SUMMER BASSOON EXTRAVAGANZA FAQs

Who attends?
Summer Bassoon Extravaganza serves aspiring bassoonists. Most campers will be rising 8th-graders through college. However SBE usually has a handful of adult bassoon aficionados, who attend during the day, making camp a part of their summer activities as well. For the past several seasons SBE has drawn campers from more than 15 states.

What about the programming? How are the days filled? SBE begins on Sunday afternoon with an opportunity for participants to meet one another. We go to dinner as a group. Following dinner, faculty, counselors and campers get acquainted with one another through a series of team building activities. The “regular” schedule begins Monday morning with auditions for chamber ensembles. Typically, audition music—a lyric and a technical excerpt or suggested literature—is sent with the camp packets. Students choose which of these they will play. Days are filled with chamber music, bassoon choir, reed making, master classes and special focus sessions. Members of the SBE faculty present a recital. Camp concludes with a concert, featuring small ensembles and the bassoon choir.

SBE makes programming relevant to the playing ability of each participant.
Campers have an opportunity to play solos and/or orchestral excerpts in master classes where they will be coached by one or more of the faculty. Several campers will be selected to practice with a professional pianist and present their solo with piano accompaniment in a master class. There will be special sessions for those who wish to concentrate on improving their overall technique.

What about the faculty? The SBE faculty consists of some of the finest bassoon pedagogues from across the country. Often one or more of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra bassoon section leads a master class. Brief bios are included in the registration/flyer.
What about the accommodations, meals and security? Campers and faculty stay in a state-of-the-art residence. Food services at Emory are first rate. In addition to faculty and camp counselors keeping a “watchful eye” the university has campus security staff and policies in place.

What are the anticipated outcomes? SBE promotes musical excellence that is an outgrowth of an exceptional learning experience. One of many long term benefits is the camaraderie that develops and extends far beyond the camp week. Bassoonists are so used to being few in number—often the only one at their respective school—that they are thrilled to get to know and have the support of other bassoonists.

The $795 cost includes all camp activities, room and board as well as the 2014 camp T-shirt.* Students may elect to have individual lessons with one or more of the faculty. There will be several private instruction packages from which to choose. Participants may want incidental money for soft drinks, candy and pizza. These seem to go hand in hand with recreational time.

This year, SBE is offering two special incentives. If you and another bassoonist in your area name each other on the registration form, each will receive a discounted price of $745. Returning campers also receive a $50 discount. Please call to inquire about an interest-free individualized payment plan.

*Day Camper Cost is $650 does NOT include overnight accommodations or breakfast. (Lunch and dinner are included in the fee.)