apply multiple times, but priority will be given to those who have not yet performed on the series. See the application form for specific deadlines and recital dates, but the general Spotlight Recital schedule is below:

Harris Hall: Wednesdays and Thursdays

- Soundcheck: 1:30-2:30 pm, Performance: 3 pm

Aspen Chapel: Thursdays

- Soundcheck: 3:30-4:30 pm, Performance: 5 pm

Aspen Community Church: Saturdays

- Soundcheck: 12-1 pm, Performance: 1:30 pm

Pitkin County Library: Mondays and Fridays

- Soundcheck: 1-2 pm, Performance 2:30 pm

### **Basalt Library Recitals: Thursdays at 5:15 pm**

Outstanding students may be invited to perform on the Basalt Regional Library Recital series. A shuttle will be arranged to transport student performers to and from the Bucksbaum Campus and Basalt. Recitals take place weekly on Thursdays, starting July 18.

### **Concerto Competitions**

Piano students can compete for the chance to perform as soloist with the Aspen Conducting Academy Orchestra in the Klein Music Tent. Competition pieces, concert dates, deadlines, and participation rules will be available on the AMFS Student Portal. Application forms are due by the published date and must be submitted through the AMFS Student Portal. Applications will be sent to Aspen teachers for approval. **All Solo Piano students should plan to attend the winning performance.**

### **Chamber Music**

Aspen students in the Orchestra/Instrumental, Solo Piano, and Collaborative Piano programs may apply to be placed in an ensemble and assigned to a special project. Students participate in intensive coaching and rehearsals in preparation for a Spotlight Recital performance. Groups may work intensively for two to three weeks or may work together for the entire session, depending on the complexity of the repertoire. Visit the [Chamber Music](#) page on the



AMFS website for more information and commitment expectations. **Placement:** In mid-April, Full Session students may apply to be placed in chamber music through their AMFS Student Portal. Chamber Music applications are due by May 1 for placement consideration. Assignments, coachings and all schedule details will be facilitated by the Chamber Music Coordinator.

### **Hire A Musician**

Students interested in gigging in the valley or playing for educational events can apply for the Hire A Musician (HAM) program. Popular events include weddings, parties, and organized busking. Festival students are paid a standard rate, depending on the event type. Interested students can submit the Hire A Musician Performer Application through their AMFS Student Portal.

### **SCHEDULE OF RECOMMENDED PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE**

Pianists are strongly encouraged to attend performances by AMFS guests, artist-faculty, and student colleagues. Be sure to also review the [AMFS Season Calendar](#) for the full lineup of concerts and events! A consolidated list of recommended performances featuring pianists will be included below and updated on your AMFS Student Portal.