Academy of Arts and Philosophical Sciences
International academic centre for the free creation of thought,
for the study and teaching of philosophical and artistic expression,
literature, science and contemporary arts

announces the 8th edition of the

International Prize for Literature and Visual Arts

CIÒ CHE CAINO non sa

VIII Edizione 2027

AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

Stand up,
stand up, gentlemen, before a woman,
for all the violence inflicted upon her,
for the humiliations she has endured,
for her body that you have exploited,
for the intelligence you have trampled upon,
for the ignorance in which you have kept her,
for the mouth you have silenced,
for the freedom you have denied her,
for the wings you have clipped,
for all of this,
stand up, gentlemen,
stand up before a Woman.



There is no great
discovery or progress
in this world that matters
as long as there remains
even one unhappy child.

Albert Einstein

Deadline for submission of applications

28 February 2027

Awards ceremony

by June 2027

Palazzo Dogana (Provincial Headquarters),
Piazza XX Settembre 22 – Foggia

Executive President
Maria Teresa Infante La Marca

Chair of the Judging Committee
Massimo Massa

Honorary President
Rosa d'Onofrio

The Academy of Arts and Philosophical Sciences brings together intellectuals, university lecturers, scholars and figures from the cultural world who share the ethical and aesthetic value of art, literature and science, fostering dialogue among different forms of expression and fields of knowledge.
Its mission is to promote, safeguard and disseminate culture in Italy and worldwide, enhancing Italy's cultural heritage and encouraging dialogue with other traditions. Through literary, philosophical, scientific, musical, theatrical and artistic initiatives, the Academy supports creativity, cultural participation and the education of younger generations.
Its principal initiatives include the "L. A. Seneca' International Academic Prize for Contemporary Literature" and the "Ezio Bosso, a Life for Music" Piano Performance Prize.

The International Prize *Ciò che Caino non sa* (*What Cain Does not know*), now in its **8th edition in 2027**, has received prestigious institutional patronage in previous editions, *including that of the* Senate *of the Republic*, the Chamber of *Deputies*, *the University* of Bari 'Aldo *Moro', the University of Foggia and* the *Presidency of the Regional Government of Apulia*.

Senate of the Republic

Chamber of Deputies

University of Bari Aldo Moro

University of Foggia

Apulia Region

RULES AND REGULATIONS

ART. 1 – PRIZE CATEGORIES

The 8th edition of the Prize comprises the following categories, all devoted to a prescribed theme:

Literary categories

Category A:	poetry: violence against women
Category B:	poetry: violence against children
Category C:	fiction (short story): violence against women and/or children (*)
Category E:	poetry: violence against women and/or children, for residents abroad (*)
Category G:	journalistic article: violence against women and/or children (*)
Category H:	published fiction book (novel or short-story collection): violence against women and/or children (*)
Category S:	poetry/fiction: violence against women and/or children, reserved for upper-secondary-school students (*)

Visual arts categories

Category F:	photography: violence against women and/or children (*)
Category P:	painting**:** violence against women and/or children (*)

(*) single combined category

Category E **is reserved exclusively for participants of foreign nationality residing outside Italy.** All other categories are open to Italian and foreign participants, regardless of nationality or country of residence, subject to the specific requirements of each category.
For minors entering **Category S**, the application must be signed by a parent or person exercising parental responsibility, together with the authorisations required by the entry form.

ART. 2 – ELIGIBLE ENTRIES AND WORKS

The following entries are permitted in each category:

Category A: up to 2 (two) poems, each no longer than 36 lines
Category B: up to 2 (two) poems, each no longer than 36 lines
Category C: 1 (one) short story of up to 5,400 characters, including spaces, approximately three standard manuscript pages
Category E: up to 2 (two) poems, each no longer than 36 lines
Category G: 1 (one) article of up to 5,400 characters, including spaces, approximately three standard manuscript pages
(one photograph relevant to the article may be submitted)
Category H: 1 (one) published fiction book
Category S: up to 2 (two) poems or 1 (one) short story (as above)

For Category H, participants may enter only one fiction book, already published by the application date. The entire book must be submitted as a PDF, including the cover, title page and publication details (publisher, year of publication and ISBN). Violence against women and/or children must be a central or significant theme of the work.

