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| Centro di Cultura e iniziativa  
teatrale "Mario Apollonio"

## CALL FOR PARTICIPATION THAUMA FESTIVAL 2025 11<sup>th</sup> edition

ANCIENT THEATRE ON STAGE  
PLAYING GREEK TRAGEDIES

for high schools

For 2025, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, through the "Mario Apollonio" Centre for Culture and Theatre (CIT), the Graduate School of Media, Communications and Performing Arts (ALMED) and the Associazione Kerkís. Teatro Antico In Scena (Kerkis Association. Ancient Theatre on Stage), proposes the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the Thagma Festival, with two types of competition:

- A) **Thagma Festival at the theatre** (*in attendance*).
- B) **Thagma Festival "Playing Greek Tragedies"** (*online*) in collaboration with Out of Chaos and the Center for Hellenic Studies (Harvard University).



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## A) THAUMA FESTIVAL AT THE THEATRE (IN ATTENDANCE)

### Competition:

7 - 9 May 2025 - at the PIME Theatre, via Mosè Bianchi 94, Milan

### Award ceremony:

10 May 2025, 3 p.m. - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Largo Gemelli 1, Milan

### 1. Presentation

The competition consists in the staging of a play of ancient theatre to be chosen among a tragedy, a comedy, an epic song or a dialogue from the classical Greek and Latin repertoire, **lasting up to 50 minutes** to be performed live, at the PIME Theatre in Milan, from a choice of the following options:

- **workshop production:** a performance with theatrical unity and meaning on even a limited portion of the text, in the form of a 'study', **lasting up to 40 minutes**;
- **play:** a performance with unity and its own wholeness, with attention to the various aspects of the show, **lasting up to 50 minutes**.

High school students who apply through their institutions to perform a play/workshop production, according to the instructions in this announcement, may participate.

The selection of participants in the in-person competition will take place in two separate stages, which will run in parallel over the same period of time, from **September 16, 2024**, to **November 15, 2024**:

- an initial *application* phase, during which participation applications from interested schools will be collected;
- a second *registration* phase, during which the selected institutes will be asked to definitively register for the competition and *pay* the corresponding registration fee.

### 2. Application

*Application deadline:* from **September 16, 2024**, to **November 15, 2024**.

*Application procedure*

You are requested to complete the online application via the following [link](#).



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The form will include a space in which to describe the project from a teacher and/or tutor who is a guarantor of the show or project.

If there are any changes of the information provided, after sending the online application form, these must be sent via e-mail to [festival.thauma@unicatt.it](mailto:festival.thauma@unicatt.it) by **February 3, 2025**, at the latest.

The competition admits a maximum of 16 performances in attendance. The order of arrival of the applications will constitute the admission criteria (admissibility will be attested by the date and time of application recorded by the system).

The group involved in the show may be interclass or single class and may also include students who graduated from high school no more than two school years ago.

### 3. Registration

*Registration period:* from **September 16, 2024**, to **November 15, 2024**.

#### *Registration procedure*

The first 16 candidate plays/workshop productions will be sent confirmation of selection by the Festival Secretariat and will be notified to register through a **special online form**, sent by email. Therefore, interested parties are advised to apply and register as soon as possible to ensure their participation in the competition.

No further performances will be admitted to the calendar beyond the 16<sup>th</sup> entry.

The list of accepted applications will be published online on **November 25, 2024** on the relevant page of the [Cattolicaper la Scuola](http://Cattolicaper la Scuola) website, in the "Servizi per studenti e famiglie" (Services for students and families) section under "Nuovo Bando Festival Thauma" (New Call for Participation Thauma Festival).

Applications subsequent to the 16<sup>th</sup> will enter a waiting list and will only be selected proceeding down the list if one or more of the top 16 participants withdraw by **November 29, 2024**.

### 4. Participation fee

It is requested to pay a **fee of € 180**, according to the modalities foreseen in the Call for Participation and the application form. Bank details will be communicated by email in response to the submission of the application.

Should the school wish to receive photographic material and video recordings of its play/workshop production at the end of the Festival (within 15 days from the date of the award ceremony), the total contribution to be paid will be **€ 280**.

