

### letter from the publisher

From left: Alan Klein; Alan Klein, Ernie Ashley and Helen Olsson at Aspen magazine's 50th anniversary party.





### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

#### The Snowmass Club

Above the rush of the Roaring
Fork River and beneath
majestic Mount Daly is a
refined private retreat offering
adventure and activities
across all four seasons. Elevate
your adventure.
snowmassclub.com

#### **Christopher Martin Gallery**

Christopher Martin Galleries create the perfect atmosphere to showcase the breadth of Christopher Martin's work in painting and editions, along with the work of twenty-four mid-career artists presenting abstract art, mixed media works, and sculptures. christophermartingallery.com

# Cause for Celebration

s we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Aspen Music Festival, we reflect not only on its rich history but also on the transformative power of music in our lives. Kelly Hayes's article on the Paepkes posits that they were prescient in their understanding that classical music can help create enormous possibilities and harmony in society.

In 1994, I remember reading an interview with Bob Weir in Newsweek. The famed rhythm guitarist with the Grateful Dead discussed research on the intersection of classical music and infant brain development. He suggested that by nurturing a love for music, specifically classical music, from the earliest stages of life, parents can help lay the foundation for a lifetime of cognitive enrichment and artistic appreciation. I heeded his advice and played classical music continuously in our home throughout my kids' childhood.

Both of my boys went on to become accomplished musicians. One played under the direction of Ben Zander in the Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and traveled the world. He learned from the famous conductor that through the pursuit of art one can radiate possibility into the world and achieve success. He is now a senior engineer at Google, still traveling the world and enjoying music as an avocation. My other son is both an actor and a teacher at a private school in Los Angeles where he teaches others the art of possibility. I am so proud of both their accomplishments and largely credit their positive impact on the world to the study

and appreciation of classical music.

Some of the finest classical musicians in the world nurture and teach over 450 young students each year at the Aspen Music Festival and School. As residents of Aspen, we benefit from their hard work and the programming provided by AMFS.

Please join me in extending a warm thank you and congratulations to Michael Klein, Alan Fletcher and Robert Spano, the leadership team at AMFS, for continuing to evolve Elizabeth and Walter Paepke's vision of bringing one of the finest music festivals and schools in the world to Aspen. And more importantly, for sending 450 students each year out into the world knowing anything is possible.

As we look towards the future, let us continue to cherish and support the arts, knowing that they enrich our lives in profound and everlasting ways.

Alan Klein President & Group Publisher aklein@modernluxury.com Instagram: @aspenmagazine

Ulm file

A group of music students playing their instruments at the intersection of E. Hyman and Mill, with the Wheeler Opera House in the background in 1977.



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## Music In These Hills

"The serenity of the mountains to me is one of the most wonderful things about living here, in Aspen, and I'm constantly inspired by the way music sounds in these hills," John Denver famously said.

With our annual Arts & Culture Issue, we celebrate the music in these mountains—as well as the artists, cultural institutions and those that support them. Flip to our feature "Mountain Music" for a look at the Paepcke family and the long legacy of the Aspen Music Festival and School (AMFS). This summer, the AMFS celebrates 75 years of music in the mountains and pays homage to Walter and Elizabeth Paepcke, who first brought the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra by

train and car to Aspen to perform at the 1949 Goethe Bicentennial Convocation.

The issue's pages are bursting with other moments that celebrate the cultural bounty of Aspen. From programming spotlights on Anderson Ranch and the Aspen Center for Environmental Studies (ACES) to sharing the scoop on Intersect Art & Design and the Aspen Art Fair, there is no shortage of things to do this summer. We hope this issue can be your guide to everything from the best burgers, margaritas and dog-friendly restaurants to Dior's pop-up at The Little Nell.

As we continue to celebrate Aspen Magazine's 50th anniversary all year, we dedicate this issue to honoring Aspen's rich cultural legacy. Enjoy the issue!



