



**ILLUSTRAMENTE**

FESTIVAL DELL'ILLUSTRAZIONE  
E DELLA LETTERATURA PER L'INFANZIA

**CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATION  
AND NARRATIVE/ANECDOTE COMPETITION  
BY ILLUSTRAMENTE**

**“ GIUFÀ COMES FROM THE SEA ”**

A SUBMERGED TREASURE TO BE BROUGHT  
TO LIGHT, PROTECTED, AND ENHANCED

MEDITERRANEAN ILLUSTRATION 'LIVIO SOSSI'  
1<sup>ST</sup> EDITION

**COMPETITION  
ANNOUNCEMENT**



**CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATION  
AND NARRATIVE/ANECDOTE COMPETITION**

**“GIUFÀ COMES FROM THE SEA”**

**MEDITERRANEAN ILLUSTRATION AWARD**

**LIVIO SOSSI**

**1<sup>ST</sup> EDITION**

**Illustramente** ([www.illustramente.it](http://www.illustramente.it)) organizes the Children's illustration - and narrative anecdote competition - **“Giufà Comes from the Sea”** with the collaboration of the **Italian Cultural Institutes of Krakow** (Poland) and **Valletta** (Malta).

The competition is open to all students of lower and upper secondary schools. On this occasion, the first edition of the “Mediterranean Illustration Award Livio Sossi” is announced.

**Participation for schools is free.** The competition is also open to emerging illustrators.

**The competition is organized in collaboration with**

**Città di Palermo - Department of Culture; Drosselmeier Academy; Arabic Cultural Institute of the Catholic University of Milan, Heritage European Fairytale Route; Service Group for Children's Literature; Institute of Higher Culture Orestiad Foundation Onlus; The Roads of Apulia – Department of Tourism of the Apulia Region; Naxos Reads (Naxos Legge) Festival.**

**And in collaboration with**

**Italian Ministry of Education and Merit** - General Directorate for Students, Inclusion, and School Guidance - OFFICE IV - Intercultural Education and Integration of Foreign Students; **Sicilian Region** - Department of Cultural Heritage and Sicilian Identity - Superintendency for Cultural and Environmental Heritage of Trapani - BiblioTP Library Network.

**In partnership with**

**All Broadcast 4K, Fotograph Digital Printer, Giufà Project, Theatre Degart** and the publishing house **Aurea Nox**.

The competition will be preceded by a **online free training session exclusively for registered participants**, led by professionals in Mediterranean biodiversity, illustration, and storytelling. The aim is to raise awareness, develop skills, and support young talents, particularly school students, in their participation.

**The competition will be promoted nationally and internationally.**

Throughout the year, various initiatives will be held to raise awareness of the character Giufà, with the support of co-organizers and partners in the **municipalities of Palermo, Gibellina, and Giardini-Naxos**.

The programs will be published on the Illustramente website and social media pages.

The competition is organized within the **XII edition of Illustramente - Festival of Illustration and Children's Literature**, titled **“Giufà: A journey through Mediterranean cultures and beyond**. A character that serves as a bridge to unite peoples and traditions,” already sponsored by the **German Embassy**, the **Embassy of Cyprus**, **Drosselmeier Academy**, **Lauro**

**Chiazzese Foundation for Art and Culture, Carlo Collodi National Foundation, Sicily Foundation and ISPRA - Higher Institute for Environmental Protection and Research.** It also has the moral patronage of the **Dante Alighieri Society, University of Palermo, Department of Humanities and Department of Psychological, Pedagogical, Physical Exercise and Training Sciences.**

Additionally, the municipalities of **Acquedolci, Caltagirone, Capo D'Orlando, Cefalù, Giardini Naxos, Mirto and Ucria** support the initiative.

The event is further strengthened through collaborations with the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation** - General Directorate for Public and Cultural Diplomacy, and the **Sicilian Region** - Superintendence for Cultural and Environmental Heritage, including its Architectural, Landscape, Archaeological, and Bibliographic sections in Palermo. This initiative is made possible thanks to the support of the **Center for Books and Reading (CEPELL)** under the **Italian Ministry of Culture.**

## COMPETITION RULES

**Article 1** – The award is dedicated to the memory of Professor **Livio Sossi** (Trieste, 1951-2019), one of the leading experts in children's illustration and literature. He was a university professor, essayist, and a passionate promoter of books and children's culture. Since 2013, he had been a member of the organizational committee of Illustramente. Professor Sossi was a mentor, a friend, and a brother. A true “bridge builder”, he loved young people and Sicily even more than a native Sicilian. The purpose of this award in his honor is to promote children's literature and illustration through the works of talented artists.

