



## **The UNIMED Award 2025 at the 82<sup>nd</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 9<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 must be enrolled in one of the UNIMED-associated universities and have an academic background in cinema and visual arts, among others: film studies, cinematography, film production, direction, screenwriting, animation, post-production, sound design,



interactive media, film history, experimental film, media arts, virtual reality and augmented reality. Applicants with unrelated academic fields will not be considered.

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

Students wishing to apply must submit their application to the International Relations Office of their university. The university is responsible for the initial selection of applications and must send a maximum of two CVs to UNIMED, which will handle the second stage of the selection process. CVs submitted directly by students to UNIMED will not be accepted. All received CVs will be 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 releases 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, 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 in the event.

### **4. Costs**

UNIMED is working to secure external funding to support the cost of the students' participation.



Depending on the extent of funding secured, UNIMED will inform interested candidates of the costs to be covered.

The application is not binding at this stage. For this reason, we invite interested students to submit their application.

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 potentially 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.

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

## **6. Deadlines**

The 82<sup>st</sup> edition of the Venice International Film Festival will be held **from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 6 September 2025 in Venice, Italy.**

CVs can be sent to [unimed@uni-med.net](mailto:unimed@uni-med.net) by the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

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 any questions related to the UNIMED Award feel free to reach out to [unimed@uni-med.net](mailto:unimed@uni-med.net)

You can find further information on the previous editions and enjoy the UNIMED Award video [here](#).