

EUREKA SERIES

Fall 2023 Edition

Edited on 13 April 2023

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Introduction

EUREKA SERIES – hereby referred to as “the program” or “the training program” – is a training program initiated and organized by SERIES MANIA (Association du Festival international des séries de Lille / Hauts-de-France) in partnership with LA FEMIS (Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Métiers de l’Image et du Son).

EUREKA SERIES is one of the training programs carried out by SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE. SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE is an initiative created by SERIES MANIA to **train series professionals**, with three main objectives:

- Break down barriers between series professions, to federate writers, directors, producers and broadcasters around a common serial work culture, from live action to animation
- Create a European creative crossroads, thanks to Series Mania’s network, national and international industry and school partners
- Allow all talents to connect with the series industry, regardless of their origins and life paths

EUREKA SERIES is a **10-week training program** targeting **series writers from all over Europe**. Creative producers with a screenwriting background are also welcome to apply. EUREKA SERIES takes place in Lille, in the Hauts-de-France region, with two weeks of remote learning in the middle of the course.

The program is divided into 4 parts:

- Part I - in Lille
- Part II - remotely
- Part III - in Lille
- Part IV - Final Residency in Hauts-de-France region & Final Presentation in Paris

Through lectures, masterclasses, case studies and workshops on group series concepts developed throughout the program, its aim is to **strengthen the common language between series professionals** and **increase their knowledge of the great diversity of production ecosystems on the continent**. This will facilitate future cross-border collaborations and inspire them to transform their local working methods. It will also help them to understand the challenges faced by other series professionals: directors, commissioners, actors, international buyers and sellers, etc.

Objectives:

- Master the creative process of collaborative writing
- Understand how the European television series ecosystems operate
- Acquire the skills to pitch and sell a European television series to investors
- Break down barriers between television professionals to acquire a common work language
- Develop an European network by teaming up with other emerging writers and experienced professionals

To ensure fair representation of the diversity of European series experts and professionals, SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE and LA FEMIS have decided to associate selected schools and institutions with EUREKA SERIES, referred to as “founding partners”. Each of EUREKA SERIES’ founding partners has acquired a high degree of expertise in series-focused training programs and developed a network of experts and professionals in the field of series creation.

2. General description of the process

Up to 15 (fifteen) participants will be selected to take part in the 10-week program.

Once selected, the participants will constitute several **working groups**. Each group will work on an original European series concept to be developed throughout the course of EUREKA SERIES.

In Lille, the participants will take part in **lectures, masterclasses** and **workshops** on their respective group concepts.

Halfway through the training program, all participants will attend several remote, online sessions. These will include professional mentoring, case studies and work on group concepts. Each case study will analyze a recent series with its artistic team (writer(s), creator(s), producer(s), director(s), etc.).

During the last week of EUREKA SERIES, the participants will learn how to pitch their series concepts. This will culminate in a final presentation in front of an audience of industry professionals, including SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE’s partners. Participants will have the opportunity to introduce themselves and their group concepts.

3. Schedule

The timeframe of the EUREKA SERIES SPRING 2023 edition will be structured as follows:

- **17/04/2023**: Launch of the call for applications
- **17/04/2023 – 15/06/2023** : Time period for applications
- **15/06/2023 – 28/06/2023** : Pre-selection of 30 applicants (maximum)
- **28/06/2023**: Official results are sent to pre-selected applicants and published on SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE website. All pre-selected applicants are asked to post a short video presentation on the EUREKA SERIES private online community. The group will remain open for the duration of the submission process. Its goal is to allow for fast and effective dialogue, for participants to find partners for future working groups.

