Classical music fans in Colorado get the best of all worlds in the summertime. Gorgeous music and breathtaking scenery come together at summer music festivals around the state. The breadth of locations and music is enough to please anyone who wants to hear great music indoors or out.
A packed crowd gives a standing ovation at the Bravo! Vail Music Festival.

Each summer Bravo! Vail hosts three of the best orchestras in the U.S. -- the New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra and Dallas Symphony -- for open-air residencies at the Gerald Ford Amphitheater. The festival also brings in the London-based Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Chamber Ensemble, led by world-renowned violinist Joshua Bell. This year the Vail Valley will hear music from stellar performers including pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet and violinist Augustin Hadelich as well as small ensembles like the Dover Quartet and vocal group Roomful of Teeth.

Highlights: The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields opens the season with Ludwig van Beethoven’s intimate “Pastoral” Symphony No. 6 on June 21; The Philadelphia Orchestra performs Sergei Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 1 with pianist Daniil Trifonov on July 14; and the New York Philharmonic celebrates the Bernstein centenary with a performance of his “Chichester Psalms” with the Colorado Symphony Chorus, and works from George Gershwin and Aaron Copland, on July 21.