

26th EDITION | 20 - 25 July 2026

2026 Regulations

Film submission for pre-selection

- Participation in the Festival's pre-selection is free of charge.
- To register, please fill in and submit the entry form in pdf format, which can be downloaded from the portal www.malescorto.it
- Short films must be submitted via the most common video platforms (*Vimeo, YouTube* and similar), or via online file sharing services (*WeTransfer, SwissTransfer, Google Drive, Dropbox* and similar) and private FTP protocols.
- Films, with a **maximum duration of 20 minutes**, must be submitted for pre-selection by **9 January 2026**.
- Short films not in Italian must be subtitled in Italian. If an Italian subtitled version is not available, subtitles must be provided (separately from the video file) in srt format in one of the following languages: English, French or Spanish. In the absence of subtitles, in the form and manner described here, the work may be excluded from participation.
- The selection of films is decided at the sole discretion of the Festival's Artistic Direction.

Selected films

- The representatives of the short films admitted to the Official Selection will be informed at the end of the pre-selection process.
- They will receive the official Festival laurel and a certificate of participation.
- The media for the screening of the selected films must be sent via digital transfer. In the event of late delivery or non-delivery, the Festival may decide to screen the copy submitted during the pre-selection process.
- The short films in the Official Selection will be presented to the public during the Festival **from Tuesday 21 to Friday 24 July 2026**, at the Cinema Comunale in Malesco.

Jury, awards and prizes

- The selected short films will be examined by a jury composed of professionals from the film and cultural sectors.
- People directly involved in the production or distribution of a film in competition may not be part of the jury.
- The prizes awarded may be subject to change in terms of quantity and value. For updates, please visit the website www.malescorto.it, under the dedicated section (<https://www.malescorto.it/premi>).
- These are the awards for the 2026 Official Selection:
 - **Malescorto Grand Prix 2026 (€1000)**, awarded to the best short film overall.
 - **TrasmettereArchitettura Award 2026 (€400)** offered by the Order of Architects, Planners, Landscape Architects and Conservators of the provinces of Novara and Verbano Cusio Ossola.
 - **Associazione Musei dell'Ossola Award 2026 (€200)** offered by the Ossola Museums Association as part of the Interreg Project 'Di-Segnare'.
 - **Audience Award 2026**, awarded by the audience present in the theatre during the Festival week.
- In addition, the Jury also reserves the right to award special mentions.

Festival Winners

- The winning films will be officially announced and screened during the awards ceremony to be held on Saturday, **25 July 2026**.
- Cash prizes will be paid in a single instalment by the Festival organisers or any partners by **31 December 2026** and exclusively to the recipient indicated in the appropriate field on the registration form. To receive the prize, complete bank details must be provided.

Malescorto Spin-Off and other side events

- During the year, the Festival organisers reserve the right to promote certain side events as part of Malescorto Spin-Off or other additional events outside the Festival.
- Registration for Malescorto 2026 implies acceptance of possible participation in these side events, which will in any case be communicated to the film representatives after prior notification by the Festival organisers.
- Among the side events of Malescorto Spin-Off 2026, the following are particularly noteworthy:

- **Insubria in Corto 2026**, a competitive review aimed at promoting short films from the Insubria region (Province of Verbano-Cusio-Ossola, Province of Varese, Canton Ticino, Province of Sondrio, Province of Como, Italian Grigioni, Province of Lecco with the exception of Valle San Martino, Province of Monza and Brianza, Metropolitan City of Milan, Province of Novara, part of the Province of Pavia – Pavese and Lomellina – and Province of Lodi) with the **Insubria in Corto Award 2026**.
- **MaleScuola 2026**, an event aimed at promoting film education and the enjoyment of short films in schools with three competitive sections and three respective awards: the **MalesKids Award 2026** (Primary Schools), the **MaleSchool Award 2026** (Middle Schools) and the **MalesCollege Award 2026** (High Schools), awarded by the students involved in the project.
- The short films will be included in the side events or excluded from them at the sole discretion of the Festival's Artistic Direction.
- Any cash prizes associated with the competitive side events will be determined on the basis of agreements and partnerships entered into during 2026, as will the screening methods and locations.

Final provisions

- The short films entered and included in the pre-selection will be catalogued and will become part of the Malescorto archive for educational and cultural use only. The short films may also be used for promotional evenings organised by the Festival, the Ed Leuzerie e di Scherpelit Ecomuseum, the Municipality of Malesco and at events promoted by partners, in collaboration with the organising bodies.
- The Festival reserves the right to take frames from the films admitted to the Official Selection for use as promotional images on the Malescorto website and/or those of the Festival's partners, as well as on the social media channels of the Festival and its partners. These frames will also be made available to the media and newspapers by the Festival Press Office for communication relating to Malescorto. The Festival also reserves the right to take short sequences of up to 30 seconds from the films admitted to the Official Selection to be included in the editing of the Festival's official theme tune and to be used as teasers on the Malescorto website and on the Festival's social media channels.
- Participation in Malescorto implies full acceptance of these rules. It is the responsibility of participants to ensure that they are legally authorised to submit films.
- In the event of any dispute regarding the interpretation of the regulations, the original text written in Italian shall prevail.
- For any dispute arising in connection with the competition, the competent court shall be the Court of Verbania, Domodossola branch.

- For anything not expressly specified in these regulations, the final decision of the Artistic Direction and the Festival organisation shall prevail.
- For specific requests regarding the submission of short films to the Festival, please contact the Artistic Direction at the following email address: direzione@malescorto.it.

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