



**American Bandmasters Association**  
**91<sup>st</sup> Annual National Convention**  
*"Chicago, My Kind of Town"*  
**Swissotel Chicago**  
**March 3-8, 2026**

**Tuesday, March 3, 2026**

*Candidate review on the ABA website-membership committee only*

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Convention Registration/Information - Main level event center
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Past Presidents' and Board Members' Reception - <b>The Elevè Room</b> - 42 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Swissotel
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Past Presidents' Dinner - <b>The Elevè Room</b>
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Board Members' Dinner - <b>The Elevè Room</b>

**Wednesday, March 4, 2026**

*Candidate review on the ABA website-membership committee only*

7:00 am	Breakfast on your own
7:00 am - 5:00 pm	Convention Registration/Information - Main level event center
9:00 am - 11:00 am	Board of Directors Meeting - Gestaad/Zumatt - Lucerne level
11:00 am	Lunch on your own
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Nominating Committee Meeting - Alpine 1 - Lucerne Level
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Membership Committee Meeting - Alpine 2 - Lucerne Level
4:00 pm	Dinner on your own

*All ABA Members, Significant Others, Guests*

6:00 pm	Opening Social - Cash Bar - Harris Theater Lobby
7:30 pm	Concerts: Harris Theater for Music and Dance 205 E. Randolph Street - <i>Van Transportation available as necessary, please contact event host</i>

**Lockport Township High School Wind Symphony – Brian Covey, Conductor**  
**University of Illinois Wind Symphony – Kevin Gernaldi, Conductor**

9:45 pm	Post Concert Social Time - Cash Bar - Harris Theater Lobby
11:00 pm	Post Concert Social Time Lobby Concludes

**Thursday, March 5, 2026**

7:00 am	Breakfast on your own
7:00 am - 5:00 pm	Convention Registration/Information - Main level event center



**Thursday, March 5, 2026 (cont.)**

8:30 am - 10:00 am	Opening General Session: Members, Significant Others and Guests - Lucerne Ballroom - Lucerne Level
10:00 am - 10:20 am	Coffee Break - Lucerne lobby - Lucerne Level
10:20 am - 11:45 am	ABA Members Business Meeting - Lucerne Ballroom - Lucerne Level ABA Associate Members Meeting - Gstaad/Zumatt – Lucerne Level ABA Significant Others Meeting - Alpine 1, 2 - Lucerne level ABA Foundation Board Meeting - St. Mortiz - Lucerne level
11:45 am - 12:45 am	BREAK
11:45 am - 12:30 pm	Excursions
12:30 pm - 4:00 pm	1) Wendella Architecture River Cruise: 2:00 pm - Main Hotel Lobby Entrance to walk to the dock, 4:30 pm Return to dock 2) Chicago Crime Tour: 12:15 Pick up - Swissotel Event Center, 12:30-2:00 pm Pizza meal, 2:00 pm Private Chicago Crime Tour, 4:00 pm Drop off - Swissotel, subject to traffic.
4:00 pm	Dinner on your own
7:00 pm	Concert Hall Open
7:30 pm	Concerts: Harris Theater for Music and Dance 205 E. Randolph Street - <i>Van Transportation available as necessary, please contact event host</i>

**Western Michigan University Wind Symphony – Scott Boerma, Conductor**

**Wheaton Municipal Band – Bruce Moss, Conductor**

9:45 pm	Post Concert Social Gathering - Cash Bar - Harris Theater Lobby
11:00 pm	Post Concert Social Time Lobby Concludes

**Friday, March 6, 2026**

7:00 am	Breakfast on your own
7:00 am - 5:00 pm	Convention Registration/Information - Main level event center
8:30 am - 10:00 am	General Session: Members, Significant Others and Guests - Lucerne Ballroom - Lucerne Level
10:00 am - 10:20 am	Coffee Break - Lucerne Lobby - Lucerne Level



**Friday, March 6, 2026 (cont.)**

10:20 am - 11:45 am	ABA Members Business Meeting - Lucerne Ballroom - Lucerne Level ABA Associate Members Meeting - Gestadd/Zumatt - Lucerne Level ABA Significant Others Meeting - Alpine 1,2 - Lucerne Level
11:45 am - 12:30 pm	BREAK
12:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Excursions 1) Chicago Pizza Tour: 12:30 pm Pick up - Swissotel Event Center, 4:00 pm Drop off - Swissotel, subject to traffic. 2) Barrel Run Bus: 12:15 pm Board - Swissotel Event Center, 12:30 pm Depart, 4:00 pm Drop off - Swissotel, subject to traffic.
4:00 pm	Dinner on your own
7:00 pm	Concert Hall Open
7:30 pm	Concerts: Harris Theater for Music and Dance 205 E. Randolph Street - <i>Van transportation available as necessary, please contact event host</i>
	<b>“The President’s Own” United States Marine Band, Washington D.C.</b> <b>Col. Ryan Nowlin, Conductor</b>
9:45 pm	After Concert Celebration - Tickets and Cash Bar - <b>The Elevè Room</b> - 42 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Swissotel - The Best View in Chicago

**Saturday, March 7, 2026**

7:00 am	Breakfast on your own
8:00 am - 1:00 pm	Convention Registration/Information - Main level event center
7:45 am - 8:15 am	Possible Membership Committee meeting - Gestadd/Zumatt - Lucerne Level
8:30 am - 9:40 am	ABA Members Business Meeting - Lucerne Ballroom - Lucerne Level
9:40 am - 10:00 am	Coffee Break - Lucerne Lobby - Lucerne Level
10:00 am - 11:45 am	General Session and Memorials: Members, Significant Others, Guests - Lucerne Ballroom - Lucerne Level
11:45 am - 12:15 pm	Break



### **Saturday, March 7, 2026 (cont.)**

12:15 pm - 4:00 pm

#### **Excursions**

- 1) Navy Pier: 1<sup>st</sup> Shuttle bus departs at 12:30 pm - Swissotel Event Center, then every 25-30 minutes. Last bus from the pier leaves at 4:00 pm
- 2) Chicago Institute of Art: 12:15 pm Bus departs - Swissotel Event Center, 2:00: pm Docent led tour, 4:00 pm Tour  
Concludes with optional return bus transportation to Swissotel

6:00 pm

Pre-Banquet Reception - Tickets and Cash Bar - Lucerne Lobby - Lucerne Level

7:00 pm

**“Chicago, My Kind of Town”** Banquet (The Prom) - Lucerne Ballroom - Lucerne Level

### **Sunday, March 8, 2026**

Have a safe trip home and see you in Kansas City in February 2027!

