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 in the Netherlands Symphony, the Berlin Symphony and other ensembles in Italy, Germany and the Czech Republic.

Also Ayma
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 Filarmónica della Scala and the Berlin Philharmonic. She was music director of Música 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 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 Boda del Río Philharmonic.

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:

- Aguaclairentes 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 Guanajuato
- 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)

Colombia
- Bogotá Philharmonic Orchestra

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
<table>
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<th>FINALISTS</th>
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| **Carlos Agreda** | 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. |
| **Rodolfo Barráez** | Venezuela  
Traveling Conductor of the National System of Youth and Children’s Orchestras and Choirs of Venezuela and 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 pursuing postgraduate studies in conducting 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 conducting 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** | Singapore  
Assistant Conductor at the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra. He is currently pursuing 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 Torhalle Orchestra and the Hamburg Symphony. He got his MA in conducting from the Haute Ecole de Musique in Lausanne. In 2015 he won the Neeme Järvi award at the Menuhin Gstaad Festival. |
| **Ilya Ram** | United States of America-Israel  
Assistant Conductor of the Sächsisches Landesgymnasium für Musik Orchestra as well as assistant to Maestro Guillermo García 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. |
| **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. |
| **Dean Whiteside** | United States of America  
Conducting Fellow of the New World Symphony and the Nashville Symphony. 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 **OFUNAM International Conducting Competition**.