**Article 2** – The “Giufà Comes from the Sea” children's illustration and narrative/anecdote competition aims to encourage the creation of illustrations and new anecdotes inspired by traditional folk stories about the character Giufà. The scientific accuracy in representing or describing species currently found in the Mediterranean, or historically documented, will be considered a rewarding criterion.

**Article 2/a** – Illustrations may be created using traditional or digital techniques.

Format: Illustrations must be created on paper or cardboard (minimum weight of 150 g/m<sup>2</sup>) in A3 format (29.7×42 cm). For digital works, the file must have the same dimensions (A3) and a resolution of 300 DPI in RGB color mode.

**Article 2/b** – Illustrations may also be entirely created using Artificial Intelligence. In this case, the platform(s) used must be specified (credits).

**Article 2/c** – Text/Anecdote: The text (maximum 5,000 characters including spaces) must be submitted in PDF format and should not be included within the illustration.

## COMPETITION SPECIFICATIONS

### Article 3 - Participation

Participation in the competition is free for schools and open to emerging artists of any nationality, place of origin, or residence, with no age limit. For minors participating in the novice category, written authorization is required from the person holding parental authority, which must be sent by email to [concorso2025@illustramente.it](mailto:concorso2025@illustramente.it).

### Article 4 - Eligible Participants

- All school students aged between 11 and 18.
- Emerging artists.

## **Article 5 - Participation Categories**

A - Illustration (created using traditional, digital, or mixed techniques)

- All school students aged between 11 and 18;
- Emerging illustrators.

B - Illustration (created entirely using Artificial Intelligence)

- All school students aged between 11 and 18;
- Open to emerging illustrators.

C - Narrative/Anecdote (without the use of Artificial Intelligence)

- All school students aged between 11 and 18;
- Open to emerging writers.

Participants may enter only one illustration category (A or B) only. However, those participating in the Narrative/Anecdote category (C) may also submit an entry in one of the illustration categories.

## **Art. 6 – Application**

- Participation is free for schools.
- For the “Emerging Artists” category, a **participation fee of €15.00 is required**, payable to **BANCA ETICA FILIALE PALERMO IT68T050180460000017282484**.

The application will be confirmed after the payment, and the fee must be paid by 2:00 PM on May 30, 2025.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

**Art. 7 – To participate** in the competition, applicants must complete the online registration form corresponding to their chosen category. Here the registration links:

**For schools** (both for illustrations and narrative/anecdotes)

<https://bit.ly/4ig79HX>

**For emerging artists** (Category A - Traditional/Digital Illustration and Category B - AI-Generated Illustration)

<https://bit.ly/3QA9MIQ>

**For emerging writers** (Category C - Narrative/Anecdotes without the use of AI)

<https://bit.ly/43ekQmG>

The deadline for all categories is by 2:00 PM on May 30, 2025.

A bibliography of texts dedicated to Giufà (MS-Word format) can be downloaded from the following link

<https://www.illustramente.it/Bibliografia-Giufa.docx>

## SUBMISSION OF WORKS - DEADLINE

**Article 8** –By September 22, 2025, all illustrations must be uploaded (one per student or emerging artist); additionally, by the same date, a PDF file containing only the anecdote must be submitted (one per participant).

## **Submission Method**

Schools must send files via WeTransfer (<https://wetransfer.com/>) to the this email address:

[concorso2025@illustramente.it](mailto:concorso2025@illustramente.it), specifying in the email subject:

“Last Name and First Name of the alumn - School - “Giufà Comes from the Sea Competition”, along with the competition category they are entering as a school.

Emerging artists must send their files via WeTransfer (<https://wetransfer.com/>) to the same email address: [concorso2025@illustramente.it](mailto:concorso2025@illustramente.it), specifying in the email subject:

“Last Name - First Name - Giufà Comes from the Sea Competition”, along with the competition category they are participating in.

**Art. 9 – If the uploaded material is incomplete or does not meet the required formats, the participant will be automatically disqualified from the competition.** No refund of the participation fee will be issued by the organizers.

