

The Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, through the Department of Cultural Affairs, in order to encourage the professionalization of young conductors who are developing an international career, promotes the first edition of the OFUNAM International Conducting Competition, 2018, with the participation of an internationally renowned jury.

This competition is inspired by the Eduardo Mata International Conducting Competition, organized by Instrumenta Oaxaca and the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. The OFUNAM was the Resident Orchestra of the competition during the 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009 editions.

## JURY

### Massimo Quarta (president)

In addition to his career as a soloist, he has been the artistic conductor of the Vienna Philharmonic, the Netherlands Symphony, the Berlin Symphony and other ensembles in Italy, Germany and the Czech Republic. He has been musical director of the Orchestra of the Abruzzo Symphonic Institution and the Tito Schipa Foundation Orchestra of Lecce. He is currently the artistic director of OFUNAM.

### Atso Almila

Composer, Conductor, Professor of Conducting and Orchestra Schooling at the Sibelius Academy of the Helsinki University of Arts. Jorma Panula's student at the Sibelius Academy 1974-77. Master Classes and guest teaching in China (Shanghai), Sweden, Norway, Ireland, Spain, Czech Republic and Switzerland. Compositions include six operas, five symphonies, concertos for several instruments, music for chamber ensembles, theatre and film. Columnist for a few Finnish papers.

### Josep Caballé Domenech

Awarded the Aspen Prize from the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen and selected as "Protégé" in the inaugural cycle of the Sir Colin Davis Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative 2002-03. Designated Music Director of the Philharmonic Orchestra of Bogota (from 2018), General Music Director of the Opera and Staatskapelle Halle, Saale, and now in his seventh season as Music Director of the Colorado Springs Philharmonic.

### Claire Gibault

Claire Gibault began her career at the Opéra National de Lyon before becoming the first woman to conduct the Filarmonica della Scala and the Berlin Philharmonic. She was music director of Musica per Roma from 2000 to 2002. She was assistant to Claudio Abbado at Milan's La Scala, Vienna's Staatsoper and London's Royal Opera House Covent Garden. In 2004 she helped him found the Orchestra Mozart di Bologna. A passionate advocate of contemporary music, she regularly collaborates with leading composers and has been invited to conduct world premieres ranging from symphonic works to opera.

### Jorge Mester

Mexican Jorge Mester is an international top-level conductor, recognized for the excellence and prominence he brings to every orchestra he leads. He is also the Laureate Director of the prestigious Aspen Music Festival, which he headed as Musical Director for twenty-one years. He was Artistic Director of the Mexico City Philharmonic Orchestra and is currently the Artistic Director of the Boca del Río Philharmonic Orchestra.

## PRIZES

### First Prize

USD 6,000 (six thousand dollars) and invitations to conduct a concert with each of the following orchestras during the 2019-2021 seasons:

#### Mexico

- Aguascalientes Symphonic Orchestra
- Boca del Río Philharmonic Orchestra
- School Orchestra Carlos Chávez
- Philharmonic Orchestra of Jalisco
- Philharmonic Orchestra of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
- Philharmonic Orchestra of the State of Querétaro
- Philharmonic Orchestra 5 de mayo
- Symphony Orchestra of the Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo
- Symphony Orchestra of the Universidad de Guanajuato
- Michoacán Symphony Orchestra
- Minería Symphony Orchestra
- Oaxaca Symphony Orchestra
- San Luis Potosí Symphony Orchestra
- Xalapa Symphony Orchestra
- Yucatan Symphony Orchestra
- Symphony Orchestra of the Instituto Politécnico Nacional
- National Symphony Orchestra
- Eduardo Mata University Youth Orchestra

#### Colombia

- Bogotá Philharmonic Orchestra

### Second Prize

USD 3,000 (three thousand dollars)

### Tercer premio

USD 1,500 (one thousand, five hundred dollars)

## COMPETITION RESIDENT ORCHESTRA

The Philharmonic Orchestra of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (OFUNAM) is the resident orchestra of the OFUNAM International Conducting Competition.