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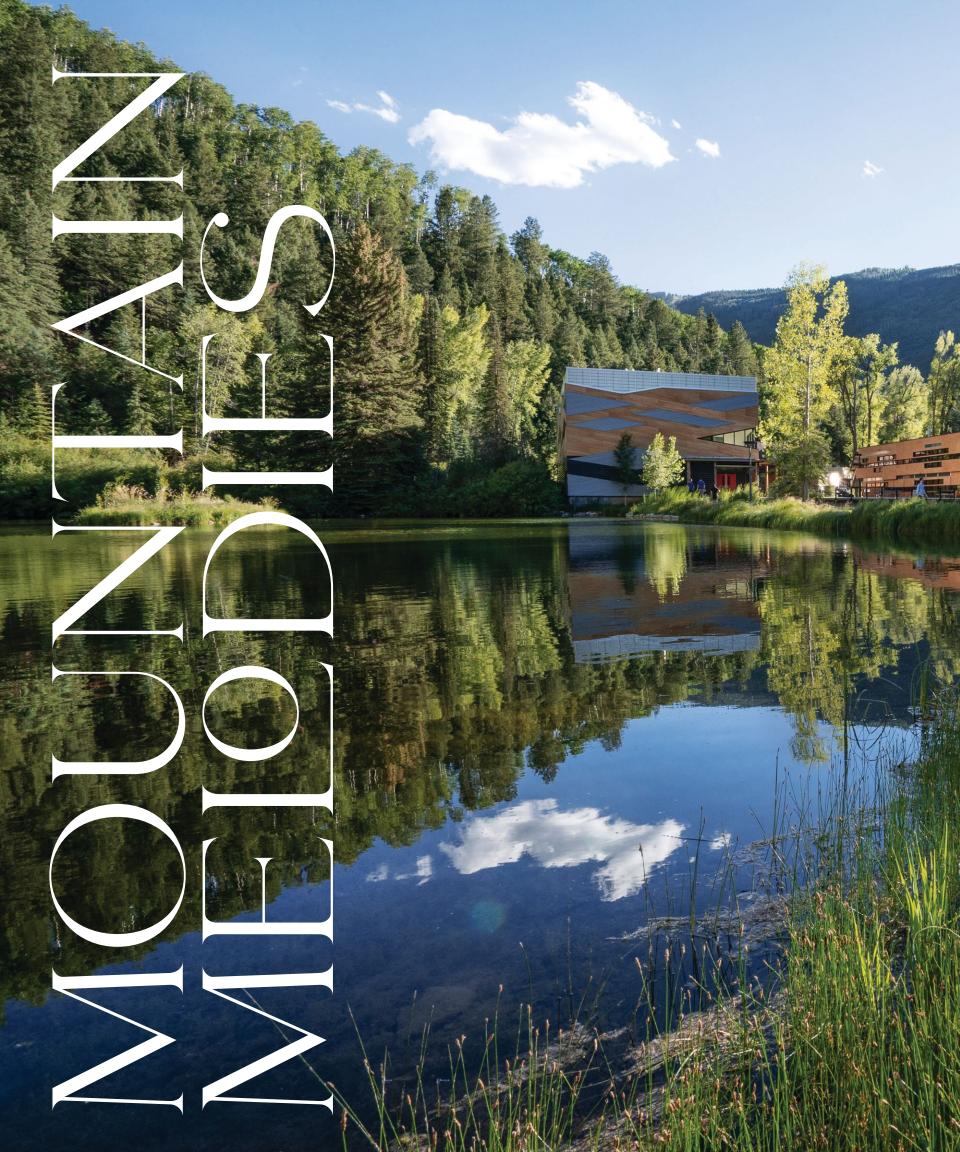