Payment of the participation fee will be due **no later than November 15, 2024**.

Failure to pay by the deadline will result in exclusion from the competition in favour of other participants selected according to the application order ranking.



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The participation fee is defined as follows:

- Private schools: registration fee + VAT 22%.
- State schools: the net amount must be paid to us as it is subject to the split payment regime, after sending the invoicing data (school header, tax code and VAT number, CUP or CIG, univocal code) to [consulenza.progetti@unicatt.it](mailto:consulenza.progetti@unicatt.it) and receiving the invoice electronically.
- Any special cases will be assessed on an individual basis.

Note: there will be no reimbursement of the participation fee for institutions that decide to withdraw.

## 5. The contest

The in-person contest will take place **from May 7 to May 9, 2025**, at the PIME Theatre, via Mosè Bianchi 94, Milan.

All participants are invited to experience the proposal of the Thagma Festival by attending the plays/workshop productions of the other contestants. This experience offers a stimulating opportunity for a critical examination of classical theatre. In particular, it is suggested to participant schools be present from the beginning to the end of the whole day of their contest and at to the award ceremony scheduled for **May 10, 2025**, at 3 p.m. in Università Cattolica.

Reference text: a tragedy, a comedy, an epic song, a dialogue from the classical Greek and Latin repertoire, in a translation of your choice.

Workshop production: up to 40 minutes.

Play: up to 50 minutes.

Set design elements are the responsibility of the participants. A technical sheet with the theatre's equipment will be provided.

The Thagma Festival does not provide a technician to operate the lighting and sound system (except to illustrate the operation of the equipment and to be of support in case of need). Therefore, the scenographic and technical aspects will be the responsibility of each group participating in the contest. Any technical needs or requests for bulky and difficult-to-transport props (e.g. tables, chairs, etc.) must be communicated at the time of registration, **no later than March 3, 2025**.

Any **SIAE (Italian Society of Authors and Publishers) fees** will be borne by Università Cattolica, subject to compulsory completion for participation in the Festival of the appropriate form (sent to each school by email after 15 November 2024) by March 3, 2025.



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## B) THAUMA FESTIVAL 'PLAYING Greek Tragedies' (ONLINE)

### Competition:

video link to be sent to [festival.thauma@unicatt.it](mailto:festival.thauma@unicatt.it) by **3 March 2025** at the latest.

### Award ceremony:

**10 May 2025**, 3 p.m. - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Largo Gemelli 1, Milan (also via streaming).

### 1. Presentation

The online competition consists in the realisation of a video-recorded play of a free selection of verses from the comedy *Amphitryon* by Plautus (**from 75 up to 150 verses**) lasting up to **12 minutes**.

### 2. Application

*Application deadline:* from **September 16, 2024**, to **November 15, 2024**.

#### *Application submission*

You are requested to complete the online application via the following [link](#).

The form will include a space in which to describe the project from a teacher and/or tutor who is a guarantor of the show or project.

The chosen section of verses from Plautus' *Amphitryon* and the final title of the performance will also be requested.

If there are any changes to the information provided, after sending the online application form, these must be sent by e-mail to [festival.thauma@unicatt.it](mailto:festival.thauma@unicatt.it) by **February 3, 2025**, at the latest.

There is no limit to the number of schools admitted. The same school may participate with more than one show. Each student can participate in the realization of one show only. The group involved in each show may be interclass or single class and may also include students who completed high school no more than two school years ago.

The list of accepted applications will be published online on **November 25, 2024** on the relevant page of the [Cattolicaper la Scuola](#) website, in the "*Servizi per studenti e famiglie*" (Services for students and families) section under "Nuovo Bando Festival Thauma" (New Call for Participation Thauma Festival).



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### 3. Registration

*Registration procedure and timeframe:* from **September 16, 2024**, to **November 15, 2024**.

All candidate schools will be sent confirmation of selection by the Festival Secretariat and will be notified to **register via a special online form**, sent by email.

### 4. Participation fee

It is required to pay a **fee of € 120**, according to the modalities foreseen by the Call for Participation and the application form. Bank details will be communicated by email in response to the submission of the application.

Payment of the registration fee will be due **no later than November 15, 2024**.