- **03/07/2023:** Deadline for posting videos on the EUREKA SERIES private online community
- **05/07/2023 – 07/07/2023:** Online video interviews with pre-selected applicants
- **10/07/2023:** Final selection results are sent to selected participants
- **July 2022:** According to their personal financial resources, selected participants can request bursaries. SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE will analyze each request and, if relevant, connect participants with sources of financial support.
- **26/09/2023 – 27/10/2023:** EUREKA SERIES introductory seminar, lectures, masterclasses, and workshops in Lille (dates subject to change)
- **28/10/2023 – 12/11/2023:** EUREKA SERIES remote sessions of mentoring, case studies and group writing (dates subject to change)
- **13/11/2023 – 09/12/2023:** EUREKA SERIES lectures, workshops and masterclasses in Lille, and final presentation for invited industry audience (dates subject to change)

All selected participants must be available and physically present for the introductory seminar and all the modules scheduled in Lille. Any unauthorized absence may result in expulsion.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic may affect the schedule and nature of the training program, the organizers of EUREKA SERIES commit themselves to informing the selected participants of any changes to the process described in these Rules & Regulations.

4. Language

The common working language of the program is English: this means that all written and spoken materials, at all steps of the process, must be in English.

The final European series projects can be multilingual, in any European language, although all materials produced throughout the course of EUREKA SERIES must be in English for pedagogical reasons.

5. Participation fees

The tuition fee of EUREKA SERIES is **€3000 (including taxes) per writer participant.**

SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE and LA FEMIS urge all candidates **to anticipate further costs that are not included in the tuition fees:**

- Travel to and from Lille
- Accommodation in Lille (SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE will provide all participants with a list of local options)
- Daily expenses (meals, etc.)

Participants are not chosen on the basis of their financial resources. **Bursaries for tuition fees are available for candidates in financial need.** Our criteria for bursaries are as follows:

- Bursaries are **means-tested**: we analyze all bursary applicants' financial income from the last two years. Each applicant must provide supporting documentation.
- Priority is given to **applicants from low capacity countries.**
- Participant's ability to **seek financial aid from their regional and national funding bodies.**

6. Application rules

Applications must be submitted in accordance with the rules below and within the specified dates.

Applications must be made by **individual candidates.**

To qualify for selection, applications must be made online on the dedicated website page: <https://seriesmania.com/institute/en/eureka-series/call-for-applications/>. No submission by email, post or any other means will be accepted.

All applications are **free of charge.**

Submission to EUREKA SERIES will be open for applications **on April 17, 2023.**

The application deadline is **June 15, 2023** at midnight (CET).

If you have special circumstances and requirements, such as a disability, please let us know so that we can discuss your access needs.

6.1 Eligibility criteria

In order to be eligible, candidates must be 18 years or above and be a citizen of one of the following countries: **Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine or the United Kingdom.** Places may be more limited for citizens of countries outside the European Union.

The organizers of EUREKA SERIES, including staff of SERIES MANIA, LA FEMIS and founding partners who are directly involved in the coordination of EUREKA SERIES, are not able to apply.

The program is aimed at **emerging TV series professionals**, including, but not limited to, alumni of European film and television schools.

Applications made on behalf of production companies, distribution companies, broadcasters, platforms, etc. will not be accepted.

6.2 Conditions and Requirements for Applying for Eureka Series

Applicants who wish to apply to participate in EUREKA SERIES must:

- Meet the eligibility criteria and the threshold conditions for submission¹
- Complete the online registration form
- Provide the following documents in English:
 - **A CV** stating the applicant's professional experience
 - A **cover letter** explaining how the applicant would benefit from EUREKA SERIES (max. 1 page)
 - An extract from a **sample script produced or not** (5 pages minimum, 10 pages maximum – if any script sent is more than 10 pages long, the selection committee will only read the first 10 pages)
Optional : a **link** to previous work as a writer and/or as a producer (broadcast television series or an online series or a short film or a feature film)
 - A **personal analysis of a European series** from the past 10 years, explaining why the participant would have liked to participate in its writing (max 1 page)
 - A completed online form, which also specifies the **applicant's financing capability and need**.
 - A copy of the applicant's **national ID or passport**
 - A **headshot**.

