

Camp 2026 Registration Procedure

Last year's camp was our highest number of campers since before Covid, and we turned away more than thirty potential campers. We are excited about the increasing numbers of WCAMS members, and we are considering various ways to offer a WCAMS experience to as many people as possible, but we feel strongly that increasing camp attendance is not the solution. Last year felt crowded: there were long lines at meal-time, the orchestra barely fit on the stage, and there are only so many performance hours available.

We would like to slightly decrease camp attendance in 2026, but we want to be fair to those who weren't able to attend last year, and we want to continue to build our Children and Youth programs. We also don't want Registration to be like booking campsites: everyone poised at their computers at 8am on opening day!

How it will work:

Registration will open on March 28, and there will be a three-week window during which no applicants will be accepted to camp. Campers will be chosen based on the following criteria:

1. Volunteers crucial to the organization of camp
2. Instrument balance
3. Accommodation needs and requests (private rooms and accessible rooms)
4. Priority to families with children and/or youth
5. Priority to those who did not attend camp in 2025
6. Best fit for an inclusive, collaborative, inspiring and self-sustaining camp

Acceptance notifications will begin to go out after April 18. If instrument caps are filled, applicants will be waitlisted, and as spots open up, will be taken from the waitlist using the same priority criteria. First-come-first-served will only be a criterion of last resort (*all other things being equal*).

Registration will remain open until June 30.

If you have a pre-formed chamber group, we cannot guarantee everyone will be accepted, but you will have a better chance if everyone registers within the first three weeks (ie: before April 18).