



FEDORA
PRIZES BIENNALE
2027

*"The World's Largest Opera
and Dance Competition"*

APPLICATION GUIDELINES



Co-funded by
the European Union

FEDORA

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ABOUT FEDORA & THE FEDORA PRIZES BIENNALE



FEDORA is a non-profit association, founded in 2013 at the Palais Garnier in Paris, under the presidency of Jérôme-François Zieseniss, in tribute to Rolf Liebermann. Today chaired by Stéphane Argyropoulos and directed by Edilia Gänz, FEDORA aims to support the future of opera and dance in Europe.

FEDORA acts as a European quality label promoting innovative opera and dance co-productions, created by emerging artists, through the FEDORA Prizes since 2015. FEDORA also encourages public involvement through participatory crowdfunding and voting campaigns for selected artistic projects.



**FEDORA -
VAN CLEEF & ARPELS
Dance Prize
€100,000**



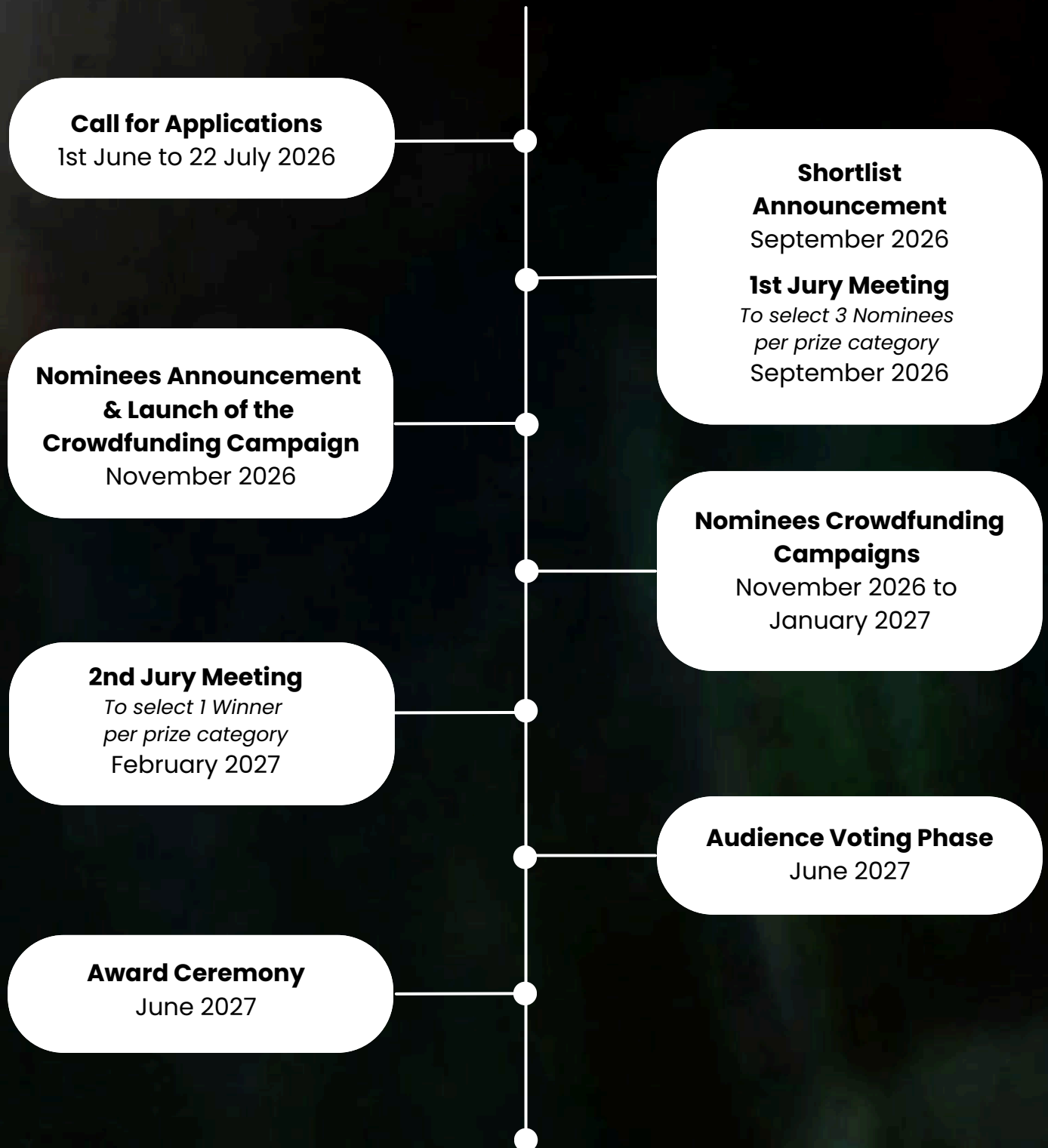
**FEDORA
Education Prize
€50,000**



**FEDORA - KEARNEY
Digital Prize
€50,000**

OVERVIEW OF THE FEDORA PRIZES BIENNALE 2027

Important dates & programme



WHY APPLY?