7. Selection process

All written applications that meet the eligibility criteria will be reviewed by the EUREKA SERIES selection committee, which includes representatives from SERIES MANIA and LA FEMIS, between **15 June and 28 June 2023**.

The results of the official selection will be announced by e-mail to pre-selected applicants on **28 June 2023**.

7.1 Online community

All applicants must bear in mind that the purpose of EUREKA SERIES is to create international working groups of participants on European series concepts throughout the training program.

To facilitate the constitution of these working groups during the first weeks of EUREKA SERIES, **all pre-selected applicants must introduce themselves via short videos (3 minutes maximum) and post them on the official, private online community of EUREKA SERIES²**. The video can be shot on a mobile phone. **No external elements (pictures, scenes from series or films, etc.) can be inserted in this video, in which only the pre-selected applicant must be clearly visible, on a neutral background. Video editing should be kept to a minimum.**

¹ Please refer to section **6.1 Eligibility Criteria** of this document

² The private online community will be created upon the announcement of pre-selected applicants, and the link to access it will be sent to pre-selected applicants.

Each video must be shot in English and include the following elements, in this order:

- **Full name, country of origin and professional profile**
- Short presentation of **which kind of stories the pre-selected applicant writes or like writing**
- Short analysis of a scene from a series that made an impression on the pre-selected applicant

The private, online community will be open from June 28, 2023, so that all pre-selected applicants can post their presentation videos and watch videos posted by other pre-selected applicants. It will be run and moderated by the SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE team. The deadline for posting presentation videos is **July 3, 2023**.

7.2 Online video interviews

Each pre-selected applicant will have a **20-minute online video interview with the EUREKA SERIES selection committee on July 5, 6 and 7 2023**. Upon pre-selection, applicants will be contacted individually by the SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE team to confirm the time of their online video interview.

During their online video interview with the EUREKA SERIES selection committee, applicants will be asked to elaborate upon their application, and to tell the committee about their professional experience.

The final results will be sent to the selected participants on July 10, 2023 and published on the SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE website and online community.

7.3 Selection committee

Written applications will be examined by SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE and LA FEMIS.

The video interviews with pre-selected applicants will be conducted by SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE and LA FEMIS.

7.4 Selection criteria

The selection committee will take the following criteria into consideration:

- The applicant's professional experience
- The applicant's openness to collaboration
- The applicant's knowledge of the European series industry

The selection committee will strive for diversity of representation amongst applicants (ethnicity, gender, etc.).

The selection committee reserves the right not to choose any of the applications submitted or to cancel the program, if no suitable proposals are found according to these rules and regulations, or at its discretion.

Any applicant wishing to develop an individual, pre-conceived series project within Eureka Series will be automatically re-directed to other, project-based programs of Series Mania Institute.

8. Intellectual Property

Once the EUREKA SERIES program has started and the working groups have been formed, participants will sign an agreement to collaborate on their group series concepts, whilst under the guidance of EUREKA SERIES' professors and experts.

In the event of a copyright dispute, the parties of these agreements shall proceed to a discussion with an arbitrator to be agreed upon by all parties.

9. Public health context

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, international travel may be disrupted in 2023. The organizers of EUREKA SERIES reserve the right to suspend, cancel or change the activities offered to participants. The organizers commit themselves to informing participants of any changes to the schedule and/or activities of EUREKA SERIES.

Likewise, participants facing personal or professional issues in the current health context are required to contact the organizers immediately and inform them of any restrictions to travel and/or participate in the EUREKA SERIES training program.

10. Confidentiality and communication

All documents and information supplied through the application process are strictly confidential and will not be published for any reason.

A list of the selected participants may be used for communication purposes and published online and in the press.

If a series developed during EUREKA SERIES is produced and broadcast, participants will be required to publicise the involvement of SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE in the credits, using the logo provided by SERIES MANIA.

11. Contact

For further information, please contact the EUREKA SERIES team at smi@seriesmania.com.