



## **The UNIMED Award 2024 at the 81<sup>st</sup> Venice International Film Festival**

### **1. The UNIMED Award**

The UNIMED Award, collateral prize of the Venice International Film Festival, results from the collaboration between UNIMED°Mediterranean Universities Union and La Biennale of Venice, which organizes one of the most prestigious international film festivals worldwide.

The aim of the Festival is to raise awareness and promote international cinema in all its forms as art, entertainment and as an industry, in a spirit of freedom and dialogue. The Festival also organizes retrospectives and tributes to major figures as a contribution towards a better understanding of the history of cinema.

The award, launched in 2017 and now at its 8<sup>th</sup> edition, was created in memory of Prof. Franco Rizzi, former Secretary General and founder of UNIMED, for his life-long commitment to the cooperation among Euro-Mediterranean universities.

A jury of international students coming from UNIMED associated universities assigns the Award to the movie of great artistic value which at the same conveys a message in line with UNIMED's principles: diversity, integration, tolerance, respect, dialogue, equality, freedom.

Since its foundation, UNIMED has been committed to use education as a global force and a vehicle for mutual understanding. The UNIMED Award aims to promote exchanges and discussions between people of different cultures and religious beliefs, to fight racism and discrimination, to reveal the complex causes of violence and to support meaningful and constructive debates.

### **2. Jury selection criteria**

The jury will be composed of about **20 international students** selected among the **UNIMED associated members**, thus representing both the diversity and the complexity of the Mediterranean.

All jury members have to be enrolled in one of the UNIMED associated universities with an academic background focusing on cinema or visual arts in general.



All the movies will be screened in original language and subtitled in English. Therefore, it is compulsory for students to have a good command of English.

The students who want to apply must send their application to the International Relations Office of their university. The University is responsible for a first selection of the applications and must send a maximum of 2 CVs to UNIMED, which is responsible for the second stage of the selection. All curricula received are evaluated by UNIMED in close collaboration with UNINT°University of International Studies of Rome.

### **3. Role of the jury**

The jury members are asked to watch all the selected projections and to participate in the meetings which are organized in Venice.

Moreover, students are to contribute to the promotion of the event through the production of press release and news, photos and videos which will be published on the UNIMED social networks and used for the post-event communication.

Lastly, students need to elaborate an individual report after the week in Venice, where explaining in detail the activities carried out (1 page).

The jury selects the best movie after all movies of the Official Competition have been watched. The decision of the jury as best film is strictly confidential, only the President of the Board will be informed. This decision will remain secret and no information will be publicized or disclosed before the Award Ceremony. Any attempt to influence the decisions of the jury will result in disqualification. The jury assumes the responsibility and the duty to watch all the scheduled movies under penalty of exclusion of the initiative and in that case to reimburse UNIMED for any costs incurred for his/her participation to the event.

### **4. Costs**

UNIMED will cover the expenses related to the accreditation to the Festival, local transport and food.

Universities are asked to cover travel expenses to/from Venice and accommodation. Please note the status of accredited member of a jury gives right to discounts for selected accommodations.



In case selected students need a visa to enter Italy, they are directly in charge of the procedure for obtaining the authorization.

All financial efforts sustained by your university will be duly compensated by the prestige and the visibility that the potential participation of your students to this major event will bestow on your institution. Furthermore, for students in visual arts and cinema this is surely a great professional and human experience to be included in their CVs.

## **5. Dissemination of the Award**

The results of the competition, the experience of the jury and its motivation will be disseminated through several channels.

- Paper and online magazines.
- UNIMED website, social media and newsletter.
- Website, social media and newsletter of the jury members' universities.

## **6. Deadlines**

The 81<sup>st</sup> edition of the Venice International Film Festival will be held **from Wednesday 28 August to Saturday 7 September 2024 in Venice, Italy.**

**CVs can be sent to [unimed@uni-med.net](mailto:unimed@uni-med.net) by the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

Interested students must send their application to the International Relations Office of their university. Then, the University will make a first selection and send a maximum of 2 CVs to UNIMED, which is responsible for the second stage of the selection.

All curricula received are evaluated by UNIMED in close collaboration with UNINT•University of International Studies of Rome.

## **7. Questions?**

For further information or any questions related to the UNIMED Award please contact UNIMED at [unimed@uni-med.net](mailto:unimed@uni-med.net)

For further information on the previous editions and the winning movies listen to our jurors' experience [here](#)