



**American Bandmasters Association
91st 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 - The Elevé Room - 42 nd Floor, Swissotel
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Past Presidents' Dinner - The Elevé Room
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Board Members' Dinner - The Elevé Room

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 Gerald, 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 - Gestaad/Zumatt – Lucerne Level
11:45 am - 12:45 am	ABA Significant Others Meeting - Alpine 1, 2 - Lucerne level
11:45 am - 12:30 pm	ABA Foundation Board Meeting - St. Mortiz - Lucerne level
12:30 pm - 4:00 pm	BREAK Excursions 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>
	“The President’s Own” United States Marine Band, Washington D.C.
	Col. Ryan Nowlin, Conductor
9:45 pm	After Concert Celebration - Tickets and Cash Bar - The Eleven Room - 42 nd 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 st 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!

