

SERIAL BRIDGES - ISTANBUL

Istanbul, November 18-22, 2024

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Introduction

Serial Bridges - Istanbul (“workshop”) is a training program conceived, organized, and delivered by SERIES MANIA INSTITUTE, the educational arm of SERIES MANIA FESTIVAL.

SERIES MANIA is internationally recognized as a major festival for high-quality series and it organizes a professional forum aiming to stimulate international co-production.

The Workshop is made upon the demand from Institut Francais d’Istanbul in partnership with M2Lab.

2. General description of the process

Up to 8 projects will be selected to take part in the Workshop. Each project will be carried by a team composed by one Producer and one writer or ‘Showrunner’ (Head of writing or Writer / Director).

The selected participants will take part in the Workshop that will be spread over 5 consecutive days, in Istanbul, November 18 to 22, 2024.

The aim of the Workshop is to give the participants a good understanding of the international market of series and practical advisory on how to bring their series project to the international scene & to the European co-production and co-financing market.

3. Schedule

The timeframe of the residency will be structured as follows:

- Wednesday 10/07/2024: Opening of the call for applications.
- Tuesday 10/09/2024 (5pm CET): Deadline for applications.
- Early October 2024: Announcement of results (by e-mail to all applicants)
- Monday 18/11/2024 to Thursday 04/11/2024: Workshop in Istanbul (exact location to be determined)

All the members of each selected team must be available and participate in the whole workshop. Any absence without a proper justification can cause the exclusion of the project and the refunding of the expenses already incurred (accommodation etc.)

4. Language

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

5. Participation fees

The *Workshop* is **totally free of charge** for the participants.

All accommodation and travel expenses will be covered by the sponsors of this workshop.

6. Application rules

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

6.1. Teams

Applications must be made by **a team composed of one Producer and one writer or 'Showrunner'** (i.e. Head of writing or Writer / director).

To qualify as writer or 'Showrunner', the applicant must have either:

- written at least 2 episodes in a drama series (30/60 minutes) that has been produced and broadcast, or
- written a series that was produced and aired on the internet, with the sum of the episodes exceeding 70 minutes, or
- be credited as writer or director of a feature film shown at an international festival and/or released in theaters.

To qualify as 'Producer', the applicant must have

- produced drama series (minimum of 4 episodes of 30/60 minutes) that has been broadcast on a TV channel or streaming platform, or,
- produced a feature film shown at an international festival or in movie theaters.

6.2. Application requirements and materials

Applications can be made only by teams. Individual applications are not accepted.

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

<https://submissions-series-mania.festicine.fr/en/serial-bridges-istanbul>

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

The submitted projects must meet the following requirements:

- Category: **Series only** (TV movies, feature films etc. will not be accepted)
- Length: between 20 and 60 minutes per episode
- Genre: **fiction series only** (animation or documentaries will not be accepted)
- Only original concepts for seasons 1 will be accepted. Remakes from foreign or domestic series, seasons 2 or returning shows will not be accepted.

When applying, each team must provide the following elements **at once**, as it is **not** possible to save and return to your application :

- The [online application form](#) fully in English

- A pre-bible (5 page maximum) of the series you wish to work on during the workshop. It should include a one-sentence presentation of the series ("logline"), a synopsis of the season, a description of its narrative arcs and characters, and a writer's statement.
- A resume presenting the professional experience of each participant.

All applications are totally **free of charge**.

Submission to the residency will be open for applications **on Wednesday July 10th 2024**. **The application deadline is on September 10th, 2024** at 5:00 pm (CET).

7. Selection process

The results of the official selection will be announced by e-mail to the candidates at the beginning of October 2024

7.1. Selection committee

The applications will be examined by a selection committee composed by professionals from the series industry.

7.2. Selection criteria

The selection committee will take in consideration the following criteria:

- The artistic value of the project
- The experience of the team
- The international potential of the project and the market appeal of the project according to the industry needs
- The originality of the concept compared to other series already available in the international market

A good gender balance between the teams will also be considered by the committee as a positive criterion, although it is not necessary for the application.

8. Intellectual Property

Applicants must own all the rights on the submitted project. It means that no option, agreement or contract with a production company, a broadcaster or a platform can be signed while doing the application and during the whole residency process.

9. Disputes

Each team acknowledge that they are working together in partnership to develop the story they have been selected with. **In case of a dispute, each team must either resolve their differences on their own or choose to all opt out.**

10. Confidentiality and communication

All the documents and information supplied within the submission are strictly confidential and will not be published for any reason.