International Funding Opportunities

FEDORA Prize:

Winning projects receive a prize ranging from €50,000 to €100,000 depending on the category.

Crowdfunding & matching funders:

Nominees will run a crowdfunding campaign on the FEDORA Platform to raise additional funds for their projects. In 2024, over €60,000 were raised in total by the nominees.

- FEDORA receives donations through Giving Europe, simplifying cross-border donations and facilitating philanthropy across Europe.
- During the crowdfunding campaign, companies or individuals can become matching funders of Nominated projects, doubling donations received by the Nominees up to a certain level.
- Nominated projects will receive additional funds (€1,500) from FEDORA to produce a video trailer for their crowdfunding campaign.

Audience Award:

After a public voting phase on the FEDORA Platform, the project with the most votes from the audience will receive the FEDORA Audience Award and a €10,000 prize, co-funded by Catherine Tanneau and the Creative Europe programme of the European Union.

Being a Part of FEDORA's Community

Networking opportunities:

Building connections between opera houses, dance companies & festivals (over 130 members across Europe) and public & private donors that are part of the FEDORA Network.

Dedicated events:

FEDORA organises an in-person event to launch the crowdfunding campaign for the nominees and announces the winners during an exclusive Award Ceremony.

Dedicated project page on the FEDORA Platform:

Nominated projects have a dedicated page on the FEDORA Platform in order to present their projects, raise funds and attract public votes.

Online and offline visibility & PR:

FEDORA shares news on shortlisted, nominated, and winning projects, and their artists, through newsletters, print, social media, and updates beyond the competition.

WHY APPLY?

Capacity-Building Opportunities

Available to all nominated projects

Capacity-building workshops in collaboration with VIALMA:

On how to build a crowdfunding campaign, with best practices on how to build relations with donors through time.

Pitch training sessions:

On how to create the project video, present a project, to better pitch it to future donors.

International Visibility

The projects will be introduced to the international philanthropic community.

International promotion of the emerging artists:

Emerging artists from the projects' artistic teams will be promoted in communications via the "Artists" page.

Quality Label

Expert jury:

Projects are evaluated by an international jury composed of recognised experts from the opera, dance, and digital sectors, ensuring a rigorous, fair and high-level selection process.

Credibility:

Once shortlisted or nominated, projects can use the FEDORA Prizes quality label in their communications, benefiting from increased credibility and professional recognition.

DANCE

Apply now!



**FEDORA – VAN CLEEF & ARPELS
DANCE PRIZE
2027**

Prize money

€100,000

This Prize awards new dance productions that reimagine the art of dance for the 21st century by supporting new experimental dance creations created by promising teams of emerging artists with the ambition to reach international audiences.



Chair of the Dance Jury

Ingrid Lorentzen
Artistic Director,
Norwegian National Ballet
(Norway)

“The Prize has become a beacon for innovation and artistic excellence, helping emerging dance artists realise their potential on an international stage. It’s been an honour to witness the incredible diversity of talent, with each edition bringing forward bold, groundbreaking works that challenge the boundaries of dance and production. FEDORA reinforces the importance of collaboration, of fostering new voices, and of empowering artists to explore their creative vision without limits.”

See former winners

DANCE

Eligibility Criteria

Timeline	The first performance must be scheduled within the time frame of summer 2027 and by the end of 2028.
New production	Productions should be newly commissioned and yet unstaged.
Innovation	Productions should explore boundaries and reinvent the art form of Dance.
Emerging artists	Emphasis will be put on the involvement of emerging artists at the beginning of their career, thus supporting those who will contribute to reinventing and shaping the future of the art form.
International reach	The project should involve at least one international co-producing/touring partner. It can be made accessible to an international audience via streaming or broadcasting.
Diversity	The creative team should preferably bring together diverse, emerging artists* of different genders, ethnicities, nationalities, disciplines and institutions (e.g. composers, choreographers, conductors, librettists, stage directors, costume designers, set designers, etc.)
Sustainable approach	The project should be envisioned with a sustainable and eco-friendly approach.

