



General conditions

I. The project

This call is part of the “COMIC ART EUROPE” project.

The “COMIC ART EUROPE” project is a pilot project bringing together four European organisations representing different elements of the comic book ecosystem: a higher education institution, festivals and a museum. It aims to strengthen the comic book sector in Europe by experimenting with collaborative working methods. It promotes the transnational mobility of artworks, workers and creators as a means to significantly upscale the work. It prefigures a European comics community capable of positioning creators and organisations at a European level and challenging the historical dominance of the American and Japanese giants.

The project will experiment with professional training methods (summer camp and residency pathways), creative assistance (grants and residencies), dissemination of results in Europe and outside Europe (European comic book catalogue, large-scale dissemination channels) and research about the transformational power of comics (through literacy workshops with comics).

This project, supported by the European Commission, runs from 1 September 2020 to 31 December 2023.

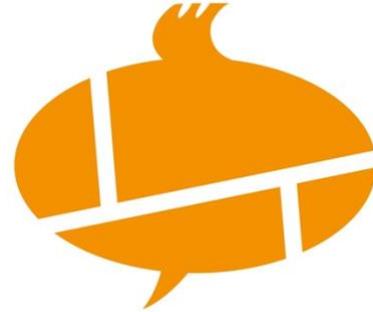
II. The partners

Belgian Comic Strip Centre – Brussels, Belgium

The CBBB is located in the heart of Brussels: an unmissable attraction, it has been celebrating the authors and heroes of the 9th Art for more than 30 years and welcomes more than 230,000 visitors every year.

The regularly renewed permanent exhibitions and a vast program of temporary exhibitions lead visitors to discover the countless facets of comic strips.

The Comic Strip Museum is as much a tribute to the pioneers as it is a window on today's comics.



Escola Joso – Barcelona, Spain



Escola Joso specialises in comics, illustration, concept art and animation but also has courses on manga, digital creation, tattoo drawing, comics for children, etc. Joso school has been adapted to the necessities of the visual and leisure industry, training high level professionals thanks to the skilled teaching team.

Joso trains future authors and illustrators in the contemporary issues of comics: digitalisation, entrepreneurial stance, rights and understanding of markets. The school enjoys international recognition thanks to privileged partnerships with international festivals such as Quebec BD, BDFIL Lausanne, the Lakes International Comic Art Festival and Lyon BD Festival. Joso also enjoys national renown for the quality of its training modules, making it one of the leading comic book schools in Spain.

Escola Joso is the major European school in number of students specializing in comics (around 1000 students per year).

Lakes International Comic Arts Festival – Kendal, United Kingdom

The Lakes International Comic Arts Festival takes place every year in Kendal, in the north of England and brings together more than 14,000 visitors. Its mission is to promote and celebrate the transformational power of comics by supporting the development of the medium, both with artists and audiences.



Throughout the year, they are committed to supporting young contemporary comics creation and focus on the social impact of comics as a tool for literacy and working with communities.

Lyon BD Organisation – Lyon, France



Lyon BD Organisation (LBDO) is an association created in 2005 on the “initiative of a few friends who have a passion for comics”. Its objectives are to foster paths between comics and other arts and sectors and to extend and diversify comics’ audience. The association is structured into 4 areas of activity:

- **Festival:** Every year, bringing together more than 230 authors and 80,000 people during the month of June in Lyon and around.
- **Events:** Organisation of comics events in France and around the world. For example, LBDO co-produced the NCS Fest in California in 2019.
- **Creation:** Hosting residencies, design and production of shows and exhibitions based on original creations by comics artists.
- **Editions:** Development of editorial projects in conjunction with institutional partners.

The structure is widely supported by the French public authorities. In 2022 a residence and production space dedicated to comics in the heart of Lyon will open.

III. Theme

Living together

Diversity enhances society. Learning about other cultures, being exposed to different values and influences is an enriching experience that broadens the mind and promotes tolerance and the appreciation of difference.

This year, Comic Art Europe is asking comics artists to reflect in their own way on "living together" in the modern world. Through true stories or fictional creations, comic book artists are invited to present projects that illustrate their interpretation of "living together" today.

