



FEDEC @ Imaginarium 2026 : Call for applications

21-23 May 2026, Santa Maria da Feira (PT)



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To celebrate its 25th anniversary, Imaginarium – Santa Maria da Feira International Street Theater Festival reaffirms its role as a stage for emerging artists and as a driving force for innovation and new ways of creating in the performing arts.

This year, the festival joins forces with FEDEC – International network for professional circus education, to strengthen dialogue with the global circus community. Through this collaboration, Imaginarium connects with international tendencies in street and circus arts, opening space for experimentation, exchange, and artistic renewal, while supporting the new generation of creators who will shape the future of contemporary performance. The partnership between IMAGINARIUS and FEDEC is an invitation to young artists to participate in official program of the festival.

FEDEC

FEDEC – International network for professional circus education is a network dedicated to supporting, developing, and promoting professional circus education worldwide. Bringing together schools, training centers, and educators, FEDEC fosters collaboration, knowledge exchange, and innovation in the field of contemporary circus arts. Since its creation in 1998, FEDEC has grown into a vibrant community where members share expertise, strengthen pedagogical practices, and advocate for the recognition of circus as both an art form and a profession. Through projects, research, artistic encounters, and continuous dialogue, FEDEC works to empower educators and students, ensuring that circus training responds to today's artistic, cultural, and social challenges. At its heart, FEDEC is a meeting point: a space for collective reflection, creative exploration, and international cooperation – building the future of circus education together.

Imaginarium

Imaginarium – International Street Theater Festival is one of Portugal's largest street art festivals and a benchmark in the European public performing arts scene.

By transforming the city into a democratic and accessible stage, the festival invites national and international artists to challenge the limits of imagination, fostering encounters, dialogue, and the construction of new understandings.

Through street art, seen as a language of resistance, critique, and freedom, Imaginarium bridges different worlds and bridges gaps, establishing itself as a space for sharing, reflection, and collective transformation.

FEDEC

imaginarium
santa maria da feira festival internacional de teatro de rua



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Object

- This call aims to select up to 6 performances to be presented at Imaginarius 2026.
- The performances must be original and have a connection with the theme of this 25th edition: **25 years | The Body**.
- The project includes a week residency period, from May 13th to May 20th 2026.

Participants

- The artists should be still students or alumni (recently graduated) of one of FEDEC members.
- They must be available to be in residency and perform on festival dates, 21, 22 and 23 May 2026.
- The performances can be solos, duos, trios or quads.

Presentations and pro

- The selected projects will be presented 2 or 3 times.
- The number of times and time table must be negotiated with Festival program team;
- The selected artists must give a workshop to local community or participate to a cultural mediation activity.
- The selected artists must participate in PRO activities.

Support to the participation and presentation

- The festival provides:
 - lodging
 - food
 - fee: 600€ per presentation (up to a maximum of 3 presentations). This fee includes the workshop or another mediation activity.
- Participation in the Imaginarius PRO professional space;
- Communication of the artistic project through the festival network [printed materials, online and media].

Presentation space and technical requirements

- The shows will be presented in a Big Top and the festival technical rider must be respected.
- The festival provides basic technical rider:
 - PA STACK
 - MIC SM58
 - 2 VARAS PAR64
 - 4 ROBOTS MOVING WASH
 - 4 BEAMS
 - 4 PAR LED

Selection process

- Applications will be evaluated by a committee with members from Imaginarius and FEDEC.

- The artistic proposals will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:
 - Creativity
 - Artistic quality
 - Originality
 - Connection to the theme of the festival
 - Stage/Space adaptability & technical needs.

The results of this selection will be **published mid-December 2025**.

Calendar

- **Open call:** October 28th to November 17th 2025.
- **Selection period:** November 18th to December 15th 2025.
- **Residency period:** May 13 to May 20th 2026.
- **Festival:** May 21st to May 23rd 2026.

How to apply

- Candidates must download the form available on the festival's website, www.imaginarium.pt.
- The form must be filled out and the full application must be submitted by email to program@imaginarium.pt with the title "FEDEC at Imaginarium Application".
- The email must contain:
 - the filled out application form,
 - a biographical note of the authors up to 500 characters,
 - a project synopsis up to 300 characters,
 - 3 pictures and a video of the show,
 - a technical rider and needs .
- Applications must be submitted in English.
- Applications shall be submitted **between October 28th and November 17th 2025 at 11:30pm (CET)**.
- All applications will only be deemed effective upon reception of all documents and email confirmation.