



Pressinformation 5.9.2024

## The first Jorma Panula MINIKAPU competition starts today

The IX Jorma Panula International Conducting Competition is being organised for the first time this year in parallel with the MINIKAPU competition. The competition, designed by Jorma Panula, aims to encourage young people's interest in conducting an orchestra and give them the opportunity to develop their skills in this field at an early stage of their music studies.

### Jury and competitors

The jury of the MINIKAPU competition is chaired by Professor **Atso Almila**. The other members are conductors **Jukka Iisakkila** and **Ville Mankkinen**. All three have studied under Jorma Panula during their careers. Festival Director **Milla Virta** acts as the jury's secretary.

The competition is aimed at children and young people under 20. The seven young participants are **Maximilian Fagerlund, Touko Hukkanen, Helena Kujala, Maximilian Leicher, Arijus Šereckis, Leo Vauhkonen** and **Elviira Väyrynen**. The **Wasa Sinfonietta** is the MINIKAPU competition's own orchestra.

### The course of the competition

The first round of the competition will take place on Thursday evening the 5th of September at 18.30-21.00 in the grand hall of Vaasa City Hall. The programme is **Mozart's Symphony No. 36 in C major**, and the first movement *Adagio - Allegro Spiritoso*. Five of the seven competitors will continue the next day. The names of the semi-finalists will be announced by 21.30.

The second round will take place on Friday 6 September from 18:30 to 20:00. The five contestants will conduct **Sibelius' Pelléas and Mèlisande, Part I At the Castle Gate**. Three contestants will be selected for the final and their names will be announced at 20:30.

The final will be heard on Saturday from 17:00. The young people will conduct **Sibelius' Pelléas and Mèlisande, Part III A Spring in the Park**. The results will be announced at 21:15 at the same time as the main competition.

On Saturday at 20:30-21:00, pending the jury's decision, the MINIKAPU finalists will perform the *Entr'acte* from **Sibelius' Pelléas and Mèlisande** with the Wasa Sinfonietta.

### The prizes

The first prize is €1,000, the second prize is €750 and the third prize is €500. The jury may decide to award the prizes in other ways. Maestro Jorma Panula will donate a special prize to the winners of the Panula Academy Masterclasses in Orchestral Conducting.

The public is warmly invited to follow the competition. The day ticket price for Thursday is €10 / €8 (pensioner, student, unemployed) / €3 (children under 15). Friday's ticket price is €20 / €15 / €5.

Saturday's last day ticket costs €30 / €25 / €5. The day ticket includes both the main competition and the MINIKAPU competition. You can leave the Vaasa City Hall grand hall and return to watch the competition during the breaks. Tickets are available in advance at [www.netticket.fi](http://www.netticket.fi) and at Studio Ticket in Rewell Shopping Centre and at the door.

\* The press can follow the races freely during the week. Accreditation is available via the form: <https://panulacompetition.fi/fi/media>.

\* Press representatives are also welcome to attend the results presentation each evening in Vaasa City Hall. The competition office will also send the results immediately to the media.

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