

The Federal Ministry of Public Education of Mexico, through the Ministry of Education of the State of Durango and the Durango Music Conservatory, in collaboration with Petrof Pianos of the Czech Republic, invite Mexican and foreign pianists to participate at the

PETROF-DURANGO INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION 2026

Dates: May 17 - 25, 2026.

Venue: Durango Music Conservatory.

Address: Urrea 230, esq. Gómez Farías, Tierra Blanca.

Victoria de Durango, Durango, México 34139

Rules and regulations:

1. The competition is open to pianists of any nationality, who have not reached the age of 31 as of May 17, 2026.
2. The competition will be held between May 17 and 25, 2026, at the Durango Conservatory of Music, located at Urrea 230, corner with Gómez Farías, Tierra Blanca, C.P. 34139, Durango city, Durango state, Mexico.
3. To participate at the competition, pianists must register and pass the pre-selection round by video. To do so, they must send the registration materials indicated below by email to conservatoriodemusicadgo@gmail.com, no later than April 20, 2026. The results of the video preselection will be announced on April 30, 2026.

Age categories:

1. The competition will be held into four categories of participation, according to the age of the competitors:
 - Debut Category: Under 11 years old
 - Junior Category: 11 to 15 years old
 - Intermediate Category: 16 to 21 years old
 - Advanced Category: 22 to 30 years old
2. May 17, 2026, will be taken as the date to define the age of the participants.

Rounds and repertoire:

For all categories, it is recommended to select the repertoire that best represents the technical and artistic abilities of the participant.

For the Debut Category (under 11 years old), the contest will be held in a single round, and the repertoire is of free choice, with a minimum duration of 10 minutes and a maximum of 15 minutes, considering at least two works, pieces, or movements, of different character.

For the Junior Category (11 to 15 years old), the competition will be held in two rounds: Eliminary and Final.

Eliminary round: the following repertoire must be performed, with a minimum duration of 15 minutes and a maximum of 20 minutes:

1. A work from the Baroque period,
2. An allegro movement from a classical sonata,
3. A study or virtuoso piece.

Final round: the finalists must perform the following repertoire, with a minimum duration of 15 minutes and a maximum of 25 minutes:

1. One or more works of the Romantic period,
2. One or more works of the XX century.

For the Intermediate Category (16 to 21 years old), the competition will be held in two rounds: Eliminary and Final.

Eliminary round: the following repertoire must be performed, with a maximum duration of 30 minutes:

1. A prelude and fugue from the Well-Tempered Clavier by J.S.Bach,
2. An allegro movement from classical sonata (Haydn, Mozart, Clementi, or Beethoven),
3. A virtuoso étude,
4. A work of free choice.

Final round: the finalists must perform the following repertoire, with a maximum duration of 40 minutes:

1. One or more works of the Romantic period,
2. One or more works of the XX century,
3. A work by a Mexican composer.

For the Advanced Category (22 to 30 years old), the competition will be held in two rounds: Eliminary and Final.

Eliminary round: the following repertoire must be performed, with a maximum duration of 35 minutes:

1. A work from the Baroque period,
2. An allegro movement from a Classical sonata (Haydn, Mozart, Clementi or Beethoven),
3. A virtuoso etude,
4. A work of the XX or XXI century.

Final round: the finalists must perform the following repertoire, with a maximum duration of 60 minutes:

1. A complete classical sonata (which can be the same as the eliminary round, or a different one),
2. One or more works from the Romantic period or the XX century,

3. A work by a Mexican composer.

- All repertoire, in all categories and rounds, must correspond to the genre of Classical Music. No improvisations, simplified versions, or adaptations of other musical genres (pop, cinema music, etc.) are allowed.
- All repertoire must be performed by memory and without repeats (except scherzi y minuetti).
- Participants must have the scores of their repertoire ready to hand to the organizing committee, in case they are asked to. Once their participation ends, the scores will be given back to the competitor.

Prizes:

The following prizes will be awarded in their respective categories:

Advanced Category:

- 1st place: \$50,000 mxn and Diploma
- 2nd place: \$30,000 mxn and Diploma
- 3rd place: \$20,000 mxn and Diploma
- Best Performance of a Mexican work: \$5,000 mxn

Intermediate Category:

- 1st place: \$20,000 mxn and Diploma
- 2nd place: \$15,000 mxn and Diploma
- 3rd place: \$10,000 mxn and Diploma
- Best Performance of a Mexican work: \$5,000 mxn

Junior Category:

- 1st place: \$10,000 mxn and Diploma
- 2nd place: \$7,000 mxn and Diploma
- 3rd place: \$5,000 mxn and Diploma

Debut Category:

- 1st place: \$5,000 mxn and Diploma
- 2nd place: \$3,000 mxn and Diploma
- 3rd place: \$2,000 mxn and Diploma

- The jury may award ex aequo places, and honorable mentions.
- The awards ceremony and winners' concert will take place on May 25, 2025.
- To receive their prize, winners must appear at the awards ceremony and play at the concert, if selected by the jury.

Jury:

The jury will be comprised of internationally renowned master pianists. Their decision will be final.

General:

1. The dress code of the participants during the tests and the final concert will be formal.
2. The order of participation will be defined by ballot.
3. Competitors must show up on the day and at the time of their participation, punctually and ready to play.
4. All underage participants must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
5. The travel expenses to the city of Durango, and their accommodation during the competition are responsibility of the participants.

Registration for the contest:

Pianists interested in participating at the competition must send the following registration materials:

1. Fully completed application form.
2. Copy of birth certificate, passport, or similar official identification.
3. A high-resolution artistic photography (preferably in color, in .jpg or .pdf file).
4. Pre-selection video, for all categories: free repertoire with a maximum duration of 10 minutes, which best represents the technical and artistic abilities of the participant. The video must be recorded in a single take and have no edits of any kind. It is not necessary to make a professional recording, however, its quality should allow appreciating the level of performance of the contestant. Please upload the video to an open streaming platform (YouTube, Vimeo, etc.), set it to "unlisted", disable comments, copy and paste the link into the email with the submission materials.
5. Application fee: \$1,000 MXN. Once the above materials are received, the bank details to deposit or transfer the application fee will be sent. Registration will be completed upon receipt of proof of payment.

Please send the application materials to: conservatoriodemusicadgo@gmail.com

Please indicate in the subject line "2026 competition" and the surname of applicant.