**Article 10 – Participants** (including school students) **guarantee the originality of the submitted material and confirm that they are the authors of the presented works.** They expressly release and hold the Organization harmless from any compensation claims made by third parties, in any capacity. By submitting their work, participants declare, under their sole civil and criminal responsibility, that their projects do not violate current copyright laws or any other applicable regulations.

**Article 10/a** – If a submitted work has already been published (in print or as an e-book), it will be disqualified. However, sharing excerpts of the project on a personal blog or a similar social platform, clearly identifiable as extracts and not as a complete standalone work, does not constitute “publication” and will not lead to exclusion from the competition.

**Article 10/b** – Works submitted under the “Illustration” categories (created using traditional or digital techniques) or the “Narrative/Anecdote” category that have been entirely or partially generated using Artificial Intelligence will not be considered eligible. If it is determined, even after submission, that AI was used in the creation of the work, the Organization reserves the right to take appropriate measures against this prohibited practice.

For works submitted in the “Illustration” category created with the assistance of Artificial Intelligence, authors **must specify the platform(s) used.**

## JURY

**Art. 11 – The illustrations and anecdotes submitted to the competition will be evaluated by a Jury** composed of experts and professionals in the field, including publishers, illustrators, authors, and specialists in children’s literature and illustration. The evaluation will be based on criteria such as originality, creativity, adherence to the theme, scientific accuracy, technical quality, and the narrative power of the illustration.

**The Jury’s decisions will be final and indisputable.**

**Art. 12 – The results of the Jury’s selection will be announced by October 2025** on the competition’s official website <http://www.illustramente.it/> and its social media pages on Facebook and Instagram. The winner and all selected participants for the exhibition will also be promptly informed via email or phone.

## AWARDS AND PRIZES

**Art. 13 – The date of the awards ceremony** will be announced in the coming months (probably during the XIII edition of Illustramente (November 2025). The exact date will be communicated in advance to the winners and all awarded participants via email or phone.

Awards will be given to:

- 1 overall winner of the competition



- 1 winner per category (see Art. 5)

#### Additional activities

- The creation of a traveling exhibition at the venues of the competition's co-organizers. As of the publication of this call (February 28, 2025), the planned locations are: Gibellina (TP, Italy), Palermo (Italy), Giardini-Naxos (ME, Italy), Rome (Italy), Collodi (PT, Italy), Milan (Italy), Krakow (Poland).
- The setup of an online exhibition featuring the selected works on the Illustramente website.
- Each selected participant for the exhibition will be featured in the official catalog (both in print and online format) and will receive a free printed copy. The catalog will include a maximum of 50 illustrations and 50 anecdotes.
- Book publication. The overall winner of the competition will have their illustrations published in a book by Aurea Nox Publishing House. The exact details of the book, including deadlines and other publication-related aspects, will be directly agreed upon between Aurea Nox and the winner. The terms will be outlined in a publishing contract and may be adjusted by mutual agreement.

**Art. 14 – The Organization reserves the right to suspend the initiative** and not proceed with the publication if the number of participants does not reach a sufficient participation or if the submitted works are not deemed worthy of publication. This also applies to any other reasons that the Organization and the Jury may consider valid.

**Art. 15 – Among all the works submitted to the competition**, the Jury will select the most deserving ones, which will become part of the exhibition and will be published in the catalog.

**Art. 16 – All partners commit to promoting** the competition, the exhibition, the publications, and all related activities as much as possible. In particular, Illustramente will act as a promoter and will organize dedicated activities during the festival.

### EXHIBITION, CATALOG, AND PUBLICATION

**Art. 17 – For exhibition purposes**, the Organization will print all the selected works in high resolution based on the files received for selection.

**Art. 18 – Participants grant the Organization and any competition partners** the right to reproduce their works in the catalog, on posters, brochures, or any other printed materials related to the exhibition, as well as on any other media used exclusively for its promotion. The Organization, in turn, commits to crediting the author in all previous cases. Apart from promotional purposes, the copyright of the submitted projects and illustrations are reserved by the authors. Their works may not be used, modified, extracted, or reproduced without a specific written agreement between the parties.

**Art. 19 – Participation in the competition implies acceptance of all the rules** contained in the regulations. The Organization has the final say on disputed cases and any matters not explicitly covered by the rules.

### DATA PROTECTION

The regulations on personal data processing, GDPR EU 679/16, and Legislative Decree 196/03, as amended by Legislative Decree 101/18, establish that the data subject must be informed in advance regarding the use of their personal data.