Evaluation Criteria

Innovation and Creativity (10 pts)	What is the genuinely innovative vision and quality of the project in its chosen field? (e.g. what is the relevance of the piece for the modern age?)
Artistic process (5 pts)	How promising is the artistic quality of the creative team and expected result (e.g. composers, conductors, librettists, stage directors, choreographers, costume designers, lighting designers, sound designers, set designers, etc.)?
Diversity of emerging artists (5 pts)	Is the creative team bringing together diverse, emerging artists of different ages, genders, ethnicities, nationalities, disciplines, and institutions (e.g. composers, conductors, librettists, stage directors, choreographers, costume designers, lighting designers, sound designers, set designers, etc.)?
International Accessibility (5pts)	How will the project be made accessible to an international audience (e.g. online and/or collaboration, co-commission, co-production, touring, streaming, etc.)?
Budget coherence & Impact of the FEDORA contribution (5 pts)	How is the project's budget apportioned to achieve the desired outcome and impact? What difference will the prize money make?
Sustainable Approach (5 pts)	How does the project intend to include measures respectful of the environment in its sourcing, production, and distribution processes? Is the approach innovative and contributing to new standards for the industry?

EDUCATION

[Apply now!](#)



FEDORA EDUCATION PRIZE 2027

Prize money

€50,000

This Prize supports innovative and educational projects that expand access to opera and dance, encourage the involvement of new and wider audiences, particularly local communities and underprivileged groups, and foster social integration, social-emotional learning, mutual understanding, and respect in today's society.



Chair of the Education Jury

Hannah Griffiths

Associate Director,
Development & Collaborations,
Opera Europa
(Belgium)

“The work supported by the FEDORA Education Prize goes beyond access; it makes space for innovative creative processes and artform development, by amplifying voices that are not so often brought to the fore, bringing contemporary experiences into dialogue with opera and ballet in ambitious artistic work.”

[See former winners](#)

EDUCATION

Eligibility Criteria

Timeline	The first performance must be scheduled within the time frame of summer 2027 and by the end of 2028.
Collaboration	Projects should involve multiple partner organisations in the implementation of the project (e.g. schools, municipal authorities, etc).
Outreach and inclusion	Projects should involve multiple partner organisations in the implementation of the project (e.g. schools, municipal authorities, etc).
Innovation	This category supports innovative educational projects in the fields of Opera and Dance.
Diversity	The creative team should preferably bring together diverse, emerging artists* of different genders, ethnicities, nationalities, disciplines and institutions (e.g. composers, choreographers, conductors, librettists, stage directors, costume designers, set designers, etc.)
Sustainable approach	The project should be envisioned with a sustainable and eco-friendly approach.

Evaluation Criteria

Educational Ambition (5 pts)	What is the social-emotional learning quality of the artistic process?
Artistic Ambition (5 pts)	What is the expected quality of the final restitution / presentation of the project?
Innovation and Creativity (5 pts)	What is the genuinely innovative quality of the project in its chosen field?
Participation Process (5 pts)	How does the project interact with and involve the participants? What is the strategy to connect with the local communities?
Social Integration (5 pts)	How is the project encouraging social integration through its innovative approach? What is the project's approach to making opera and dance more accessible?
Impact and Legacy (5 pts)	What is the impact of the project in short and long term for all stakeholders involved? What is the possible multiplication effect for the future? How can it be a source of inspiration for other projects? Is the approach innovative and contributing to new standards for the industry?

DIGITAL

Apply now!



**FEDORA – KEARNEY
DIGITAL PRIZE
2027**

Prize money

€50,000

This Prize supports projects that explore new forms of artistic expression and access to opera and dance through digital innovation, advocate novel ways of interacting with audiences across media using digital tools and performance, and foster interdisciplinary dialogue by triggering new collaborative approaches.



Chair of the Digital Jury

Peter Maniura
Director,
IMZ Academy
(United Kingdom)

The FEDORA Digital Prize is unique in the field of the performing arts and is of crucial importance in contributing to innovation, artistic creativity and cross-sector collaboration in opera and dance. It gives creative and technical teams a chance to experiment, risk and develop new ideas and receive feedback and input from our international jury of experts.