Entries and works submitted to the Judging Committee must **bear no signature or other identifying information about** the author. Published books entered in Category H are exempt: the author's and publisher's details normally printed in the book are permitted.

In all **literary categories** (A, B, C, E, G, H and S), works written in **Italian or English are** accepted, subject to the eligibility requirements for each category.
Works submitted in English must be accompanied by an Italian translation, which will not count towards the length limits set out in these regulations. This requirement does not apply to published books in Category H.
Participants warrant the accuracy of any translations submitted and that they hold all necessary authorisations.

The **visual arts categories** are open to artists, photographers, creatives and self-taught practitioners of any nationality. **Works must portray the theme of the Prize**.

Category F: up to 2 (two) photographs
Category P: up to 2 (two) paintings (digital images)

Members of the Academic Senate, members of the Judging Committee, all persons involved in organising the Prize and their first-degree relatives are ineligible.

Requirements for Categories A, B, C, E, G, S
Published or **unpublished entries**, including works previously awarded in other competitions, are accepted provided they have a title and are submitted anonymously; otherwise they will be disqualified.

Requirements for Category H
Only previously published works of fiction are accepted, including books awarded in other competitions, subject to the requirements stated above. Anonymity is not required in this category.
Participants must also enclose a **synopsis** of no more than 1,000 characters, including spaces, written in Italian or English, for possible publication in the Prize anthology if the entry receives an award.

Requirements for Categories F, P
Published or **unpublished works**, including works previously awarded in other competitions, are accepted, provided they have a title and contain no signature, branding, watermark or other author-identifying feature; otherwise they will be disqualified.

Paintings may be created using any technique (oil, tempera, acrylic, ink, watercolour, graphite, pencil, collage, etc.) and on any support (canvas, paper, wood, plastic, hardboard, metal, etc.). Photographs made using analogue or digital methods are accepted, with no restrictions on materials or supports used for printing.

Images must be submitted in JPEG (.jpg) format, RGB colour profile, with at least 3,000 pixels on the longest side and a maximum file size of 5 MB each.

Colour and black-and-white photographs, in portrait or landscape orientation, are accepted. Applicants are encouraged to specify the technique and dimensions of each work.
Files must be named after the work's title, followed by a sequential number if several works are entered (e.g. *Woman in Red 1.jpg*; *Child in Tears 2*.jpg).
Submitted images must not contain superimposed writing, dates, trademarks, logos, watermarks or other graphic elements, unless these form an integral part of the artwork.

Declaration of authorship

Each participant declares that they are the author of the submitted work, hold the rights necessary to enter it in the Prize and do not infringe copyrights, image rights or other third-party rights. Participants are responsible for their declarations and any disputes concerning their work.
Submitted works must be the result of the participant's own creative activity. **Any use of generative artificial intelligence tools must be disclosed on the entry form, specifying how they were used.** The Judging Committee reserves the right to assess eligibility in light of the author's actual creative contribution.

Submission of works

For literary categories (A, B, C, E, G, H, S)

For Categories A, B, C, E, G and S, entries must be submitted **exclusively** as **Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) or PDF** files, using 12-point Times New Roman and single line spacing.
For Category H, the entire published book must be submitted as a **PDF,** with the synopsis in a separate Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) or PDF file.
The required documents must be sent as separate files to the following email address: accademia.asf.caino@gmail.com. Image files will not be accepted in place of the required literary documents.

a. the completed **entry form**, including the declaration of authorship and consent for personal-data processing (using the form supplied by the organisers);
b. **the works** being entered, without signatures or any other identifying marks, except for published books in Category H;
c. **proof of payment** of the entry fee under Art. 4, where applicable;
d. **a short biography** (maximum 12 lines; longer biographies will not be accepted);
e. **a good-quality colour photograph of the author** in JPG format.

