

Press release – 12th of June 2016

The the 1st International Conductors' Competition invites to Augsburg

The sequence of events at the interdisciplinary Conductors' Competition and the program of the gala concert and final evening are now defined in detail. Ticket sales for six extraordinary music festival days in Augsburg and the neighboring town of Gersthofen begins 10th of June 2016.

Augsburg/SSCH/KPP –To celebrate the 15th anniversary of the study path of his symphonic wind orchestra management professorship at the Leopold Mozart Centre (LMZ) Augsburg University, Professor Maurice Hamers and his team have come up with a firework of musical diversity. Supported by a newly founded organization "Freunde und Alumni der Dirigentenausbildung in Augsburg e.V.", they have brought an International Conductors' Competition to life, featuring three grand orchestral forms – Classical Symphony Orchestra, Symphonic Wind Orchestra and Brass Band. This first time event will take place in Augsburg from 2nd to 7th of July 2016. Ticket sales for the individual events at the University of Augsburg, at the town hall Gersthofen and at the "Kongress am Par" starts 10th of June 2016.

In two preliminary rounds young, talented conductors from Germany and abroad will show their exceptional talent and skills at the conductor's desk to bring a variety of musical styles to life together with leading orchestras. The elimination process of the competition will carry six participants via the "Symphonic Wind Orchestras of the Leopold-Mozart-Center" and the Concert Band of the "Bavarian Brass Band Academy 3BA" to the half-finals with the "Augsburg Philharmonic Orchestra".

The final consists of a Part A and a Part B. Four conductors will have the chance to work with the "Concert Band of the German Armed Forces" on July 6 (Finale Part A). On the final evening, July 7, the three finalists will conduct their respective finals' work. In the second part of the evening, the event will turn into the gala concert of the "Concert Band of the German Armed Forces" with award ceremony. The first three places are endowed with prize money and the winner will be invited for a guest conductorship at a prestigious professional orchestra - sponsored by YAMAHA and session.

Pre-sales starts June 10! Tickets are available from 10 to 45 Euros!

The tickets for all competition days, rehearsals and concerts start from 10 Euro (day tickets) to 45 Euro (ticket bundles) – available from June 10 in advance by AZ-Card Service at +49 821 777 -3410 and online at

**Ansprechpartnerin
Marketing & Kommunikation:**

Sibylle Schäfer
strategisch kreativ

Hauptstraße 30
63825 Blankenbach

Mobil +49 171 8960958
sibylle.schaefer@gmx.de

Veranstalter:

**Freunde und Alumni der
Dirigentenausbildung
in Augsburg e.V.**

Maximilianstraße 22
86150 Augsburg

Vertreten durch:

Irene Anda
Mobil +49 176 61156766
info@conductorscompetition-
augsburg.de



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www.conductorscompetition-augsburg.de

On the day of the event, tickets are available at the box office.

Our motto: build bridges and learn from each other

The distinguished jury and fifty competing highly talented conductors from 22 countries in Augsburg will attract great international attention. This already reflects the competition's motto "Build Bridges and learn from each other" and carries on to the first-time integration of the three orchestral forms Symphony Orchestra, Symphonic Wind Orchestra and Brass Band.

"Decisive for both, the competing participants as well as for the judges to be the realization that the conducting of any orchestral form may be the same, albeit with different timbres (instruments), orchestral sizes and seating arrangements, and how music is created," says Maurice Hamers on the goal of this new and unique form of competition. "The quality of conducting is independent from the orchestral form. Interacting and communicating with people, the musicality and the tension during the competition is key", he says.

Global panoramic view of symphonic music

The musical offer includes contemporary compositions inspired about by Armenian dances or Korean folk songs, as well catchy "classic" brass band music and not least complex works by Richard Strauss. In gala concert at the end of the competition the "Concert Band of the German Armed Forces" will play under its Chief Director of Music Lieutenant Colonel Christoph Scheibling music of Nigel Hess, Philip Sparke and Leonard Bernstein.

Hamers: "Our promise to the competition audience in Augsburg is six-days of sensual acoustic colors. On this occasion, I am looking forward to present the vitality of the LMZ-Chair of symphonic wind orchestra management at the Leopold Mozart Centre, together with students and alumni of my study class program and all wind instruments classes of Augsburg."

Master Class at Kongress am Park, on July 6

In parallel to the competition event, Maurice Hamers, together with Atso Almila, professor of symphonic conducting at the "Sibelius Academy" Helsinki, will offer a Masterclass on the evening of July 6. Students, musicians from local music associations, as well as all "just" music enthusiasts will have the unique opportunity to experience a live lesson with professionals. This evening will be supported on stage by the "Concert Band of the German Armed Forces".

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Marketing & Kommunikation:

Sibylle Schäfer
strategisch kreativ

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Program & Schedule:

Saturday, July 2 and Sunday, July 3, every day 10 a.m. to 18 p.m.

1st Round

- Auditorium, Zentrums für Kunst und Musik, University Augsburg, Universitätsstraße 26 (Building G), 86159 Augsburg
- Symphonic wind orchestra of Augsburg University's Leopold-Mozart-Zentrum

Monday, July 4, 3 p.m. to 10 p.m.

2nd Round

- town hall Gersthofen, Rathausplatz 1, 86368 Gersthofen
- The Concert Band of the Bavarian Brassband Academy (3BA)

Tuesday, July 5, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Halbfinale

- town hall Gersthofen, Rathausplatz 1, 86368 Gersthofen
- Augsburg Philharmonic Orchestra

Wednesday, July 6., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Finale (Teil A) – Rehearses

- Kongress am Park, Gögginger Straße 10, 86159 Augsburg
- Concert Band of the German Armed Forces

Wednesday, July 6., 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Masterclass for students, musicians from local music associations, as well as all "just" music enthusiasts

- With Prof. Maurice Hamers & Prof. Atso Almila
- Kongress am Park, Gögginger Straße 10, 86159 Augsburg
- Concert Band of the German Armed Forces

Thursday, July 7, 6 p.m.

Final-Evening (Part B) with award ceremony & gala concert with the Concert Band of the German Armed Forces

- Kongress am Park, Gögginger Straße 10, 86159 Augsburg
- Concert Band of the German Armed Forces

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The distinguished jury:

- Prof. Atso Almila (Professor of symphonic conducting at the "Sibelius Academy" Helsinki)
- Lieutenant Christoph Scheibling (Chief Director of Music of the "Concert Band of the German Armed Forces")
- Domonkos Héja (Music Director of the "Augsburg Philharmonic Orchestra")
- Thomas Ludescher (Chief Director of the Concert Band of the "Bavarian Brass Band Academy 3BA")
- Matty Cilissen (Chief Director of the "Royal Symphonic Band of the Belgian Guides")

Four Orchestras in three different orchestra forms:

- Symphonic Wind Orchestras of the Leopold-Mozart-Center (1st round)
- Concert Band of the "Bavarian Brass Band Academy 3BA" (2nd round 2)
- Augsburg Philharmonic Orchestra (half-final)
- Concert Band of the German Armed Forces (final part A and B as well as Masterclass)

Further information:

<http://www.conductorscompetition-augsburg.de>

<http://www.facebook.com/ICCAugsburg>

Sibylle Schäfer/KKP, 10th of June 2016

Info: Visual material can be requested free of charge.

Please send two voucher copies (print or pdf) to our address.

Thank you!

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