

Art.1 - ORGANIZATION

The competition is promoted by the Mittelmoda International Lab Association and Fondazione del Tessile Italiano, in partnership with Confindustria Moda – Federazione Tessile e Moda and Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana.

Art. 2 - ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The competition is free of charge. No registration fees shall be required

The competition is open to all students who, as a general rule, meet the following requirements:

- **are between 22 and 30 years of age**
- have completed a course of study in Fashion Design during the academic year 2025/2026
- have completed, or are expected to complete, a course of study in Fashion Design during the academic year 2026/2027
- have completed a post-diploma technical or vocational course in the field of Fashion Design during the academic year 2025/2026
- have completed, or are expected to complete, a post-diploma technical or vocational course in the field of Fashion Design during the academic year 2026/2027

Team applications are permitted, with a maximum of two participants per team.

For its institutional purposes and at sole discretion, the Association reserves the right to waive the above requirements.

Collections and projects submitted to the International Lab of Mittelmoda contest may consist of works that have already been presented and/or awarded in other Italian or international competitions and are not required to have been created exclusively for this contest.

Candidates selected as finalists must be able to complete the production of their collections or projects by the date of the final event and, except in cases of force majeure, must be physically present in Milan from **13 to 14 October 2026 (TBC)***.

*The exact date will be communicated during the admission phase and, in any event, no later than 1 August 2026.

Art. 3 - CATEGORIES

FASHION DESIGN:

5 outfits required (total look including shoes*)

- Womenswear | Menswear | Agender
- Knitwear
- Materials

*see art. 8

ACCESSORIES:

- Shoes* (every pair of shoes count as one piece)
- Bags* (every bag count as one piece)
- Accessories and leather goods*
- Eyewear* | Jewelry*

*The collections may consist of a combination of the categories mentioned above.

Finalists in the Accessories category must independently provide the outfit to be worn by the models on the runway during the final event.

The Organization reserves the right to change the total number of pieces presented on the runway, depending on model availability and the artistic direction of the runway show.

Art. 4 - JURY AND AWARDS

A jury composed of experienced and qualified members shall evaluate the portfolios duly submitted to the contest within the established deadlines (**see Articles 5 to 7**), assessing them on the basis of the following criteria: creativity, technical quality and accuracy of execution, international outlook, understanding of , compliance with and consistency in relation to the founding principles of the respective awards.

The jury shall award the following prizes:

- **"INNOVATION" Main Award - € 10.000,00**

Prize offered by Fondazione del Tessile Italiano, in partnership with Confindustria Moda - Federazione Tessile e Moda. The main prize for the most innovative collection shall be awarded to the project that most effectively demonstrates a disruptive vision capable of generating innovation within the sector.

- **"CREATIVITY" Main Award - € 5.000,00**

Prize offered by **Camera Nazionale della Moda Italiana**.

The main prize for the most creative collection will be awarded to the project that will best express a new aesthetic conception, an original and harmonious aesthetic vision, free from constraints. Creativity combines intuition, passion and knowledge, expressing its own concept of beauty.

SPECIAL AWARDS:

- **PRESS SPECIAL AWARD € 5.000,00**

Prize offered by **Fondazione del Tessile Italiano**. The press prize shall be awarded to the stylistic project that is most likely to impress the special jury composed of prominent figures from the world of Italian trade publishing.

CATEGORY AWARDS:

- **MENSWEAR & WOMENSWEAR € 2.000,00**

Prize offered by **Confindustria Moda – Federazione Tessile e Moda**

- **TEXTILE & MATERIALS AWARD € 2.000,00**

Prize offered by **Milano Unica**

- **ITALIAN LEATHER: A World of Creativity and Sustainability € 2.000,00**

Prize offered by **Linea Pelle**

- **EYEWEAR AWARD € 2.000,00**

Prize offered by **MIDO**.