For visual arts categories (F, P)

a. **the completed entry form**, including the declaration of authorship and the documentation relating to personal-data processing. If works depict identifiable persons, the participant must also hold the necessary image-use permissions, to be attached if requested by the organisers. Where identifiable minors are depicted, the applicable specific safeguards must also be observed and the required permissions obtained from the persons exercising parental responsibility.
b. **digital files of the works** being entered, each bearing a title but no signature or other information identifying the author;
c. **proof of payment** of the entry fee under Art. 4;
d. **a short biography** (maximum 12 lines; longer biographies will not be accepted);
e. **a good-quality colour photograph of the author** in JPG format.

Works must be sent with the completed entry form and proof of payment by email to accademia.asf.caino@gmail.com. or via the free WeTransfer service (www.wetransfer.com).
If using WeTransfer, enter accademia.asf.caino@gmail.com as the recipient address accademia.asf.caino@gmail.com.
For submissions through WeTransfer or similar services, the download link must reach the Prize Secretariat by the submission deadline and remain valid for at least seven days thereafter.
The Prize Secretariat will normally acknowledge receipt **within three working days**. Final confirmation of admission is subject to verification that the application is complete and compliant. Applicants are kindly asked to submit works ahead of the deadline where possible, to facilitate their registration and cataloguing.
The organisers reserve the right to exclude works inciting violence, hatred or discrimination or violating fundamental human rights or applicable law. Artistic, fictional or journalistic depictions of violence do not in themselves constitute grounds for exclusion. Participants may enter multiple categories by paying the corresponding fees together, as set out in Art. 4.
Applications arriving after the deadline, lacking mandatory documents, illegible, incomplete or otherwise non-compliant with these regulations will be excluded. Remediable deficiencies may be corrected at the Secretariat's request before the application deadline. Entries excluded for failure to rectify deficiencies or for other irregularities will not be entitled to a refund of any fee paid. Proof of payment is mandatory only for fee-paying categories.

ART. 3 – SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Applications, together with all required documents and works, must be submitted by **11:59 p.m. (Italian time)** on **28 February 2027**. The date and time the electronic communication is sent will determine compliance with the deadline, provided it is correctly addressed to the Prize Secretariat.

ART. 4 – ENTRY FEES

For participants **residing in Italy**, the entry fee is **€ 15.00** for the first fee-paying category and **€ 10.00 for** each additional fee-paying category.
For participants **residing abroad,** the fee is **€ 10.00** for the first fee-paying category and **€ 10.00** for each additional fee-paying category.
Entry to **Categories E** and **S is free of charge**.
For fee purposes, only the country of residence declared on the entry form is taken into account, regardless of nationality.

Fees cover the organisational, administrative and promotional costs of the Prize. Payment can be made by either of the following methods:

1) top-up of the *Postepay Evolution card* held by **Maria Teresa Infante**
card no. **5333 1711 9004 1885 –** Italian tax code **NFN MTR 61C60I158S**
Payment reference: **Premio Caino – 8th edition 2027** – *Participant's full name (MANDATORY*).
2) bank transfer to the *Postepay Evolution* account held by **Maria Teresa Infante**
IBAN: **IT91L0760105138236683736684**
Payment reference: **Premio Caino – 8th edition 2027** – *Participant's full name (MANDATORY).*

ART. 5 – JUDGING COMMITTEE

■ Entries and works will be assessed by a technical Judging Committee appointed by the Prize organisers and comprising representatives of the cultural, literary, artistic, journalistic and academic fields. Assessment will be anonymous, except for published books in Category H, as provided by Art. 2.
The Committee will follow the evaluation criteria set out in these regulations and the Academy's guidelines. Prizes will be awarded to works distinguished by originality, technique, stylistic quality and the message conveyed through their content, research, innovation and contemporary relevance. The Committee's decisions on artistic and literary merit are final and not subject to appeal.

