

9 March 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Amateo Award 2021 is open for entries!



[Amateo](#) invites submissions to its fourth annual [Amateo Award](#) from all participatory arts projects run by amateur groups across Europe. **The deadline for entries is Monday 31 May at midnight (Central European Time)**. This year's winner will receive a substantial prize of €1,000 and a special title, becoming the Amateo Ambassador at European scale. The awards ceremony is scheduled to take place in Milan, Italy, in October 2021.

Given the increased challenges to the arts sector caused by the COVID-19 restrictions, the 2021 Amateo Award will put the spotlight on all the projects (both live and online) that have found solutions to give participants the chance to be creative, show off what they do and encourage others to take part. The full terms and conditions can be found [here](#). Groups can enter their projects to the open call via [this short form](#).

The Amateo Award 2021 is an opportunity to raise the profile of non-professional arts groups or creative projects to an international audience and, in turn, to make connections with participants, policy makers and funders from across Europe.

Every year, the Amateo Award Jury selects five finalists to attend the ceremony and share more about their projects' stories to a network of European peers. The winner of the 2021 award will use the ambassadorship role to facilitate interaction between newcomers and inhabitants through art and theatre.

Last year, 64 projects from 16 countries across Europe applied for the Amateo Award 2020 and featured activities focused on young people, older people (including those with dementia), those with different cultural or migrant backgrounds and projects to improve the community or environment.



Image credit: Amateo

Previous winners have done outstanding work based on collaboration, inclusion and innovation and have inspired their communities to engage with the arts. The most recent award was gained by the [Anasa Cultural Center](#) in Greece for its Social Circus initiative.

“The project is authentic and resonates right to the heart. It shows a mix of creativity and human aspects. A team of voluntary trainers work with all kinds of different skills and artforms with young refugees from all over the world.” - Amateo Jury Member



Image credit: Anasa Cultural Center (Social Circus project)

The Amateo Award was created to mark the 10-year anniversary of the Amateo Europe network, having its first ceremony in 2018. It is one of the initiatives of the *Arts Take Part* - a unique and exciting 4-year project to develop the capacity to engage main national and regional associations and their local networks from the sector of participatory arts in the member states and programme countries to operate trans-nationally and to support their active participation in art and cultural activities at a European level.

For more information about the Amateo Award, please visit:

- **Website:** <https://amateo.org/category/amateo-award/>
- **Twitter:** @AmateoEurope <https://twitter.com/AmateoEurope>
- **Facebook:** @amateo.org <https://www.facebook.com/amateo.org/>
- **Hashtag:** #AmateoAward

Alternatively, please get in touch with the Amateo Award Team via award@amateo.org and use the [ready-made social media content](#) to spread the word about this opportunity.

