

24FRAME Future Film Fest: after 25 years of success and the growth led by Doc Servizi, the Festival opens to new partners

Bologna, March 25, 2026 – After twenty-five years of success and a three-year period of significant growth, the 24FRAME Future Film Fest is preparing to enter a new chapter in its history. Doc Servizi, the cooperative society that has led the Festival's production since 2021, announces the conclusion of its management mandate, leaving behind a solid, authoritative, and rapidly growing festival.

This new phase comes at a particularly strong moment for the Festival: the 25th edition, held in 2025, closed to widespread acclaim from both audience and critics, confirming the Festival's main skill to evolve even in complex scenarios.

Despite ongoing uncertainties related to public funding timelines and the limited availability of cinema venues, the Festival has strengthened its programming and significantly expanded and diversified its funding sources, widening its network of stakeholders and reinforcing its relation with public institutions.

Today, 24FRAME is a project **"in search of an author"**, looking for new investors and strategic stakeholders ready to play the market of animation, vfx, new technologies, AI, augmented reality and virtual reality in a platform that has become a national and international benchmark for animation in all its forms. This growth has been made possible thanks to the essential support of the Emilia-Romagna Region and the Emilia-Romagna Film Commission, alongside the strong collaboration with the municipalities of Bologna and Modena. Further recognition of the Festival's cultural and educational value comes from its recent accreditation by the Italian Ministry of Culture (MiC) for Cinema and Images for Schools projects, including the initiatives *Anima Future* and *Art and Science*.

Founded in 1999 with the pioneering vision of exploring animation in all its dimensions, the Festival is now a multifaceted ecosystem where independent creativity and mainstream productions coexist, together with traditional techniques and cutting-edge technologies. Doc Servizi, which took on this challenge during the height of the pandemic, now hands over an outstanding reality, ready to be guided toward new milestones by those willing to invest in visual and cultural innovation.



“In recent years, we have witnessed a growing need for training and exchange among professionals, which has led us to consolidate the Festival as a hub able to addressing these needs. A kind of constellation that, in Italy and beyond, has enhanced the know-how developed over these twenty-five years, both through the festival format—showcasing new authors and content—and through training and outreach for younger generations. A new phase now opens, representing a major investment opportunity for the cultural and creative industries in the country. We thank Doc Servizi for relaunching the Festival and hope that the baton can soon be passed on to new stakeholders.” — Giulietta Fara, co-founder of the Future Film Festival and Artistic Director of 24FRAME Future Film Fest and its related activities.

Doc Servizi’s decision stems from the cooperative’s strategic choice to invest in the live events sector and to focus on the core business of its members.

“We are proud to have contributed to the Festival’s relaunch and will complete our commitments related to the CIPS – Cinema and Images for Schools 2026 calls, as well as ongoing collaborations for Future Film Kids and Sunday Anime, and the new advanced training course ‘Cut-Out 2D with Toon Boom Harmony’ in partnership with Demetra Formazione. We hope the Festival will continue under the vision and leadership of new stakeholders.” — Demetrio Chiappa, President of Doc Servizi Soc. Coop.

24FRAME Future Film Fest

The 24FRAME Future Film Festival, Italy’s first festival dedicated to animation films, VFX, and media arts, is an annual event that brings together art, industry, and new technologies. Since 1999, 24FRAME has inspired and shaken the world to the rhythm of animation, highlighting the creative dynamism and richness this sector represents. From exclusive presentations of the latest animated works to demonstrations of the latest and future trends, and meetings with experienced directors and emerging talents, it is a celebration of emotions held in a place of great a space capable of meeting the needs of the entire community passionate and engaged in the creation of animation and visual effects products.

24FRAME has always been one of the key events for animation and visual arts at both the national and international levels.

Festival promoters and supporters: the Municipality of Bologna, the Municipality of Modena, the Emilia Romagna Region with Emilia-Romagna Film Commission.

<https://www.futurefilmfestival.it/>



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Sunday Anime – an animation film season dedicated to Asian animated movies for adult audience at Cinema Odeon in Bologna, with Japanese snacks (*oyatsu*) alongside film screenings.

Future Film Kids – an animation film season at Cinema Odeon in Bologna and workshops for children held across Italy.

2D Cut-Out Animation with Toon Boom Harmony

An advanced training programme dedicated to professionals in 2D animation, focused on the use of Toon Boom Harmony software. Promoted by Demetra Formazione, it is funded by the European Social Fund Plus of the Emilia-Romagna Region. Project Ref. PA 2025-25469/RER, approved by Regional Executive Decision no. 2029/2025 of 9 December 2025.

Arte e Scienza per il pianeta – The project supported by *CIPS – Cinema e Immagini per la Scuola*, an initiative of the Italian Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education and Merit, aims to introduce primary school students to a new form of environmental sustainability education through cinema, art and science. Partners include Fondazione Ago, the Municipality of Modena, the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, and FEM – Future Education Modena.

Anima Future – The initiative is developed within the National Plan for Cinema *CIPS – Cinema e Immagini per la Scuola* promoted by MiC and MIM, in partnership with Graffiti Creative, Demetra Formazione, Seac Film, and Corso Doc. Through the language of animation, students are guided along an educational and production pathway focused on highly relevant social issues, including gender equality, cyberbullying, combating stereotypes, and positive emotional development. The programme is dedicated to students in the Bologna area and involves nursery, primary, and secondary schools.

Rete Doc

Rete Doc took over the organization of the festival in 2021, at the height of the pandemic, as a clear and tangible demonstration of its commitment to supporting and advancing professionals across the creative sectors—particularly the audiovisual industry, which was especially impacted during that period.

Rete Doc is the largest cooperative network of professionals in the cultural and creative industries. For over thirty years, it has been providing high-quality services to companies, organizations, and institutions across a wide range of sectors, including culture and entertainment, creativity and innovation, research and education, tourism and local development, as well as communication and media.

Founded in Verona in 1990 with Doc Servizi, the organization has evolved its cooperative model into a network that today includes five cooperatives, four companies, one foundation, and 20 offices across Italy, with more than 4,000 active professionals.



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