

L'ATENEDEI RACCONTI 2026-2027
16th edition

THE ONLY CONTEST THAT BRINGS YOUR STORY FROM THE PAGE TO THE STAGE

Opera Universitaria of Trento, in collaboration with the Associazione Teatrale Universitaria - ATU and the Centro Servizi Culturali Santa Chiara, is launching the sixteenth edition of the contest L'Ateneo dei Racconti (2026/2027), with the aim of promoting and enhancing writing and self-expression among university students.

The competition is dedicated to short stories and, following an initial selection, offers participants the opportunity to perform their work on stage in a theatrical/performance version, with the support of both theatre professionals and a group of collaborating students. The competition is held annually. Up to a maximum of 10 finalist stories will be presented to the public over three evenings in April 2027, following a participatory production process starting in January 2027.

1. PARTICIPANTS

The call is open to students or PhD students enrolled at the University of Trento, the F.A. Bonporti Conservatory of Trento, the Trentino Art Academy, and the Higher School for Language Mediators (SSML), or enrolled at other Italian universities, provided they are resident in the Province of Trento.

2. HOW TO APPLY

Each candidate may participate with a single short story in Italian or in English, with a maximum length of 8,000 characters, including spaces. Submissions must be unpublished, never published by any publisher in print or ebook format, not bound by contractual agreements, and not awarded in other competitions. Authors have total freedom regarding the choice of the topic and content of their submitted story.

All stories must feature a title, but must not bear the author's name.

The call for application can be downloaded from the website www.operauni.tn.it. Participation is free of charge and must be submitted online by **January 8th, 2027**, by completing all parts of the [form](#) available on www.operauni.tn.it and attaching the story in PDF format (font required: "Times New Roman" - 12pt - single line spacing).

Stories sent via email or post will not be accepted.

Each participant will receive a confirmation receipt by email.

The organizers reserve the right to cancel or suspend the competition at any time if an adequate number of stories is not reached or if circumstances arise that render the continuation of the initiative impossible or inappropriate. In such cases, no responsibility may be attributed to the organization, and no compensation will be due to participants.

3. COMPETITION STAGES

I. Selection of stories

Submissions received by the deadline and meeting the call's requirements will be submitted in strictly anonymous form to the Artistic Direction, which will select the 10 finalist stories. By Friday January 15th, 2027, all participants will be notified regarding their admission to the final phase of the Contest.

II. Editing workshop

To access the final phase of the competition, selected authors are required to attend a free story development and editing workshop led by two industry experts.

The workshop will take place on Saturday and Sunday January 23rd and 24th 2027, from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM in Trento.

If, due to force majeure, full attendance at the workshop proves difficult, the Artistic Direction reserves the right to evaluate whether or not to admit the selected participant to the final phase.

For the continuation of the competition and the awarding of prizes, the texts submitted at the end of the two-day workshop will be binding.

III. Preparation of the Performance / Theatrical Adaptation

Following the workshop, the authors of the finalist stories will undertake a participatory process to adapt their text into a performance version, which will be presented to the public in April 2027 at the Teatro Sanbàpolis in Trento. The adaptation and staging process allows for the involvement of non-professional collaborators who can support the author on stage, behind the scenes, or in producing materials and content (video, music, set design, etc.), subject to the approval of the Artistic Direction.

Participation in this stage and the theatrical adaptation of the story, while strongly recommended, are not mandatory. Should an author be unable to personally work on the staging, the organization reserves the right to present the work on stage anyway, entrusting it to ATU and other collaborators, **out of competition**.

The entire project will conclude over three evenings at the Teatro Sanbàpolis on April 13th, 20th and 27th, 2027.

4. WINNERS AND PRIZES

All students selected for the final phase of AdR are entitled to participate free of charge in the text editing workshop and the performance staging process.

The ten stories in the version finalized during the workshop will be published in a collection volume produced for the occasion.

The competition features two sections: the Literary section and the Performance section.

In the **literary section**, two prizes will be awarded: the best story as judged by a jury of three industry experts, and the best story judged by a student jury from the University of Trento, coordinated by the Artistic Direction.

In the **performance section**, two other prizes will be awarded: the best performance judged by a jury of three industry experts, and the best performance voted by the audience in attendance using the following system: the two most voted performances on each evening will be staged again and voted upon for the award of the final prize.

