

RULES & REGULATIONS OF THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONDUCTING COMPETITION “LLIRIA, CITY OF MUSIC”, 2025.

1st. Definition

The aim of this competition is to promote and consolidate the international recognition of Llíria as a UNESCO “Creative City of Music” in collaboration with the Spanish Association of Orchestra Conductors (AESDO by its Spanish acronym *Asociación ESpañola de Directores de Orquesta*), by supporting and advocating for the young orchestra conductors. It is our purpose to boost their careers in an environment of recognized cultural background as a commitment towards new projects in the artistic field.

The orchestra conductor Cristóbal Soler has been appointed as the artistic director of the INTERNATIONAL CONDUCTING COMPETITION “LLIRIA, CITY OF MUSIC”

2nd. Requirements to participate

Orchestra conductors from all nationalities aged 35 or less years old up to March 27th 2025 can participate.

3rd. Call and deadline for applications

The call for the competition will be announced on the official website of the competition. Different media will be used to spread the news and give the highest dissemination.

The application deadline will be from April 14th to 30th 2025.

As stated in the 5th rule, the fee of accepted applicants will be 50,00 € payable to the following bank account via transfer ES7900495065682810377708 stating

“CONDUCTING COMPETITION” + full name of the participant.

4th. Applications

Participants will apply and fill in the application form online. The application can be found on the official website of the competition within the deadline stated in the previous rule. The following documents must be provided as well:

- A scanned copy of the personal ID or passport or an equivalent document. The date of birth must be unequivocally legible.
- Biography summarized in a maximum of 400 words;
- A portrait photo in high resolution;
- (Optional) Two or more recommendation letters or, failing that, contacts of one or more references related to the educational background, career and life trajectory of the applicant;

From one to three videos taking into account the following features:

The participant must appear conducting a group (orchestra, choir, ensemble, band or pianos with two performers).

Videos must not last longer than 10 minutes.

The participant must be visible from the perspective of the musicians at least for 50% of time of the video.

The resolution and sound must comply with the minimum quality stated in these rules.

In case the participant presents two or three videos, they must show different styles. Videos must be sent via the links provided for this competition call.

The videos must comply with the following minimum resolution and sound requirements:

Resolution between 1080p and 4k in general user format .mov, .avi, .wmv, .mp4,.flv.

Minimum sound quality without stereo compression .wav 48 khz and 24 bits or a compressed format with a minimum quality of 384Kbp.

Youtube and Vimeo video links will be accepted. No WeTransfer files or similar platforms will be accepted.

The videos not complying with the above mentioned requirements can be ruled out by the jury in the round of applications evaluation.

The organization reserves the right to require any other documentation needed to solve any doubts derived from the provided data.

The templates to be used will be published on the website of the competition.

5th. Selection of participants

After the evaluation of the documentation, once the deadline has expired, and in any case over the next five days, until May 8th, the organization will be sending an acceptance/rejection email to the registered applicant.

The accepted candidates will have five days since the confirmation of reception of the acceptance email to pay the corresponding fee as specified.

Should the participants not pay the fee in due time, they will lose their right to participate in the competition.

Should any participants be excluded from list due to any of the causes mentioned in these rules and regulations, the organization will proceed to call the next participants in reserve by strict order of prioritization of the list.

The maximum number of accepted participants will be 25 as established by the selection committee.

6th. Development of the auditions.

The reception of participants and the participation draw will be held on July 21st 2025, at 9:00 a.m., at Lliria Town Hall.

The four rounds of the competition will be developed as follows:

FIRST ROUND: July 21st 2025.

A maximum of 25 candidates will participate.

The candidates must conduct a rehearsal with the following repertoire:

- STRAVINSKY, Igor. *L'Histoire du soldat*.
(Editado por John Carewe. Edición Chester. Versión Suite).

The movement or movements to be conducted by the candidates will be communicated by the jury before the start of the audition.

Every candidate will have a maximum of 15 minutes to perform this audition.

SECOND ROUND: July 22nd 2025.

Candidates who passed the first round can participate in the second one. The maximum number of candidates for the second round will be 12.

The candidates must conduct a rehearsal with the following repertoire:

- ELGAR Edward. *Serenade for Strings* in E minor, Op.20
(Edición Breitkopf & Härtel).

The movement or movements to be conducted by the candidates will be communicated by the jury before the start of the audition.

Every candidate will have a maximum of 20 minutes to perform this audition.

THIRD ROUND – SEMI-FINAL: July 23th 2025.

Candidates who passed the second round can participate in the third one. The maximum number of candidates for the third round will be 6.

The candidates must conduct a rehearsal with the following repertoire:

- MOZART, Wolfgang Amadeus. *Symphony No. 29* in A Major, K.201.
(Edición Breitkopf & Härtel)

The movement or movements to be conducted by the candidates will be communicated by the jury before the start of the audition.

Every candidate will have a maximum of 30 minutes to perform this audition.