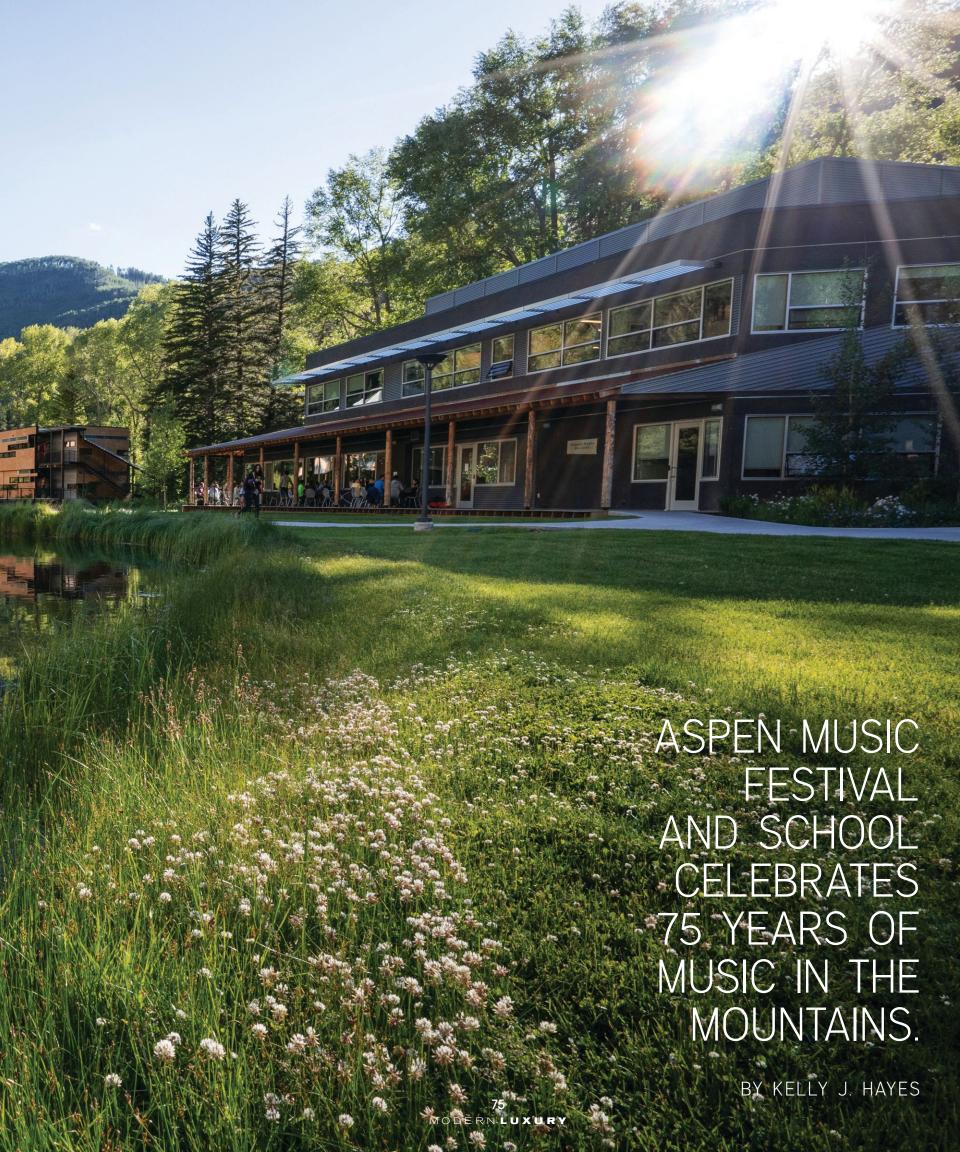
## from the vault





Yo-Yo Ma, cellist, performing at Aspen Music Festival, 1977.











here is

much to love about the Aspen Music Festival and School (AMFS).

Start with the impromptu street corner concerts in Aspen, performed by music students from around the world. Or the early morning dress rehearsals of the Aspen Festival Orchestra, augmented by birds singing outside the newly renamed Michael Klein Music Tent. And, of course, the world-class performances that take place before sold-out audiences of music lovers inside the Tent and Harris Hall, both designed by Aspen architect Harry Teague

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gathering was a progenitor of many Aspen institutions, including the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies and the International Design Conference, it may be that the AMFS is the most endearing element of the Paepckes' lengthy musical legacy.

"Those were days of hope.
Everything lay before you, and
everything was exciting," Elizabeth
Paepcke said years later in a video
interview for the Aspen Hall of Fame
about the time she and her husband
conceived the Convocation to launch
their dream of the "Aspen Idea"
focused on "Mind Body and Spirit."
Over the next forty-three summers,
Elizabeth could be found seated on the
benches in the Music Tent, enjoying
countless performances.

Though the AMFS did not officially launch in the summer of '49, the evening performances of the Minneapolis Symphony under the direction of conductor Dimitri Mitropoulos in the tent designed by famed architect Eero Saarinen proved to be a popular part of the Convocation. Esteemed pianist Arthur Rubenstein also made the trip and provided the musical proceedings of the event with an added degree of gravitas. Once the concerts ended, everyone involved realized they had















From top: Students busking for Aspen Music Festival; music students gather for the Aspen Music Festival (1996);

Opposite page: Cellist playing music for the Festival





caught lightning in a bottle, and the musicians were immediately invited to return the following summer.

In 1950, the annual Music Festival became an integral part of Aspen summers and saw the beginnings of the musical mentoring program that evolved into the school and now the magnificent campus up Castle Creek, which welcomes 450 students each summer to study and perform.

While the community obviously benefits enormously from the concerts, it is the students who have come to learn and make memories in the mountains of Aspen who have gained the most from their time spent at the AMFS. Many graduates have gone on to make careers in music, and thousands more have spent time in a place they will never forget. The Paepckes' idea has influenced many and provided life experiences to generations of students.

This summer, the AMFS 75th Anniversary season will play host to a plethora of performances from the most esteemed artists in the world, many of whom were once students on the AMFS campus. Under the theme "Becoming Who You Are," AMFS alumni, including singer Renée Fleming and violinists Gil Shaham and Midori, who studied under legendary violin teacher Dorothy DeLay, will return for highly anticipated and nostalgic performances.

Once again, the Aspen Music Festival and School, under the auspices of President and CEO Alan Fletcher and Music Director Robert Spano, has brought together a sparkling summer lineup to celebrate the 75th anniversary of music in the mountains.

Walter and Elizabeth would be proud.

From left: exterior of Aspen Music Festival tent; Renée Fleming in recital at the music festival.



There are many events
on the AMFS summer
calendar that will celebrate
75 years of music.
But here are two that are
not to be missed:

### JUNE 30, 2,024 2:30 PM 75TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Celebrate 75 years of Music with a gathering on the Karetsky Music Lawn.

Make sure to show your retro flair by donning AMFS spirit wear from years past, adding some vintage charm to the festivities.

Admission is Free.

### AUGUST 3, 2024 6:00 P.M. THE 2024 SEASON BENEFIT

A Feast of Music: AMFS at 75 and Beyond Celebrating Walter and Elizabeth Paepcke The Summer Benefit at the Matthew and Carolyn Bucksbaum Campus will be an unforgettable evening remembering the history and celebrating the AMFS's future in honor of founders Walter and Elizabeth Paepcke. The event will pair performances by talented artists with fine wines and a Colorado-sourced culinary journey created by Hotel Jerome. Individual Tickets are \$2000 (\$350 non-deductible) aspenmusicfestival.com/support/the-2024-season-benefit/