The decisions of the Juries are final and unappealable.

Prizes will be defined during the course of the event.

Prizes cannot be combined within the same section.

5. PUBLICATION AND PROMOTION

The competition will promote winning works and finalist stories through the publication of a booklet/anthology, which will be distributed at cultural events and published on the website www.operauni.tn.it.

Additional educational initiatives or supplementary prizes may be introduced by the Artistic Direction and Opera Universitaria during the year.

6. WAIVER AND PRIVACY POLICY

Regarding the processing of personal data provided for registration/selection/participation in the competition pursuant to Art. 13 EU Reg. 2016/679, please note the following:

Data Controller and Data Protection Officer (RPD/DPO).

The Data Controller is Opera Universitaria, registered office in Trento, via della Malpensada 82/A, email operauniversitaria@pec.operauni.tn.it (hereinafter "Opera" or "Controller"). Contact details of the Data Protection Officer (RPD/DPO) appointed by Opera: dpo@operauni.tn.it. Additional independent Data Controllers, directly and exclusively responsible for their respective activities, are the co-organizers: Associazione Teatrale Universitaria and Centro Servizi Culturali Santa Chiara.

Type of data processed, purpose, and legal basis.

Collected personal data includes: a) common personal data (name, surname, address, personal details, phone number, email) and photographs ; b) performance and artistic/professional details (biography, performance scripts); c) photographs, images, video recordings, and any other biographical information.

The above data are processed for: competition registration and selection; producing performance videos and recordings of the final night; publishing videos for promotional/informational purposes; internal archiving of the cultural events.

The legal basis for data processing is: the performance of contractual obligations regarding participation, and legitimate interest of the controller for dissemination/archival purposes.

Data Recipients / Communication to Third Parties.

Data may be shared with internal and external collaborators (Artistic Director, website management company, photographers, video production team, ATU, Centro Servizi Culturali Santa Chiara, etc., and other parties eventually involved during the phases of the contest).

Data Transfer to Third Countries.

Data is not transferred to Third Countries directly. Any future transfer will strictly comply with Art. 44 et seq. GDPR 2016/679.

Processing methods, retention period, and criteria.

Data will be processed in paper and digital formats for the time necessary to achieve the stated purposes and subsequently for educational, archiving, artistic, and public information purposes.

Provision of data.

The provision of data is mandatory for the selection/registration/participation in the Competition and the execution of the indicated purposes. Failure to provide data therefore prevents the execution of said purposes. By participating in the Competition, contestants accept the rules of the Call and authorize the processing of their personal data by Opera for the purposes of participation and dissemination of the Competition and the materials submitted. The materials used must not infringe third-party copyright. By participating in the Competition, contestants provide an express royalty-free release for the use by Opera and the third-party entities involved of the materials as an archive and for promotional initiatives of the event, the recording and broadcasting or dissemination in various forms, including social channels, web, and web radio, of the selection evenings of the Competition or other materials resulting from the process, free of charge.

Rights of the data subject, Revocation of consent, and Complaint to the Supervisory Authority.

The data subject has the right at any time to request access to their personal data, rectification, erasure, restriction thereof, to object to processing, and to exercise the right to data portability where the legal conditions are met. In any case, the data subject has the right to revoke any consent given for data processing at any time, without affecting the lawfulness of processing based on consent given before the revocation. In the event of an alleged violation, the data subject, where conditions are met, also has the right to lodge a complaint with a data protection Supervisory Authority located in the EU Member State where they habitually reside, where they work, or where the violation occurred.

Profiling and automated decision-making.

Processing is not carried out through automated decision-making processes (e.g., profiling).

Contacts and requests.

To revoke any consent given for processing, exercise your rights (access, rectification, erasure, restriction, objection, portability) regarding the processing carried out, obtain further information including the list and names of external entities to whom data are communicated, any data transfers to non-EU countries, the transfer mechanisms and safeguards pursuant to Art. 44 et seq. of the GDPR, and for any other communication, you may send a request to the contact:

operauniversitaria@pec.operauni.tn.it

INFO

Opera Universitaria - Ufficio Cultura
Via della Malpensada, 82/A
38123 TRENTO
tel. 0461.217492/217460

www.operauni.tn.it



In collaborazione con:

