

RULES OF THE COMICS COMPETITION
BDFIL PRIZE
FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF COMICS
RUNNING (OF) WATER THEME

In 2026, BDFIL is partnering with the water Departement of the city of Lausanne and le Musée Romain de Lausanne-Vidy for its BDFIL Prize for emerging comic artists competition. With a prize of CHF 5'000.- divided among the winners, it is open to anyone aged 15 and over who has never been published. The theme of the 2026 edition is "Running (of) water". The winners of the three BDFIL prizes will be invited to the opening of the exhibition and the prize-giving ceremony (September 18, 2026). The deadline for entries is Monday, June 15, 2026.

1. GENERAL TERMS OF PARTICIPATION

The competition BDFIL Prize is open to anyone 15 years of age or older, living in Switzerland or abroad, whose work has never been published in the form of album, regularly in a large-circulation newspaper or magazine, or an expert reviewed online platform or under any editorial license. Participants whose work is being published when the jury deliberates (June 16, 2026) will be disqualified. Each participant may enter only one project. As the competition aims to encourage and reward complete artists, collective entries will not be accepted. Winners of previous editions of the competition, except for special mentions, are not allowed to participate.

2. SUBMISSION OF PROJECTS

Every project must a complete original story, in a single panel, with or without text, closely related to the theme of the contest: **"Running (of) water"** adapted from French theme "À cours d'eau". This theme can be interpreted freely. The project must be presented on an A3 format (29,7 x 42 cm) in the French orientation (vertical). Projects that do not comply with this format will be automatically excluded from the competition. The style, form and materials used for the project are left to the free choice of the author. The language used for the texts and dialogues must be either English or French.

The contact information of the participant must be clearly indicated on the back of the project: last name, first name, date of birth (day/month/year), complete postal address, telephone number (landline and/or mobile), and email address. He or she must also indicate the working technique used for the creation and the coloring, if needed.

3. DEADLINE FOR PARTICIPATION

Participants in the competition must send their work to BDFIL (BDFIL, Comics Competition BDFIL 2026, Place de la Cathédrale 12, 1005 Lausanne – Switzerland) to ensure it is received by **Monday, June 15, 2026, at the latest**.

The submission of a project implies the acceptance of these rules and must be accompanied by the **completed form and the proof of payment if the participant wants the work to be sent back** (point 10 of these rules).

4. SENDING / DELIVERING PROJECTS

Each project (original or print) must arrive at BDFIL **flat, neither folded nor rolled, and packaged in such a way as to ensure optimal protection**. BDFIL will send an acknowledgment of receipt of the projects received, by the June 16, 2026, at the latest. Any projects sent from outside of Switzerland must clearly indicate **"no commercial value"* on the customs document**. **The submission of projects to the BDFIL office is only possible from Monday to Thursday, between 2 to 5 pm, until June 15, 2026.**

* BDFIL declines all responsibility in case of a project is blocked at customs and does not commit to paying additional fees related to value declarations.



5. COMPETITION JURY

The jury, led by a comic book artist, will be composed of a member of the museum institution hosting the exhibition, a specialized journalist, a publisher, the curator of the annual theme exhibition, a member of the water Department of the city of Lausanne and a festival representative. The jury will evaluate adherence to the conditions of the current rules, the originality, as well as the qualities of the story (execution, layout, etc.) and the graphic design.

6. RESULTS AND PRIZES

Three BDFIL prizes: **1st Prize CHF 2,000.- and the drawing of the 2027 Prize flyer**
 2nd Prize CHF 1,500.-
 3rd Prize CHF 1,000.-

The three winners will be notified personally, by phone and email, by Monday, June 22, 2026, at the latest. Their names will be publicly announced at the opening on September 18, 2026, and published in the following week on the website www.bdfil.ch and on the official Instagram account. In addition to the three prizes, the jury may award one or more special mentions to recognize projects. The special mentions will, unless otherwise specified, be honorary awards, not accompanied by prize money.

The winner of the 1st prize will create the illustration for the following year's competition flyer. This task is included in the 1st Prize. No additional remuneration is anticipated. Technical details and the theme of the competition will be provided to the individual concerned at the beginning of 2027.

No correspondence may be entertained regarding the competition or its jury. No legal appeals will be accepted. The winners of the BDFIL awards who are domiciled in Western Europe are invited to the award ceremony and the exhibition opening (travel, accommodation, and meals are at covered by the festival). Prizewinners from outside Western Europe enjoy the same benefits, except for travel expenses (covered up to a maximum of CHF 300.-, upon presentation of receipts).

7. EXHIBITION

All projects will be available for viewing in an exhibition that will be held from September 18 to October 25, 2026, at Musée Romain de Lausanne-Vidy (Chemin du Bois-de-Vaux 24, 1007 Lausanne).

8. PUBLIC AWARD

A public prize of CHF 500.- will be awarded by visitors to the exhibition. The winner will be announced in the week following the end of the exhibition, between October 25 and November 1, 2026, on www.bdfil.ch and on the official Instagram account.

9. PROJECT OWNERSHIP

The prize-winning projects remain the property of the festival. No royalties will be charged to the authors for publications in the press or for the promotion of BDFIL (catalogs, anniversary books, exhibitions, etc.). Nevertheless, the entrant can publish his or her board for other projects (website, exhibition, etc.), as of **Saturday, September 18, 2026.**

10. RETURN OF PROJECTS

All competition projects will be retained by BDFIL and remain available at the festival's office (Place de la Cathédrale 12, Lausanne) **from October 27, 2026, by appointment**, on +41 21 312 78 10 or via info@bdfil.ch, and **until December 18, 2026.**

Participants who have submitted an original project and wish to receive it back are requested to **enclose proof of payment** in accordance with the following fee schedule based on their location:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| - Residents of Switzerland | CHF 12.- |
| - Residents of Western Europe | CHF 15.- |
| - Residents outside Western Europe | CHF 25.- |



The payment of the fees in the event of return is to be addressed to the following account:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Beneficiary | Fondation lausannoise pour le rayonnement de la BD Place de la Cathédrale 12 1005 Lausanne |
| Bank Address | POSTFINANCE AG Mingerstrasse 20 3030 Bern |
| IBAN | CH57 0900 0000 1779 2534 7 |
| SWIFT | POFICHBEXXX |

It is necessary to include the mention "Comics Competition BDFIL 2026" as well as your name and surname as references when making your payment.

These financial contributions aim cover the shipping costs and logistics related to the return of the projects. BDFIL declines all responsibility in the event of loss by the competent postal services.

11. RESPONSIBILITY

The festival strongly recommends participants to make a copy of their project for any useful purpose. The festival declines all responsibility for any loss or damage to projects but undertakes to treat all projects with the utmost care.

FOR ANY FURTHER INFORMATION:

BDFIL, Comics Competition BDFIL 2026, Place de la Cathédrale 12, 1005 Lausanne (Switzerland)
Phone +41 21 312 78 10, info@bdfil.ch, www.bdfil.ch

**TO BE RETURNED WITH YOUR DRAWING OR TO BE COMPLETED DIRECTLY ON
THE BACK OF YOUR DRAWING**

Last Name _____

First Name _____

Birth Date _____

Address 1 _____

Address 2 _____

ZIP Code, City _____

Country _____

Website or Instagram account _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Working / coloring technique _____

I would like my project to be sent back (see point 10 of this document)

- ☐ **YES**, I have attached the proof of payment for the return of my work
- ☐ **YES**, I will pick up my drawing at BDFIL office, in Lausanne
- ☐ **NO**