- **SHOES AWARD € 2.000,00**

Prize offered by **MICAM Milano**

- **PRATO CIRCULAR & SUSTAINABILITY AWARD € 2.000,00**

Prize offered by **Confindustria Toscana Nord**

- **IDEABIELLA YOUNG CREATIVENESS AWARD € 2.000,00**

Prize offered by **Ideabiella**

- **ComoON AWARD € 2.000,00**

Prize offered by **Confindustria Como**.

- **Linen Award € 2.000,00**

Prize offered **Linen Section of Confindustria Moda – Federazione Tessile e Moda (Italian Textile and Fashion Federation)**.

In awarding the “Linen Award,” preferential consideration shall be given to:

- the presence of at least three garments made of linen (out of the five garments comprising the submitted collection);
- the use of linen sourced from the Italian and/or European supply chain.

The assignment of the “Linen Award” shall be decided with particular reference to the innovative use of linen (treatments, volumes, combinations with other fibers, material experimentation), the coherence of the concept with the characteristics of linen — such as lightness, breathability, durability, sustainability and seasonless potential — as well as the technical quality and feasibility of the linen collection (garment construction, finishing techniques, adaptability to high-quality industrial or artisanal production).

The same project may receive more than one prize. The jury reserves the right to not assign one or more prizes if the projects are not compliant with the required criteria. Prizes will be awarded at the sole discretion of the jury. No appeals shall be permitted. The organization reserves the right to introduce new or additional prizes that will be notified on the website www.mittelmoda.com and on the official social media pages.

Art. 5 - REGISTRATIONS

All contestants must register online by completing the application form at www.mittelmoda.com/register.

Registrations are open from the date of publication of this call for applications (March 2026) and will close on 30 June 2026 at 23:59 CEST.

Art. 6 - REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR THE REGISTRATION

Once the application form has been completed, as stated in Art. 5 “Registrations”, **the candidate should send the following materials to the Mittelmoda International Lab Association, compiled in English or Italian, under penalty of exclusion***:

- Copy of this application undersigned in acceptance.
- Attachment 1 “Personal details”, completed in full with all required information.
- Attachment 2 “Collection details”, completed in full with all required information.
- Detailed CV in English or Italian.
- Portfolio (physical or digital) including the sketches of the submitted collection.
- A concept description of the submitted collection.
- Photos of all outfits or pieces of the collection (if the outfits or pieces are not completed, please send “work-in-progress” photos).
- High-definition photos of the submitted collection **(if available at the time of registration)**.
- A 500-character English biography.

For candidates applying for the Linen Award, the following additional materials are required:

(a) brief technical sheet (maximum 1 page) relating to the linen outfits, indicating fabric composition, weight (gsm), any finishing treatments, and the source of the material (if already available);

(b) short statement (maximum 100 words) explaining the choice of linen as the core fiber of the collection and describing its role within the overall design concept.

Furthermore, should the candidate have the opportunity to do so, they may also submit (not mandatory but highly recommended):

Promotional videoclip (optional but highly recommended): A presentation video of the collection entered into the contest.

*The omission of just one of the required elements may constitute grounds for exclusion from participation in the contest. In the event that the candidate wishes to send the portfolio and prototypes in physical form, please contact the Association at the e-mail address info@mittelmoda.com, so that the correct instructions can be received to proceed with the shipment of the materials (it should be noted that shipping is the responsibility of the candidate). Portfolios and prototypes sent in physical form will not be returned to the candidate for any reason and will become part of the historical archives of the Mittelmoda International Lab Association.

The submitted materials will be used by the Association for promotional purposes on its own and third-party channels, without limitation, including for the promotion of the candidate to fashion houses and other sponsors interested in identifying new professional talents.

For this purpose, all candidates are invited to exclusively submit professional and high-definition materials (recommended format: .png/.tiff, min. 3000 px width).

The organization reserves the right not to publish the received material if deemed as inappropriate, as not produced within deadlines or not compliant with the requested methods.

Art. 7 - DEADLINES AND MATERIAL SUBMISSION

All materials must be submitted in digital format (should a candidate wish to submit materials in physical format, the candidate must contact the Association directly at info@mittelmoda.com)*.