4th ROUND – REHEARSAL AND FINAL: 24th & 25th July 2025 respectively.

Candidates who passed the third round can participate in the fourth one. The maximum number of candidates for the fourth round will be 3.

The audition will be divided in two parts: rehearsal and concert. Both of them will be individually evaluated.

Every candidate will work on and conduct the following repertoire in both parts in strict order:

- MOLINER, David. *Estructura I* (versión orquesta de cámara)
Commissioned work (Edición Universal)
- TOMASI, Henri Concerto pour Trombone et Orchestra (1º movimiento)
(Alphonse Leduc Editions Musicales, Paris)
- BEETHOVEN, Ludwig van. *Coriolan-Ouverture*, Op. 62.
(Edición Breitkopf & Härtel)

Every candidate will have a maximum of 45 minutes to perform the rehearsal and 45 minutes to perform the concert the day after.

7th. Jury

The jury for each round will consist of the following members:

SELECTION OF CANDIDATES:

FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD ROUNDS AND SEMI-FINAL:

- A) President: Manuel Galduf. Orchestra conductor. Chief conductor of Orquesta de Valencia (1983-1997).
- B) Member: Ni Fan. Chief Conductor of China Youth Philharmonic Orchestra.
- C) Member: José Miguel Rodilla. Conductor

Secretary: Cristóbal Soler. Conductor. Chief Conductor of BSMV.

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- D) Member: Jan Milosz. Chief Conductor of W. Lutoslawski Philharmonic Orchestra
- E) Member: Diego Naser. Chief Conductor of Orquesta Filarmónica de Boca del Rio de Veracruz.

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FOURTH ROUND AND FINAL:

In this round, artists of recognized prestige will be added to the previous members of the jury. The final list of invited members with their names will be published during the first week of July 2025.

8th.- Evaluation criteria

The points awarded by the members of the jury will conform to the following criteria:

SELECTION OF CANDIDATES:

Critical analysis of the videos;

Biography;

Recommendation letters or, failing that, contacts of one or more references related to the educational background, career and life trajectory of the applicant.

REST OF THE ROUNDS:

The evaluations will be provided in whole numbers with up to two decimals.

The members of the jury will evaluate the documentation individually for the first round as well as the performance of the participants over the following rounds of the competition.

The Secretary will announce the average score for each participant based on the arithmetic sum of the points given by the members of the jury divided by the total number of established criteria.

The above mentioned average score will determine the selection and subsequent passing of rounds. The highest scores will prevail over the lowest ones. Candidates who get the lowest scores will be ruled out for the next rounds on the basis of maximum number of candidates for each round of the competition.

The assigned points in the different rounds are not accumulative.

The deliberations of the jury will be secret. The Secretary will draw up the minutes with the vicissitudes of every round and an express mention of the points awarded to every candidate. Points are not subject to appeal.

The members of the jury can stop the performance of any candidate in order to ask any questions as well as to finish the audition before the estimated time for each round.

Once the final round is over, the jury's decision will be made public.

9th.- Award of prizes

The procedures derived from the processing of the files to award these prizes will be on a competitive basis.

10th. Prizes

The jury will award the following three prizes of which the corresponding minutes will be drawn up:

FIRST PRIZE

5.000,00.-€ and accreditation certificate by the Townhall of Llíria.

Likewise, the person awarded with the first prize can be invited to conduct the collaborating orchestras in the current edition of this competition over the next two seasons (2026-27y 2027-2028), The collaborating orchestras are:

- Orquesta Sinfónica de Radio Televisión Española.
- Orquesta de Valencia.
- Orquesta Filarmónica de Málaga.
- Orquestas Sinfónicas del Sistema de Orquesta de Venezuela
- Orquesta Filarmónica W. Lutoslawski
- Orquesta Filarmónica de Boca del Rio de Veracruz.

SECOND PRIZE

1.500,00.-€ and accreditation certificate by AESDO.

THIRD PRIZE

1.000,00.-€ and accreditation certificate by AESDO.

SPECIAL PRIZE AESDO

1.000,00.-€ and accreditation certificate by AESDO

Likewise, the AESDO member who will obtain the best general classification in the competition can be invited to conduct the following orchestras over the next two seasons (2026-2027 y 2027-2028):

- Joven Orquesta Sinfónica de la FSMCV.
- Harmonie Ensemble.
- Orquesta ESMAR.
- Orquesta Joven de Fórum Musikae

The special prize AESDO is compatible with any of the previous prizes.

The economic amounts of the prizes are subject to the corresponding tax obligations.

The names of the awarded candidates will be published on the official website of the competition.

11th. Other remarks about the organization of the competition

The organization will take care of the accommodation and breakfast of the competition finalists over the days they take active part in the rehearsal and concert of the final round.

The organization of the competition will only provide the information of the score editions that will be used by the members of the ensemble and orchestra. No general scores will be provided to the participants. Every participant must be responsible for their own scores. The use of photocopies is forbidden.