

# Pazardjik International Conducting Competition & Masterclass

**APPLICATION CLOSING DATE: 1 October, 2025**



*All Ages Welcome to Apply!*

*Only 12 places---open until filled*

<https://pazardjikicc.com/>

**Monday 16 March – Thursday 19 March, 2026**

**LOCATION:** “[Maestro Georgi Atanasov](#)” Concert Hall Pazardzhik Center, bul. “Bulgaria” 2, 4400 Pazardzhik, Bulgaria

**TUITION:** 1650 Euros

**REPERTOIRE:** Symphony 41 [MOZART], Symphony 2 [BEETHOVEN]; Symphony 1 “Classical” [PROKOFIEV]

**1st Prize:** 2000 Euros OR 1 full concert conducting the Pazardjik Symphony Orchestra in the 2026-2027 concert season—winner’s choice.

Honorable mention certificate awarded to audience favorite.

All 12 selected conductors will conduct all four days and also on the final concert.

Winner decided by orchestra vote after the final concert.

In case of a tie one masterclass teacher, chosen by chance, will vote to break the tie.

Minimum of 50 minutes of *uninterrupted* podium time with the Pazardjik Symphony.

Video review session after every rehearsal.

Each candidate gets two (2) one-to-one private coaching sessions during the week. One with each masterclass teacher.

## DAILY SCHEDULE

Monday through Wednesday: 10:00-13:00 Rehearsal; 14:30-15:30 Video review session & Roundtable Discussions; 15:30-16:30 One-to-one private coaching sessions [30 minutes each]

Thursday: 10:00-11:30 One-to-one private coaching sessions; 13:00-14:30 One-to-one private coaching sessions; 15:30 General rehearsal; 18:30 Concert; 20:45 Awards Ceremony

## COMPETITION RULES

- No minimum or maximum age requirement
- Each day, candidates will be assigned by *lottery* a movement of MOZART, BEETHOVEN, or PROKOFIEV. Each day the announcement of the assignment will be given on the spot.

- Each candidate will conduct a movement from each symphony over three days. The candidate will have 13 minutes of uninterrupted podium time these three days.
- The candidates will be assigned a movement to conduct for the final concert which they will also get to rehearse at the general rehearsal (also uninterrupted). The candidate will be informed of their assigned movement a day in advance so that they can adequately prepare.
- The orchestra will use the approval voting system to declare a winner.

### **Masterclass Teachers**



Huba Hollókői  
Artistic Director  
Keszthely Symphony Orchestra (Hungary)



Nse Ekpo  
Executive Director  
International Conducting Lab (USA)

Direct inquiries to [pazardjik.icc \[at\] gmail \[dot\] com](mailto:pazardjik.icc@gmail.com)