The submission deadlines, which must be strictly observed under penalty of exclusion from the competition, are as follows:

DIGITAL MATERIALS SUBMISSION (recommended): 30 June 2026

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF MATERIALS:

Digital materials must be sent via WeTransfer (www.wetransfer.com) to the email address info@mittelmoda.com.

Candidates are requested not to use any other platforms for the submission of digital materials. The portfolio must be submitted as a single PDF file.

**All files must be placed within one folder. The folder must be named as follows:
“SURNAME_NAME_INSTITUTION”.**

Those wishing to send their materials in physical format are asked to contact us at info@mittelmoda.com so that they can receive the correct directions for proceeding with the shipment. Shipping shall be entirely the responsibility of the candidate(s)

The Mittelmoda International Lab Association will not collect packages that require payment on delivery, customs duties and/or other fees. The Association reserves the right not to accept packages that do not comply with the instructions provided in this regulation or the legal terms of the area in which it operates.

Art. 8 - COLLECTIONS AND PROJECTS

For specifications about collections, model designs and projects, please refer to the category sections (Art. 3) and the Attachments at the end of this call for applications.

The outfits entering the competition must be total looks (including shoes).

If a collection does not include shoes, the candidate must provide them, reporting the brand from which they were purchased to the organization.

Candidates in the Accessories category must independently provide sufficient total-look outfits for the models walking in the runway show. .

Art. 9 - SELECTIONS

The selection process shall take place at the end of July, and the shortlist of finalists will be announced by the 1st of August 2026. The official selection results will be released only through the International Lab of Mittelmoda website (www.mittelmoda.com) and through the official social media pages. The final selected contestants will be notified via email.

Candidates are responsible for ensuring that the email address provided during the registration process and in Attachment 1 is accurate and active. The selected final candidates will receive an email with all info for the final event.

All outfits and/or accessories and/or model designs and/or projects will be presented to the jury and will be evaluated. The evaluation will be on both compliance with the registration and final results of the creation.

Art. 10 - TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION EXPENSES

The Association and/or its sponsors (through the Association itself) will cover directly all travel (to and from Milan) and accommodation expenses for competitors from foreign countries participating in the 32nd edition of Mittelmoda International Lab's final event.

The Association will contact the finalists to arrange travel schedules.

The Association will directly take care of the travel and accommodation bookings for competitors from foreign countries. For this reason, Finalists are kindly requested not to make independent flight or hotel reservations.

The detailed program of the final phase of the International Lab of Mittelmoda - with all details regarding arrivals, departures and participant obligations - will be promptly sent to the finalists once the selection process is completed.

The association may completely or partly suspend the coverage of the expenses above, for circumstances beyond its control (for example: health or war emergencies). In that case, the Association will promptly notify the finalists, with no entitlement to compensation should they be unable to participate in the final phase of the competition.

*Accommodation in an affiliated facility, subjected to availability. This provision applies exclusively to finalists residing abroad. Expenses of any partners and/or tutors are not included and must be paid directly to the facilities/travel companies. Any applicable refund policies and procedures shall be communicated promptly to the selected candidates.

Art. 11 - PROPERTY OF ITEMS OF CLOTHING AND COMPOSITIONS

All submitted and presented items shall remain the property of the candidates, unless otherwise specified in relation to specific special awards. The Mittelmoda International Lab Association reserves all publication and communication rights relating to the submitted materials.

By signing this regulation, the candidates declare that all presented projects and collections have been designed and created by them and that they hold full intellectual property rights thereto. If a candidate is found guilty of plagiarism, they shall be automatically disqualified from the contest.

The Mittelmoda International Lab Association shall bear no responsibility for any acts of plagiarism committed by third parties. If the finalist is interested in assigning or licensing the intellectual property, copyrights or other economic right to third parties, they must inform the Mittelmoda International Lab Association, which shall hold a right of first refusal under the same conditions.

