

ZERMATT MUSIC FESTIVAL & ACADEMY

Orchester, Kammermusik & Akademie
mit dem Scharoun Ensemble der Berliner Philharmoniker
www.zermattfestival.com

SWISS WIND ACADEMY 5–15 September 2026

For Swiss citizens or those who have lived in Switzerland for at least 10 years

The village of Zermatt at the foot of the Matterhorn offers peace and relaxation in one of the most beautiful places in the world. This unique atmosphere in the middle of a breathtaking natural landscape enchanted Pablo Casals who regularly spent his summer holidays here in the 1950s and 60s. Together with Franz Seiler, General Manager of the Seiler Hotels Zermatt at that time, Casals founded the Zermatt summer concerts and master classes, to which he invited almost all of the famous musicians of his day as chamber music partners and teachers.

This tradition was revived in 2005 with the creation of the Zermatt Music Festival & Academy. Chamber music and orchestral concerts are performed by the Scharoun Ensemble Berlin and other soloists of the Berliner Philharmoniker in the beautiful Pfarrkirche St. Mauritius and the Kapelle Riffelalp, located at 2'222 meters above sea level, as well as at other locations in Zermatt.

For the third time, the Zermatt Music Festival is pleased to present the Swiss Wind Academy for young Swiss students. This year, ten young Swiss wind students will have the opportunity to take part in a 10-day academy organized specifically for the study of the wind quintet and wind decet repertoire. These young musicians will receive daily tuition from the wind players of the Scharoun Ensemble (of the *Berliner Philharmoniker*) and also regular breathing sessions from Christina Fassbender. In addition to being a leading flutist, Christina Fassbender is also a trained breathing therapist/breathing teacher (Institute for Experiential Breathing founded by Ilse Middendorf).

The Swiss Wind Academy will present their program as part of the Academy concerts on the 14th of September.

TARGET GROUP

The Swiss Wind Academy is aimed at outstanding young Swiss musicians who are Swiss nationals or have lived in Switzerland for at least 10 years. Swiss musicians studying abroad are also welcome to apply.

Age: 18 to 28 years

WIND TEACHERS

Christina Fassbender, flute
Dominik Wollenweber, oboe
Alexander Bader, clarinet
Markus Weidmann, bassoon
Andrej Žust, French horn

TEACHING LANGUAGES

German, English

INSTRUMENTATION

We are looking for the following musicians:

- 2 flautists
- 2 oboists
- 2 clarinetists
- 2 bassoonists
- 2 horn players

TIMETABLE

ARRIVAL: Saturday, 5.09.2026 by 18:00 in Zermatt

DEPARTURE: Tuesday, 15.9.2026 in the morning

ACCOMMODATION

The selected students will stay in hotels or apartments in Zermatt, which will be allocated by the festival management.

CONDITIONS

Application fee paid via Muvac: 50 CHF.

The selected students do not pay any fees for tuition, accommodation or meals. Travelling expenses however are not covered by the festival.

INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS

Applications for the Swiss Wind Academy are accepted **via MUVAC only**
(<https://www.muvac.com/de/zermatt-music-festival-academy>).

Deadline: 31 March 2026

The teachers from the Scharoun Ensemble will make the selection by 1st of May 2026 at the latest.

If you have any questions, please contact Anna v. Lüneburg Zermatt Festival, Director of the Academy.

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