

EUREKA SERIES

FALL 2024 Edition

Edited on April 9, 2024

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).

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:

- Sharing European expertise to create a network of cooperation between professionals across the continent
- Decentralizing the TV series industry to fluidify the creative process and respond to increasing production volumes
- Opening up the sector to diverse backgrounds and origins to enable all talent to access TV and creative professions

EUREKA SERIES is a **10-week training program** to experience a European writers room and develop collaborative writing skills by developing an original series concept in groups, advised by series professionals.

EUREKA SERIES takes place in Lille, in the Hauts-de-France region, with two weeks of remote learning in the middle of the course.

Objectives:

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

2. General description of the program

Up to 12 (twelve) participants will be selected to take part in the 10-week program.

Divided into groups after a few days of training, participants learn to collaboratively write by developing original series concepts. Each group will be accompanied by a writer mentor throughout the training.

Additionally, each week is dedicated to a specific aspect of series creation taught by professional tutors, such as defining a concept, characters and season development, and understanding the European and international series landscape.



During the Final residency in the last week of the program, participants learn how to pitch their series concepts in a quiet and pleasant environment.

The training culminated with a Final presentation, during which each original series concepts is pitched and assessed by a professional panel.

3. Schedule

The timeframe of the EUREKA SERIES FALL 2024 edition will be structured as follows:

- **April 17:** Launch of the call for applications
- **From April 17 to June 7, 2024:** Time period for applications
- **From June 7 to June 19, 2024:** Pre-selection of 30 applicants (maximum)
- **June 19, 2024:** 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.
- **June 26, 2024:** Deadline for posting videos on the EUREKA SERIES private online community
- **July 1-2-3, 2024:** Online video interviews with pre-selected applicants
- **July 5, 2024:** Final selection results are sent to selected participants
- **From July 5 to 15, 2024:** 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.
- **From September 24 to December 6, 2024:** Launch of EUREKA SERIES

All selected participants must be available and physically present for the 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 **€3500 (including taxes) per participant.**



Participants are not chosen on the basis of their financial resources.

Series Mania Institute offers some **bursaries** for a limited number of participants, depending on their incomes. Bursary requests must be made by email at the initiative of the participant upon their selection. Series Mania Institute will analyze each bursary request according to personal financial resources.

6. Application rules

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

To qualify for selection, applications must be made online on the dedicated website page.

No submission by email, post or any other means will be accepted.

All applications are **free of charge**.

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

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

The program is aimed at **European emerging screenwriters, with a strong professional interest in series writing**.

Are welcome to apply: Recent alumni of film and television schools, Audiovisual professionals retraining to screenwriting, Experienced screenwriters in other formats (short, features, animation...).

Requirements: Selected applicants must have already written a script (TV series, online series, short film or feature film), whether or not it has been produced.

In order to be eligible, candidates must be over 18 years old or above, have the desire to work in Europe in their professional future, and hold nationality or a long-term residence permit from one of the following countries: **Albania, Andorra, 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, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine or the United Kingdom**. Places may be more limited for applicants of countries outside the European Union.

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

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**
 - A **cover letter**
 - A **dramaturgical analysis of a European series** (max 1 page)
 - 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.

The results of the official selection will be announced by e-mail to pre-selected applicants **in Mid-June 2024**.

7.1 Online community

All pre-selected applicants must introduce themselves via **short videos (3 minutes maximum)** and post them on the official, **private online community of EUREKA SERIES**². 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.

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 applicant

The private, online community will be open when the pre-selection is announced. It will be run and moderated by the SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE team.

7.2 Online video interviews

Each pre-selected applicant will have a **20-minute online video interview with the EUREKA SERIES pedagogical team in early July 2024**. 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 interview, applicants will be asked to elaborate upon their application, and to explain their professional experience and their expectations in participating in the training program.

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.



The final results will be sent to the selected participants in early July 2024 and published on the SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE website.

7.3 Selection committee

Written applications will be examined by SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE.

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

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 series project within Eureka Series will be automatically re-directed to other, project-based programs of Series Mania Institute.

8. Obligation of means

The training program complies with an educational policy drawn up by Series Mania Institute. The organizers undertake to use all the means at his disposal to guarantee the success and transmission of the educational objectives presented.

9. Intellectual Property

The training program and its training content are the property of Series Mania Institute.

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' tutors and experts.

In the event of a copyright dispute, the parties shall proceed to a discussion with a mediator to find an agreement accepted by all parties.

10. Public health context

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, international travel may be disrupted. 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.

11. 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.

12. Contact

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