## FINAL ROUNDS

- **Preliminary**  
Monday 17 – Wednesday 19 | 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
- **Semifinal**  
Thursday 20 and Friday 21 | 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
- **Rehearsal**  
Saturday 22 | 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
- **Final Concert and Award Ceremony**  
Sunday 23 | 12 to 3 pm

culturaunam.mx/premiofunam



UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTÓNOMA DE MÉXICO

Rector  
**Dr. Enrique Graue Wiechers**

Secretario general  
**Dr. Leonardo Lomelí Vanegas**

Secretario administrativo  
**Ing. Leopoldo Silva Gutiérrez**

Secretario de desarrollo institucional  
**Dr. Alberto Ken Oyama Nakagawa**

Secretario de atención a la comunidad universitaria  
**Mtro. Javier de la Fuente Hernández**

Abogada general  
**Dra. Mónica González Contró**

Director general de comunicación social  
**Mtro. Néstor Martínez Cristo**

## FINALISTS



### Carlos Ágreda | Colombia

Assistant Conductor at the Curtis Institute of Music. He obtained his Master of Music in Performance Conducting with distinction from the Royal Northern College of Music. He has conducted symphony orchestras in the USA, UK, Latin America and Europe.

Photograph: @wiryasatyaadenatya



### Rodolfo Barráez | Venezuela

Traveling Conductor of the National System of Youth and Children's Orchestras and Choirs of Venezuela and is a regular guest conductor of several Venezuelan Orchestras. He was one of the 14 conductors selected at "The Mahler Competition" in 2016. He is currently coursing postgraduate studies in conduction at the Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler in Berlin.



### Jiannan Cheng | China

Conducting Fellow for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. She got her PhD in Orchestral Conducting from the Conservatory of Music of the University of Cincinnati. She participated in the German Conductors' Award in Cologne, Germany.



### Jiajing Lai | China

Assistant Conductor-Finalist of New World Symphony. She has worked as conductor and opera coach with several orchestras in China and Europe. She has been finalist in several conducting competitions. She has participated in master classes with several internationally renowned conductors.



### Jing Zhan Li | China

Studied conduction at the Central Conservatory of Music. He was selected for the 14th Berlin International Conducting Master Class, the only Chinese among the finalists. He was awarded second prize in the Riga World Choir Games. He has conducted, orchestras, choirs and operas in several theaters in China and Europe.



### Boon Hua Lien | Singapur

Assistant Conductor at the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra. He is currently coursing his PhD in Orchestral Conducting at the Eastman School of Music from the University of Rochester. He has conducted symphony orchestras in USA, Poland and Singapore.



### François López-Ferrer | United States of America-Spain

Associate Conductor of the Chile National Symphony. He has conducted important orchestras including the Tonhalle Orchestra and the Hamburg Symphony. He got his MA in conducting from the Haute École de Musique in Lausanne. In 2015 he won the Neeme Järvi award at the Menuhim Gstaad Festival.

Photograph: Josefina Pérez Miranda



### Ilya Ram | United States of America-Israel

Assistant Conductor of the Sächsisches Landesgymnasium für Musik Orchestra as well as assistant to Maestro Guillermo Garcia Calvo with the Robert-Schumann Philharmonie. He is pursuing his MA in Orchestral Conducting at the Hochschule für Musik "Carl Maria von Weber". He was a semi-finalist of the 1st Maestro Solti International Conducting Competition.



### Jonathan Spandorf | Israel

Assistant Conductor for the Indiana University Chamber Orchestra. He has participated as guest conductor with several American and European orchestras. He has participated in numerous master classes with renowned conductors. He is constantly active as teacher and arranger.



### Jorge Vázquez | Mexico

Assistant Conductor for the Polish National Opera and Artistic Director of the Project Chamber Orchestra in New York. He has been awarded 1st prize in several international competitions. He has been an active conductor in America, Europe and Mexico.



### Dean Whiteside | United States of America

Conducting Fellow of the New World Symphony and the Nashville Sinfonietta. He has been guest conductor for several orchestras in USA and Europe. He has received numerous awards and distinctions, including the Bruno Walter Memorial Foundation Conducting Scholarship in 2017. He has a Bachelor degree in Viola Performance and philosophy and a MA in Orchestral Conducting, both with honors.



The Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, through the Department of Cultural Affairs and the General Direction of Music presents the first edition of

# International OFUNAM Conducting Competition

September 17–23, 2018

#### Preliminary

Monday 17 – Friday 21 | 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

#### Rehearsal

Saturday 22 | 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

#### Final Concert and Award Ceremony

Sunday 23 | 12 to 3 pm

Sala Nezahualcóyotl  
Centro Cultural Universitario

