

Lists of Conducting Competitions, Masterclasses, Fellowships and Assistant Conductor Positions

The following lists are produced as a starting point for your own research. Available masterclasses, fellowships/assistsanships and competitions change from year to year, and we are only able to present a selected handful of possibilities. You should use your own network, social media and online sources to find relevant and suitable positions and courses.

Competitions

Update: 2021

Name	Remarks	Website
Donatella Flick LSO Conducting Competition (London Symphony Orchestra)	Age: 30 and under Must be citizens of the UK, EU, Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein or Switzerland.	https://lso.co.uk/lso-discovery/donatella-flick-lso-conducting-competition.html
Malko Competition (Danish Radio Symphony Orchestra)	Age: 35 and under	https://malkocompetition.dk/
Besançon Competition (Festival international de musique, Besançon Franche-Comte)	Age: 35 and under	https://festival-besancon.com/en/competition/
The Mahler Competition (Bamberger Symphoniker)	Age: 35 and under	https://www.bamberger-symphoniker.de/en/the-mahler-competition/the-conducting-competition-of-the-bamberg-symphony.html
International Conducting Competition (Rotterdam)	Age: 23-35	https://www.iccr.nl/
Herbert von Karajan Young Conductors Competition	Age: 35 and under	https://www.salzburgerfestspiele.at/en/yca
Deutscher Dirigentenpreis	Age: 33 and under	https://www.dirigentenforum.de/en/german-conductors-award/the-competition/
International Competition of Young Conductors Lovro von Matačić (Lovro and Lilly Matačić Foundation)	Age: 35 and under Every 4 years	
Grzegorz Fitelberg International Competition for Conductors	Age: 35 and under	http://fitelbergcompetition.com/
Cadaqués Orchestra International Conducting Competition	Age: 35 and under	http://www.orquestradecadaques.com/en/5/international-conducting-competition-orquestra-cadaques
Sir Georg Solti International Conductors' Competition	Age: 18-35	https://www.dirigentenwettbewerb-solti.de/index.php

Concorso Toscanini		https://www.concorsotoscanini.it/en/
International Conducting Competition "Guido Cantelli"	Age: 18-35	https://premiocantelli.it/
International Jorma Panula Conducting Competition	Age: Upper age limit is 40 years. Must be citizens of the UK, EU, Nordic countries or Switzerland.	https://www.panulacompetition.com
La Maestra	No age limit. Female Conductors only.	https://lamaestra-paris.com/
Tokyo International Music Competition for Conducting	Age: 38 and under	https://www.conductingtokyo.org/eng/
European Conducting Competition (European Brass Band Association)	Age: 35 and under	https://www.ebbc2020.lt/8th-european-conductors-competition-2020-palanga-lithuania.html
Warsaw Wind Ensemble Conducting Competition	Brass Band	http://wwecc.warsawwindmusic.pl/
National Association of Brass Band Conductors (NABBC) Competition	No age limit	https://www.bbe.org.uk/news/19022020-1745/nabbc-opens-applications-2020-conductors-contest
International Conductors' Competition (Ausburg)	1st Rd: Wind Band 2nd Rd: Brass Band Semi: Symphony Orchestra Final: Wind Band	https://conductorscompetition-augsburg.de/
National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain Conducting Competition	Age: 20-30 Brass Band Prize: £500 to work alongside and be tutored by Martin Brabbins and the NYBBGB	https://www.nybbgb.org.uk/cc2022/
Premio Frederick Fennell	1st Rd: Wind Sextet Semi: Brass Band Final: Wind Band	https://fennellcompetition.com
Gheorghe Dima International Choir Conducting Competition	Age: 35 and under	https://www.dimacompetition.ro/

Masterclasses

Name	Location	Dates	Orchestra	Remarks
Tanglewood Music Center	Massachusetts, USA	2 Months: Jun-Aug		
Aspen Conducting Academy	Aspen, Colorado		Academy Orchestra	
Britten-Pears Young Artist Program	Snape Maltings, UK	2 Weeks: Jul / Aug	Britten-Pears Orchestra	
Verbier Festival Academy	Verbier, Switzerland	1 Month		
Järvi Academy	Pärnu, Estonia	1-2 Weeks: Jul		Neeme, Paavo, Kristjan Järvi
Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music	Santa Cruz, California, USA	1 Week: Jul		6 Fellows, 6 Associates
Lucerne Festival	Lucerne, Switzerland	1 Month: Aug / Sep		
Dartington Music Summer School & Festival	Devon, UK	2 Weeks: Aug	Dartington Festival Orchestra	
Dirigentuka (Conductor's Week)	Stavanger, Norway	1 Week, Aug	Stavanger Symphony Orchestra, Stavanger Brass Band, etc	3-5 Different Types of Courses (Orchestra, Brass & Wind Bands)
Conductor's Academy with Tonhalle	Zurich, Switzerland	2 Weeks: Mar	Tonhalle Orchester, Zurich	Often yearly, but varies which month
Allegra International Summer Academy	Sofia, Bulgaria	Usually Jan & Jun		
Royal Northern College of Music Masterclasses	Machester, UK	Nov, 2 in Feb, May	RNCM Ensembles, Manchester Camerata	Nov: Wind/Brass, Feb: Choral, Feb: Opera, May: Orchestral
Argovia Philharmonic Conducting Masterclass	Boswil, Switzerland	1 Week: Apr	Argovia Philharmonic	Douglas Bostock
Atso Almila's Conducting Masterclass	Seinäjäki, Finland	1 Week: Aug	Seinäjäki City Orchestra	
Masterclass Budapest	Budapest, Hungary	1 Week: Aug	MAV Symphony Orchestra	Jorma Panula
St Andrew's Advance Conducting Course	St Andrew's, Scotland	4 Days: Jun	2 Piano, freelance orchestra of at least 20	Sian Edwards, John Longstaff
BMI International Conducting Masterclass	Bucharest, Romania	1 Week: Jul	Bucharest Symphony Orchestra	with Competition
Jeunesses Musicales Conducting Masterclass	Bucharest, Romania	1 Week: Aug	Royal Camerata	Christian Ehwald, Sigmund Thorpe
Aberystwyth MusicFest	Aberystwyth, Wales/UK	1 Week: Jul/Aug	Sinfonia 1	Toby Purser, James Henshaw
Sherbourne Summer School Wind Conducting	Warwickshire, UK	1 Week: Aug	Sherbourne Wind Orchestra	
London Masterclasses	Varies, but in the UK			Benjamin Zander
RPS Woman Conductors Courses	Varies, but in the UK			Different Levels: Opera, Ballet, Phase 1, 1.5, 2, etc