The prototypes, promotional materials and projects — whether in physical or digital form — shall not be returned to the candidates and shall become part of the Mittelmoda International Lab Association's archives.

The organization reserves the right to keep the garments and/or model designs - subject to prior written authorization from the candidates - for the final phase, for a period of time not exceeding six months and submit said items to fashion brands, to show in exhibitions, photoshoots, television and other shows in order to promote the stylists and the event itself.

Art. 12 - RESPONSIBILITY

The Mittelmoda International Lab Association shall not assume any responsibility for possible damage or theft during selections, transport operations, throughout the event and during the period in which the garments and items will be kept.

The final event takes place within an international buyers' context. . For this reason, Candidates are advised to take care of their belongings and not to leave them unattended. This includes the backstage area, which is not provided with active surveillance.

The Mittelmoda International Lab Association is not responsible for any damaged or lost personal items. The resolution of any dispute arising from this competition shall be entrusted to an arbitration panel composed of one member appointed by each party and a third member appointed by the President of the Court of Udine.

Art. 13 - FASHION SHOW

The fashion show and award ceremony of International Lab of Mittelmoda shall take place on 13 and 14 October 2026 (TBC), in Milan (Italy), at a time to be determined. In the case of cancellation or postponement for circumstances beyond its control (for example: health or war emergencies), the Association will promptly notify the participants with no entitlement to compensation should they be unable to participate in the final phase of the competition.

The program will be published on our website [www.mittelmoda.com] and through official social media pages.

The fashion show shall be entirely organized by the Association.

Music, visual elements and the order of appearance shall be defined by the Organization at its sole discretion.

Art. 14 - SUBSCRIPTION

The signing of this regulation and attachments implies full acceptance of these Regulations, from Article 1 to Article 13, in accordance with applicable data protection legislation.

By signing the regulation, the candidate declares that all the details entered in the registration form and in the attachments are true. Any false declaration shall be subject to the provisions of the law.

Date and place

Candidate's legible signature

ATTACHMENT 1: PERSONAL DATA, CONTACTS AND EDUCATION DETAILS

Personal Details	
Name:	
Surname:	
Date of birth:	
Place of birth:	
Nationality:	
Passport or ID N°:	
Address:	
City:	

Contact details	
*preferred contacts only. All information regarding the contest will be sent to the contacts stated below.	
Email:	
Cell N° (including country code)	
Instagram:	
Facebook:	
LinkedIn	
Website:	
Spoken languages:	

Education details - Course of study:	
College attended:	
Address of institution attended:	
Course of study attended:	
Graduation year (if undergraduate indicate year and month of expected graduation)	
Institute phone contact:	
Name of referring professor:	
Email of referring professor:	

ATTACHMENT 2: COLLECTION DETAILS - FASHION DESIGN AND ACCESSORIES

Collection details:	
N° of Menswear outfit (total look):	
N° of Womenswear outfit (total look):	
N° of Agender outfit (total look):	
N° of knitwear (single pieces):	
N° of bags*:	
N° of shoes*:	
N° of trouser	
N° of shirt	
N° of jewelry*:	
N° of eyewear*:	
Other:	
Materials in the collection:	

***Specify the number of accessories designed and made by the candidate**

Sizes: the submitted outfits and accessories must be in line with the size of the regulations.

Sizes can vary by approximately +/-10%

MAN:

Height: 74-75 inch / 187-189 cm

Chest: 34-36 inch / 88-92 cm

Waist: 30 inch / 75-77 cm

Hips: 38-39 inch / 95-97 cm

Shoes: US 10,5 / UK 10 / EU 44-45

WOMEN:

Height: 70 inch / 177-180 cm

Chest: 32 inch / 80-82 cm

Waist: 24 inch / 60-62 cm

Hips: 34-36 inch / 88-92 cm

Shoes: US 8-9 / UK 6-7 / EU 39-40

Materials: Any material may be used, provided that it complies with applicable environmental protection regulations.

Season: the season can be chosen by the candidate.