■ The Committee's official report, containing the rankings and special prize awards, will be published by **April 2027 on the** Academy's official website, www.accademia-asf.it.
All participants will be informed of the results by email. Award recipients may also be contacted by telephone.
The Committee reserves the right not to grant one or more prizes or distinctions if the entries are not considered sufficiently meritorious.
Requests for reassessment, disclosure of individual scores or critical reviews of submitted works will not be considered.

■ The President of the Prize is **Maria Teresa Infante La Marca,** author, poet, co-founder of the Academy of Arts and Philosophical Sciences and Director of its 'Solidarity and Social Advancement' Department.
The Judging Committee is chaired by **Massimo Massa**, Pro-Rector of the Academy of Arts and Philosophical Sciences, and comprises the following specialist panels:

Poetry and Fiction Judging Panel

Bartolomeo Smaldone	poet, *author, president of the 'Spiragli' Cultural Association*
Nunzia Binetti	poet, *co-founder of the 'Dante Alighieri Committee' (Barletta)*
Marco Liguori	*journalist, publicist and essayist*
Bruno Daga	poet, *president of the Daga Foundation 'Unity in Diversity' European Operations Director at International The News Agencia de Noticias*
Laura Pavia	poet, *Director of the Academy's 'Literature and Philosophy' Department and co-founder of the Academy of Arts and Philosophical Sciences*
Gilberto Vergoni	poet, *Director of the Academy's 'Medical, Sports and Biological Sciences' Department, and co-founder of the Academy*

Published Book Judging Panel

Bartolomeo Smaldone	poet, *author, president of the 'Spiragli' Cultural Association*
Nunzia Binetti	poet, *co-founder of the 'Dante Alighieri Committee' (Barletta)*
Marco Liguori	*journalist, publicist and essayist*

Journalistic Article Judging Panel

Duilio Paiano	*journalist, poet, author, essayist and Director of the Academy's 'Natural and Astronomical Sciences' Department; co-founder of the Academy*
Vinicio S. Di Crescenzo	poet, *author, painter, editorial art critic, journalism contributor, scientific director of a publishing house and TV presenter*

Photography Judging Panel

Stefano Pesce	ph*otographer; photography lecturer at U.T.E., Casamassima (Bari) vice-president of the 'Arte Immagine' Cultural Association and vice-president of the Penelope Puglia volunteer organisation*
Viki Ders	ph*otographer*
Michele Fini	ph*otographer*

Painting Judging Panel

Dino Bilancia	painter, *sculptor, engraver and art critic*
Nestore Del Boccio	painter, *draughtsman, illustrator, portrait artist and screenwriter*

Committee members must abstain from assessing works where family, personal or professional relationships or other circumstances could compromise impartiality. In such cases, the organisers will ensure the integrity of the assessment process.

ART. 6 – PRIZES

The top three entries in each category will be selected where their merit warrants it. The Committee may also, at its discretion and based on the quality of the works, award the following special prizes:

"Roberta Perillo" Prize
"Mahsa Amini" Prize
"Irena Sendler" Prize
"City of Foggia" Prize
President's Prize

The following prize will be presented during the awards ceremony:
2027 "Narges Mohammadi" Peace Prize

Awards will take the form of artistic trophies, cups, plaques and certificates, signed by the President of the Prize and the Chair of the Judging Committee and accompanied, where applicable, by a written citation.
Physical awards will not be shipped to participants residing abroad who cannot attend the ceremony. However, they may appoint a trusted representative to collect the award, as provided in Art. 7.
Certificates will also be available digitally on the Academy's official website, on the page dedicated to the Prize.

■ The organisers also reserve the right to grant further special prizes or distinctions to participants whose works show particular artistic, literary, cultural or social merit. These may take the form of trophies, plaques or certificates.