See former winners

DIGITAL

Eligibility Criteria

Timeline	The opening night/project launch must be scheduled within the time frame of summer 2027 and the end of the year 2038.
Innovation	This category supports innovative digital projects in the fields of Opera and Dance.
Collaboration	Projects should involve multiple partner organisations in the implementation of the project (e.g. schools, municipal authorities, etc).
Diversity	The creative team should preferably bring together diverse, emerging artists* of different genders, ethnicities, nationalities, disciplines and institutions (e.g. composers, choreographers, conductors, librettists, stage directors, costume designers, set designers, etc.)
Sustainable approach	The project should be envisioned with a sustainable and eco-friendly approach.
Important notes	<p>Conventional filmed productions or linear TV/film programmes (e.g. multi-camera captures of live performances, opera or dance films made for the camera, or documentaries) are not eligible for the Digital Prize. They may only be considered if included as part of a wider multimedia or multi-platform project.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Projects created solely by AI are not admissible. Submissions must demonstrate human creation and development; AI may only be used for translation or other ancillary purposes.</p>

Evaluation Criteria

Artistic Quality (5 pts)	How promising and relevant is the artistic quality and the technological expertise of the creative team (e.g. video artists, stage directors, choreographers, lighting designers, sound designers, set designers, etc.)?
Digital innovation and Creativity (5 pts)	How ambitious, far-reaching and achievable is the project's concept? Does the project demonstrate a high level of digital innovation and/or does the project develop and/or apply digital technology to the process of making opera and dance in a transformational way?
Interdisciplinary Approach (5 pts)	How does the project work across various disciplines and media?
Audience Experience (5 pts)	What audience(s) is the project aimed at and does it display clear evidence of how it will reach them? What kind of innovative experience is delivered? How does it represent new ways of communicating and connecting with the audience?
Impact and Legacy (5 pts)	How does this project contribute to the development of the art form of opera and dance and what kind of legacy will it leave? How far does this project respond to the new challenges that have evolved in the post-pandemic environment? How will success, in terms of artistic quality, innovation and audience impact be measured?

PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION

Who Can Apply?

Lead Organisation

The organisation submitting the application must:

- Be a cultural organisation / non-profit in the performing arts sector (opera house, festival, dance company, chamber orchestra, choir, etc.)
- Be based in Europe
- Be eligible to receive donations
- Be a member of FEDORA (Affiliate membership starts at €500/year. Organisations may join until the last day of the call.)

There are no additional fees to apply.

Emerging Artists Definition

FEDORA recognises emerging artists as creators who:

- Show significant potential in their field
- Have some professional achievements, but are still under-recognised
- Demonstrate innovation in creation and production

FEDORA does not define emerging artists by age, background or nationality. FEDORA embraces artists from all backgrounds regardless of age, country of origin, gender, or ethnicity.

How?

Applications must:

- Be submitted online via www.fedora-platform.com
- Be written in English
- Be submitted before XX May 2027 at noon (CEST)

Applications sent by email or post will not be accepted.

PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION

Information Required in the Online Form

Applicants must provide:

- Project description, highlighting the innovative aspects of the project
- Short bio or CV (max. 200 words) for each member of the artistic or project team
- Detailed project budget, including the requested FEDORA funds and other sources of funding

Mandatory Documents

The following documents must be uploaded:

- Proof of non-profit status of the lead organisation
- Signed co-production/collaboration agreements, signed letters of intent
- One HD image representing the project, including copyright clearance for international use in FEDORA communications. It will represent the project throughout the competition and may be used by FEDORA, partners, and international press (can be updated during the competition)

Optional Supporting Materials

Applicants may also submit additional materials to support their proposal:

- Examples of past projects by the lead artists
- Sketches or visual concepts (costumes, set design, lighting, digital configurations, prototypes)
- Libretto draft
- Audiovisual materials, such as music scores or recordings

These materials will be taken into account during the selection process.

PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION

Further information:

Nominated Projects

If nominated by the jury:

The lead company signs a contract with FEDORA on behalf of the project partners, outlining:

- The terms of the crowdfunding campaign on the FEDORA Platform
- The transfer of donations collected via the FEDORA Platform and Giving Europe
- FEDORA's financial support for the project campaign video
- At this stage, projects must also provide signed co-production or collaboration contracts if letters of intent were submitted at the application stage.

Nominated projects will:

- Receive €2,000 to produce a pitch video (max. 2 minutes) in English or with English subtitles
- Present their project during an online Q&A session with the jury
- Provide materials and updates on the development of the project (e.g. Additional artistic material, screenshots of social media posts, Newsletters or fundraising event photos)

Winning Projects

If selected as a FEDORA Prize winner:

All co-producers and cultural partners listed in the application must join FEDORA as organisational members.

The winner signs an agreement with FEDORA on behalf of the project partners, which defines:

- The lead company managing the FEDORA funds
- The lead company must submit an activity report on the project's impact
- The transfer of the Prize money
- Visibility and communication guidelines
- Access to rehearsals and opening night tickets

CONTACT US

Should you require personalised assistance, feel free to reach out to us directly:

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