IV. Conditions of participation

Your project must be focused on the use of the comic art medium and embrace the theme described above. It can be: a comic story, a show including live drawing, a comic exhibition, a digital comic art creation, or almost anything else as long as it makes use of comic art and focuses on the theme "Living together".

Comic Art Europe calls for artists from a broad range of countries! It is aimed at artists who work around comics. Applicants should be 18 or over. The project is open to creators whether they have been published or not.

To complete the application, the applicant must fill out the form below with:

- a high level overview/synopsis of the project in 5 lines in English
You do not have to present a finished comic but the idea of a comic and ideally, footages/insights of this project if you have some
- an explanation of their motivation to apply in English and how their project matches the theme
A motivation letter
- a proposal for an output format
What you will be able to present at our festivals (see IX. Outputs)
- a biography and/or portfolio
Further informations and elements about your work.

If selected, the candidate will:

- receive a 5000€ grant
- go on a two-week residency in one of the partners' city
- present their work in a format to be agreed with the project's partner festivals (e.g. exhibition, installation, graphic novel etc)
- be part of a more global presentation of the project

A contract will be drawn up between the artist and the partners, specifying the conditions of production and distribution of the work. Upon entering any agreement, the artist will commit to completing the project. The partners will cover the costs involved in the artist's residency, the production of the and distribution of the commissioned work. The partners do not undertake to produce the artist's final work.

Applications from the following countries of residence and/or nationality are accepted:

- UE countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden
- Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Iceland, Kosovo, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom

Applicants can only present one project each.

V. Selection process

5 artists will be selected.

We may request further information after the application deadline. The jury comprises the project partners and four European comics experts (to be confirmed).

VI. Calendar

The application deadline for the open call is December 15th, 2021.

Successful candidates will be announced in March 2022.

Contracts will be signed by the end of April 2022.

The residencies will take place over periods to be defined according to the place of residence of each candidate, between May and October 2022. Presentations of the completed work will take place at the 2023 festivals as follows: Lyon BD Festival (June) and the Lakes International Comic Arts Festival (October).

VII. Residencies

Each project partner will be responsible for the residency of one of the five selected artists. Each selected artist will go on a two-week residency in one of the project partner cities (or countries). The artist will have a working space at their disposal and will organize, in conjunction with the partner, meetings which will enable them to work on their project. Each partner will accompany the artist hosted in residency.

Comic Art Europe will cover the following costs:

- Travel costs within a limit of 200€ (flight, train, taxi as appropriate)
- Accommodation for a 2-week period (studio/apartment/hotel)
- Subsistence payment limited to 40€ per day

VIII. Grants

Five grants of €5000 are planned for the selected artists. These bursaries are creative support for the artists. They will be paid in two stages:

- 50% deposit after signature of the contract between the selected artist and the project partners.
- 50% after delivery of the artist's completed work

IX. Outputs presentation

The completed works, called *outputs* will be presented during the project's partner festivals: at LICAF and Lyon BD Festival.

Each applicant will have to make a proposal for an output format around their project which will be presented during the partner festivals (e.g. exhibition, installation, graphic novel, performance, etc.)

X. Rights

The artist commits to inform the project partners if the project presented is already receiving funding from a third party.

The artist undertakes to transfer the distribution rights of their *output* to the project partners.

XI. Force majeure

If a residence is prevented by a case of force majeure, it will be postponed until it can be held as provided for in these conditions, within the limits of the project schedule (possible postponement until November 2022).

If it is impossible to set up the residency as provided for in the present conditions, another residency format will be considered, by mutual agreement between the responsible partner and the selected artist.

In the absence of agreement on a new residency format, an amicable agreement will be drawn up between the responsible partner and the selected artist specifying the financial conditions of this cancellation. Force majeure being defined by the following list: war, riots, earthquakes, hurricanes, lightning, explosions, energy blackouts, unexpected legislation, lockdown or other coronavirus consequences.

XII. Contact

For any further information, please contact the project coordinator, Lisa Weill by email at info@comicareturope.eu



[**Have a look the application form**](#)



[**Apply here**](#)



[**More about the project**](#)

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