ART. 7 – AWARDS CEREMONY

■ In keeping with the Prize's objective of raising awareness of all forms of violence against women and children, experts and professionals in the legal, healthcare, psychological, social and media fields may speak at the awards ceremony to encourage awareness, prevention and protection of victims. The ceremony will take place at **Palazzo Dogana** (Provincial Headquarters) **in Foggia by June 2027**, on a date to be announced by the organisers.

Prize winners will be promptly notified of the outcome and asked to confirm attendance at the ceremony by the deadline set by the organisers.
The event will receive appropriate coverage in the press, online and through other media.
All travel, meals and accommodation expenses must be borne by participants and any accompanying persons.

Winners in the visual arts categories may exhibit their works during the awards ceremony, subject to available space and the arrangements set by the organisers. All expenses relating to production, installation, display supports, frames and transport are the responsibility of the artists.

■ Awards must be collected in person at the ceremony. Those unable to attend may authorise a trusted person to collect them, provided they notify the organisers in writing by email beforehand.
Winners residing in Italy who cannot attend or appoint a representative may request delivery of their awards, entirely at the recipient's expense.
Physical awards will not be shipped to **winners residing abroad**; they may nevertheless appoint a representative to collect them and obtain the certificate digitally, as provided in Art. 6.

■ If technical or organisational circumstances or force majeure prevent the ceremony from taking place as scheduled or planned, the organisers reserve the right to change its date, venue or format, promptly informing participants by email and through the Academy's official website.

ART. 8 – AUTHORISATION TO PUBLISH SUBMITTED ENTRIES AND WORKS

By accepting these regulations and signing the entry form, participants grant free, non-exclusive permission to use, reproduce and publish submitted works solely for cultural, informational, documentary and promotional purposes connected with the Prize.
This authorisation includes publication on the Academy's official website and institutional social media, in informational and promotional materials, and in the literary anthology and art catalogue provided for in Art. 9.

Authors retain full ownership of the rights to their works. This permission does not entail any exclusive assignment of copyright, and every publication will respect the author's moral right of attribution under Art. 20 of Italian Law No. 633 of 22 April 1941.

For Category H (published books), the author permits publication of the synopsis and cover image of the awarded book in the Prize anthology, declaring that they hold the necessary rights and any permissions required from the publisher or other rights holders.

Any publication of photographs or audiovisual recordings of the ceremony will be governed by current legislation on personal-data protection and image rights, with particular regard for the protection of minors.

ART. 9 – PUBLICATION OF THE LITERARY ANTHOLOGY AND ART CATALOGUE

The organisers will produce a literary anthology containing the works of the award-winning authors in the literary categories. For Category H (published books), the synopses provided at the time of entry will be published, together with each book's title, cover image and author's name.

An art catalogue featuring reproductions of the prize-winning photographic and painted works will be produced for the visual arts categories.

The anthology and catalogue will be available for purchase at the awards ceremony at prices and under arrangements determined by the organisers. Purchase is optional and is in no way a condition for receiving or collecting an award. Publication will respect copyright and the permissions provided for in Art. 8.

ART. 10 – ACCEPTANCE OF THESE REGULATIONS

Participation in the Prize entails full acceptance of these regulations, formalised by signing the entry form.
Applicants undertake to comply with all provisions of these regulations and acknowledge that the Committee's artistic and literary assessments are final, without prejudice to rights granted by applicable law.
Matters not expressly covered by these regulations will be governed by applicable law and, for organisational matters within the Academy's remit, by resolutions of the Academic Senate.

ART. 11 – PRIVACY

Participants' personal data will be processed by the Academy of Arts and Philosophical Sciences in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR), Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, as amended, for purposes relating to the organisation, management and promotion of the 8th International Prize for Literature and Visual Arts 'Ciò *che Caino non sa'*.
Within the limits established by applicable law, processing will include managing applications, assessing works, communicating with participants, publishing results and documenting Prize-related activities.
Details of the data controller, purposes and legal bases for processing, recipients, retention periods and data subjects' rights are set out in the dedicated privacy notice, provided to participants with the entry form.
Specific safeguards required by applicable law will be observed for underage participants, including in relation to publication of their personal data, images and related materials.

