



17th MATTADOR International Screenwriting Award dedicated to Matteo Caenazzo

Extract from the 2025/2026 Competition Rules

The **MATTADOR Cultural Association** opens the **17th MATTADOR International Screenwriting Award dedicated to Matteo Caenazzo**, a young talented artist from Trieste who passed away prematurely on 28th June 2009 while studying and working with the aim of embarking on a career as a screenwriter.

The Award is open to **Italian and foreign young authors aged from 16 to 30**. It includes five sections:

- **MATTADOR Award for Best Feature-Film Screenplay.**
- **MATTADOR Award for Best Story.**
- **MATTADOR Series Award for best TV Series project.**
- **DOLLY Award "Screenwriting with Pictures" for Best Story illustrated through Images.**
- **CORTO86 Award for Best Short-Film Screenplay.**

The following prizes will be awarded:

- **MATTADOR Award for best feature-film screenplay: 5,000 Euros***.
- **MATTADOR Award for best story: 1,500 Euros***. The top finalists will be awarded a **Training Grant** and will be supervised by professional screenwriters in developing their projects. At the end of the training programme the best-developed story will be awarded 1,500 Euros.
- **MATTADOR Series Award for best TV Series project: 1,000 Euros***. The finalists, awarded with a **Training Grant**, will be accompanied by professional screenwriters in developing their projects. At the end of the training course, the best development work will receive a prize of 1,000 euros*.
- **DOLLY "Screenwriting with Pictures" Award** for best story portrayed visually. The winner will be awarded a **Training Grant** and will be tutored by professionals in developing his/her story according to the original idea, leading to the preparation of a complete dossier for a feature or animated film project. At the conclusion of the training programme, depending on the results achieved, an additional prize of **1,000 Euros*** may be awarded.
- **CORTO86 Award for best short-film screenplay** offers a **Training Grant** and the production of a short film based on the winning short-film screenplay. The author will be supervised by professional tutors throughout the pre-production, shooting and post-production stages. He/she will sign the direction of the film.

The winning projects will be published in the editorial series "Scrivere le immagini. Quaderni di sceneggiatura" (EUT/Mattador).

Works must be sent exclusively online on the <https://iscrizioni.premiomattador.it/> platform starting from **15th February 2026**. The subscription fee is confirmed. The delivery deadline is **15th April 2026**.

The MATTADOR Competition **Award Ceremony** will take place on **Friday 17th July 2026** in **Venice in the Sale Apollinee of the Teatro La Fenice**.

The Competition Rules are available on <https://www.premiomattador.it/>

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