Fellowships and Assistant Conductor Positions

Type	Organisation	Term	Remarks	Location
Assistant Conductor	London Symphony Orchestra	Yearly	Donatella Flick Competition	London, United Kingdom
Assistant Conductor	The Hallé	Varies	Halle-Siemens Conducting Competition	Manchester, United Kingdom
Assistant Conductor	Royal Scottish National Orchestra	2 Years		Glasgow, United Kingdom
Assistant Conductor	City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra	Varies		Birmingham, United Kingdom
Assistant Conductor	Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra	Varies		Katowice, Poland
Assistant Conductor	Orchestre National de France	Varies		Paris, France
Assistant Conductor	Orchestre National d'Île-de-France	Varies		Paris, France
Assistant Conductor	Orchestre National de Lille / Orchestre de Picardie	Varies	Assistant Conductor Competition	Lille / Amiens, France
Assistant Conductor	Liège Royal Philharmonic Orchestra	Varies		Liège, Belgium
Assistant Conductor	Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra	Varies	Leverhulme Young Conductor in Association	Bournemouth, United Kingdom
Assistant Conductor	Royal Northern Sinfonia	Varies		Newcastle, United Kingdom
Assistant Conductor	Malmö Opera	2 Years (with option of renewal)	Assistant Conductor in Residence	Malmö, Sweden
Fellowship / Assistant Conductor	Welsh National Opera	18 Months	Female Conductor in Residence	Cardiff, United Kingdom
Fellowship / Assistant Conductor	British Youth Opera	1-2 Months		London, United Kingdom
Fellowship	Karajan Academy, Berliner Philharmoniker	2 Years	Siemens Conductors Scholarship	Berlin, Germany
Fellowship	Royal Northern College of Music	2 Years		Manchester, United Kingdom
Fellowship	English National Opera	2 Years	ENO Mackerras Fellowship	London, United Kingdom
Fellowship	Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	2 Years		Glasgow, United Kingdom
Fellowship	Royal Opera House (The Royal Ballet / Birmingham Royal Ballet)	2 Years	Constant Lambert Conducting Fellowship	London, United Kingdom
Fellowship	Royal Opera House	2 Years	Jette Parker Young Artists Programme (1 for ballet / 1 for opera)	London, United Kingdom
Fellowship	Taki Alsop Conducting Fellowship	2 Years	Female conductors only	-

Fellowship	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music & Dance	1 Year (with option of renewal)	Sir Charles Mackerras Junior Fellowship in Conducting	London, United Kingdom
Fellowship	Colburn School	Varies	Salonen Conducting Fellowship	Los Angeles, USA
Fellowship	New World Symphony	Varies		Miami, USA
Fellowship	Curtis Institute of Music	2 Years		Philadelphia, USA
Fellowship	Peter Eötvös Contemporary Music Foundation	1 Year	Peter Eötvös Mentoring Programme	-
Fellowship	Solti Conducting Fellow	2 Years	Citizen or PR of USA	USA
Fellowship	Irish National Opera ABL Aviation Opera Studio		Irish and full-time Irish-based artists	Ireland
Fellowship	Opera North	10 Weeks	Female Conductor Traineeship	Leeds, United Kingdom
Fellowship / Masterclass	Tanglewood / Boston Symphony Orchestra			Massachusetts, USA
Fellowship / Masterclass	The Dallas Opera	2 Weeks	Dallas Opera Hart Institute for Female Conductors	Dallas, USA
Fellowship / Masterclass	Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music			Santa Cruz, USA
Fellowship / Masterclass	Aspen Conducting Academy			Colorado, USA
Fellowship / Masterclass	Lucerne Festival Academy			Lucerne, Switzerland
Training Programme	Birmingham Contemporary Music Group	1 Year	NEXT Study Course, EU/UK only	Birmingham, United Kingdom

Note: almost all US Professional orchestras offer Assistant Conductor positions. The length of terms varies a lot and most of them are not included in this list. The same goes for orchestras in Europe, and beyond. Many positions are also only offered to local and national participants.