ART. 12 – INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRIZE

These regulations are available on the Academy's official website, www.accademia-asf.it where official Prize announcements will be published, including details of the judging panels, rankings, awards ceremony and any other updates relevant to participants.

Questions and requests for clarification may be sent by email to accademia.asf.caino@gmail.com or addressed to the Prize Secretary on +39 348 4097289 *(7:00*–9:00 p.m.) or +39 328 9674612 *(11:00 a.m.–7*:00 p.m.), on weekdays.

The organisers reserve the right to amend these regulations and the awards programme for justified organisational reasons or force majeure, promptly announcing changes on the Academy's official website. Material amendments affecting participation conditions will be handled with due regard for applicants' rights.
The organisers are not responsible for consequences arising from false declarations or inaccurate information supplied by participants, without prejudice to any obligations under the law.
Failure to comply with these regulations may result in exclusion from the Prize under the procedures and criteria specified herein.

Chair of the Judging Committee
Massimo Massa

President of the Prize
Maria Teresa Infante La Marca

APPLICATION FORM 2027

8th Edition – International Prize for Literature and Visual Arts “Ciò che Caino non sa”

1. PARTICIPANT’S COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

☐ Resident in Italy ☐ Resident abroad

2. PERSONAL DETAILS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Full name	
City / town of residence	
Full address	
ZIP / postal code	
Province (Italy only) / Country	
Email address	
Mobile phone (including international code)	

3. SECTIONS AND TITLES OF SUBMITTED WORKS

Tick the chosen sections and enter the title of each work in the corresponding row.

Section	Title of the work / book
☐ A – Poetry: violence against women	
☐ B – Poetry: violence against minors	
☐ C – Fiction: violence against women/minors	
☐ E – Poetry: foreign nationals residing abroad; violence against women/minors	
☐ F – Photography: violence against women/minors (1)	
☐ P – Painting: violence against women/minors (1)	
☐ G – Journalism: violence against women/minors	
☐ H – Published fiction book: violence against women/minors (2)	
☐ S – Students: poetry / fiction, violence against women/minors	

(1) For sections F and P, specify in an attachment the filename, technique and dimensions of each work.

(2) For section H, specify in an attachment the book’s publisher, year of publication and ISBN.

APPLICATION FORM 2027

Participation fees and declarations

4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – SECTION S (STUDENTS) ONLY

School name	
Class / grade attended	

5. PARTICIPATION FEE

Residents in Italy: **€ 15.00** for the first fee-paying section and **€ 10.00** for each additional fee-paying section.

Residents abroad: **€ 10.00** for each fee-paying section, including the first.

Participation in sections E and S is free of charge.

Number of fee-paying sections:	Total amount paid: € _____
☐ Free sections only	☐ Payment receipt attached

6. DECLARATIONS AND AUTHORISATION

By signing this form, the participant declares:

- to have read and fully accepted the regulations of the 8th edition (2027);
- to be the author of the submitted works and that participation does not infringe any third-party rights;
- to hold the authorisations required for participation and for the uses provided for in the regulations, in the case of published works or works subject to third-party rights;
- to authorise, free of charge and on a non-exclusive basis, the use, reproduction and publication of the submitted works for the purposes and in the manner set out in Articles 8 and 9 of the regulations, subject, for section H, to obtaining all necessary authorisations from rights holders.

Declaration concerning the use of generative artificial intelligence
(You must tick one of the following two options)

With regard to the submitted works, the participant declares:

☐ No generative artificial intelligence tools were used.

☐ Generative artificial intelligence tools were used, as described below:

_____

7. PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

The participant declares that they have read the privacy notice provided by the Organisation pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR). Any additional consent, where required, will be requested separately.

8. SIGNATURE

Place and date	Participant's signature

For participants under the age of 18, this form must be signed by a parent or person exercising parental responsibility.

Name of parent / person exercising parental responsibility: _____

Signature: _____