

Call For submissions  
**Comic competition**

# Freundschaft Friendship Amicizia Amicitie

Flags on the  
Mittlere Rhein-  
brücke bridge

Exhibition at  
FANTASY BASEL –  
The Swiss Comic Con

Deadline:  
15 March 2026

THIS IS  
BASEL

FANTASY  
BASEL  
THE SWISS COMIC CON

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Cartoonmuseum Basel  
Zentrum für  
narrative Kunst

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Christoph Merian Stiftung

**Basel invites illustrators from every country to take part in this new comic competition. The prizes awaiting the winners include the opportunity to show their works to a large audience on flags on the Mittlere Rheinbrücke bridge in Basel and at an exhibition designed by the Cartoonmuseum Basel – Centre For Narrative Art at FANTASY BASEL – The Swiss Comic Con.**

“The ninth art connects”:  
friendship connects,  
comics connect,  
bridges connect

### **How to win**

Friendship is the invisible bond that connects us. It breaks down boundaries, conjures up happiness, shortens distances, fuels longing, ignites inspiration, provides comfort and defies time. Your short comic celebrates friendship in a surprising, touching, profound or amusing way. We are looking for stories that open doors in terms of content and forge bold artistic paths.

### **Supporters / organisers / founding institutions**

This competition is sponsored by Basel Tourism, FANTASY BASEL – The Swiss Comic Con, the Cartoonmuseum Basel – Centre for Narrative Art and the Christoph Merian Foundation. It sees comics as an artistic practice in the public realm and as a medium with a unifying power.

### **General requirements**

The international competition is aimed at all those who view themselves as creators of the ninth art. The aim is to make different artistic positions visible and to embed comics in the public space and in the exhibition context as a contemporary art form.

Each artist may submit a comic story of a maximum of two pages. A total of 20 comics will be selected from all the entries, five of which will be from newcomers. The selected comics will form the basis for the flags on the theme of “Freundschaft – Friendship – Amicizia – Amitié” on the Mittlere Rheinbrücke bridge in Basel, with twenty flags measuring 2 × 2 metres, as well as for an exhibition by the Cartoonmuseum at its own stand at FANTASY BASEL – The Swiss Comic Con. All submitted works will also be shown there in a digital presentation.

### **Conditions of participation**

This international competition is open to all individuals who view themselves as creators of the ninth art. Participants’ education, institutional affiliation or publication activity has no bearing on their ability to enter the competition. Five prizes are reserved for newcomers, which will be selected during the judging process.

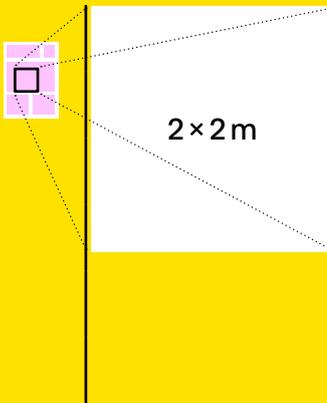
## Submission

- Digital submission as .tiff
- Minimum resolution: 600 dpi
- Colour space: CMYK  
RGB files will be converted for printing
- File naming:  
First\_name\_surname\_work title\_page1.tiff
- By submitting an entry, participants confirm that they are the sole authors and are not infringing any third-party rights.
- The use of AI for assistance and artistic production is not permitted.



## Comic Format

- Maximum 2 pages
- A4 or A3 format
- Trimming for works with sloping edges: +3mm
- Portrait or landscape format
- Only these formats are permitted



## Flags

- A square section of the work, selected by the jury, is shown on the flags.

## Exhibition

- The entire work will be displayed at the exhibition at FANTASY BASEL.
- Exhibition duration: 14 to 16 May 2026

## Copyright & rights of use

The submitted works remain the property of the artists, who retain the copyright to them. The competition sponsors FANTASY BASEL – The Swiss Comic Con, Cartoonmuseum Basel – Centre for Narrative Art, Christoph Merian Foundation and Basel Tourism will receive a temporally and spatially unlimited right to use the work for the flags, exhibition, accompanying communication and documentation of the project, even beyond the duration of the competition. The flags will become the property of the artists in June 2026 if they so wish.

## Jury & selection

The 20 works will be selected by a one-stage, final jury decision. No reasons are given for the selection.

The jury is made up of five people with voting rights:

- Josepha Bosshart (Basel Tourism)
- Anette Gehrig (Cartoonmuseum Basel, Chair)
- Julia Marti (Verlag Edition Moderne Zurich)
- Gabriela Oberholzer (FANTASY BASEL – The Swiss Comic Con)
- Thomas Ott (comics artist, Basel)

## Remuneration & services

- All 20 selected artists will receive standard remuneration of CHF 1,500, four one-day tickets for FANTASY BASEL – The Swiss Comic Con 2026 and a travel allowance of CHF 500.
- Invitation to the vernissage on 4 May 2026 (no additional expenses covered)
- There is no ranking, no categories and no first prizes

## Schedule

- Call for submissions opens:  
15 February 2026
- Submission deadline:  
15 March 2026
- Selection & jury decision:  
End of March 2026
- Flags:  
4–18 May 2026, Mittlere Rheinbrücke bridge, Basel
- Exhibition:  
14–16 May 2026 as part of FANTASY BASEL

## Contact

All questions should be addressed to:  
[comic@basel.com](mailto:comic@basel.com)

## Submission and current information

[www.basel.com/comic-wettbewerb-2026](http://www.basel.com/comic-wettbewerb-2026)