Failure to pay by the deadline will result in exclusion from the competition.

The participation fee is defined as follows:

- Private schools: registration fee + VAT 22%.
- State schools: the net amount must be paid to us as it is subject to the split payment regime, after sending us the invoicing data (school header, tax code and VAT number, CUP or CIG, univocal code) to [consulenza.progetti@unicatt.it](mailto:consulenza.progetti@unicatt.it) and receiving the invoice electronically.
- Any special cases will be assessed on an individual basis.

Note: there will be no reimbursement of the participation fee for institutions that decide to withdraw.

### 5. The contest

Each participating group will send a video of the staging of verses from Plautus' *Amphitryon*, indicated in point 1.

The video, maximum **12 minutes** long, must be uploaded to Vimeo or YouTube:

- if on Vimeo, the video must be private and password protected;
- if on YouTube, after uploading the video, "not listed" must be selected for "visibility".

The link to the video must be shared with [festival.thauma@unicatt.it](mailto:festival.thauma@unicatt.it) **no later than March 3, 2025**.

The verification of consent forms for publication on the internet is the responsibility of the participants. The University will require the completion of a consent form for publication of the videos on its social media channels following the award ceremony.

It will be the responsibility of the group involved in the production of the show to choose a translation of the verses that corresponds to the type of staging designed or to create an *ad-hoc* one.



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## 6. The award ceremony

The award ceremony will take place on **May 10, 2025**, at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore - Milan campus, at 3 p.m., also via streaming.

**A) For the “play” type of the Thama Festival at the theatre (*in attendance*), the following prizes will be awarded:**

- ✓ The best overall performance
- ✓ The best choral work
- ✓ The most artistically original solution

**B) For the “workshop production” type of the Thama Festival at the theatre (*in attendance*), the following prizes will be awarded:**

- ✓ The best workshop performance
- ✓ The best choral work
- ✓ The most artistically original solution

**C) For the Thama Festival “Playing Greek Tragedies” (*online*) the award to be assigned is:**

- ✓ The best video overall

### Nomination

Performances and interpreters of particular value, that are worthy of mention, will be pointed out.

### Certificates and Awards

The winning plays, workshop productions and videos will be awarded with a special plaque or trophy.

An Open Badge will also be issued by Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore for each participating student.

## 7. The Jury

The Jury will be composed of a selection of experts and professionals of considerable fame, artists, professors, university students.

For in-person plays, the evaluation criteria will take the following aspects into account:

1. the coherence of the chosen text with the Festival theme;
2. the interpretive approach to the reference text (also considering the translation adopted);
3. the quality of the relationship among all the performers on stage;
4. the directing and acting ability to convey the sense of the theatrical text by reaching the audience;
5. the good stage presence of the actors in each role entrusted with expressive body movements and care of the voice;





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6. attention to the choral and musical dimension of the ancient text;
7. the consistency between the intentions expressed in the paper documentation and the realisation on stage;
8. compliance with time limits.

For the workshop productions, the evaluation criteria will take the following aspects into account:

1. the coherence of the chosen text with the Festival theme;
2. the interpretive approach to the reference text (also considering the translation adopted);
3. the quality of the relationship among all the performers on stage;
4. the working method;
5. attention to the choral and musical dimension of the ancient text;
6. the consistency between the intentions expressed in the paper documentation and the realisation on stage;
7. compliance with time limits.

For videos, the evaluation criteria will take the following aspects into account:

1. a script consistent with the theme of the Festival;
2. good coordination between the selection of the text and the proposed interpretation;
3. coherence in one of two choices, either a cinematographic effect or theatricality;
4. the good stage presence of the actors in each role entrusted (expressiveness of body movements and voice care);
5. the quality of the relationship among all the performers involved on stage;
6. mastery of the techniques required to communicate a text through the digital medium;
7. the consistency between the intentions expressed in the paper documentation and the video realisation;
8. compliance with time limits.





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## Contacts

### **Festival Secretariat:**

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Postgraduate Education and Research Partnership Management - Consulting and Projects

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### **Festival Direction:**

Prof. Elisabetta Matelli

Professor in History of Greek and Latin Theatre, Classical Rhetoric, Workshop of Dramaturgy in

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