



11° INTERNATIONAL DESIGN AND DRAWING COMPETITION "Pier Luigi della Bordella"

in cooperation with IronNotes

The XXVI Edition of the Biennial Show of Blacksmithing Art of Stia follows the path initiated in 2015 in the framework of the **11° INTERNATIONAL DESIGN AND DRAWING COMPETITION "Pier Luigi della Bordella"** with the same key objective: offering a tangible incentive to foster, within this event, the crucial and necessary two-way relationship between planning, design and the world of craftsmanship and "handmade".

The competition will represent once again a stage for Italian and international artists, designers, architects, blacksmiths and students to engage in the design of pieces of street furniture: applicants are therefore invited to submit projects that can be brought to life by skilled craftsmen and that are functional to the urban decor context of the Municipality of Pratovecchio Stia.

The subject of the 2025 edition of the Design and Drawing Competition is:

'**GATE OF THE S.T.I.A. ACADEMY**' to be placed at the entrance of the outdoor green area of the **School Training Iron & Arts** in Pratovecchio Stia.

Participants are requested to develop a design concept on whose basis execution and production can be planned and implemented. The gate object of the competition shall be designed drawing inspiration from the tradition of artistic forged iron work, paying particular attention to functionality and harmonious inclusion in the architectural context.

REGULATION

Art. 1

The International Design and Drawing Competition will be fully online. Projects must be submitted no later than **22 August 2025 at 6:00 PM CEST** to the e-mail address ferrostia@gmail.com. The application must include, **besides the**

required design-related material, the **participation form duly completed in all its parts**. Participants may compete **individually or in groups (maximum 4 participants per group)**. Failure to submit this information and share the requested documents will result in exclusion from the competition.

Art. 2

The project submitted for the International Design and Drawing Competition may be **realised by hand** (traditional technical drawing) or with the use of **computer graphic and modelling software**. In either case, the project shall be sent in digital format according to the specifications requested in the call, paying attention to clarity, legibility and quality of the presentation.

Art. 3

Participants to the competition are required to submit a full project complying with the following technical specifications:

A: Driveway gate:

- Length: **3.5 linear metres**
- Height: **variable between 2 metres and 2.5 linear metres**

B: Pedestrian gate:

- Width: **1 linear metre**
- Height: variable between **2 metres and 2.5 linear metres**

C. Shape of the gate:

- **All geometric shapes** are permitted (linear, concave, convex, irregular, etc.),
- **mandatory opening towards the internal area** of the property

D. Fence module:

- A **connection module** to connect the gate with the existing fence has to be foreseen:
- Minimum **height**: 1 metre,
- Left side: connection with **reinforced concrete wall**,
- Right side: connection with **existing railing**.

E. Materials:

- The gate shall be mainly made of forged iron,
- Other metal materials (e.g. steel, copper, brass, etc.) may be used,
- The following items must be clearly specified for each material:
 - **Type and features**,
 - **Forging and assembly techniques** used,
 - **Protective treatments** (galvanising, painting, etc.),
 - **Colour finish** (colour RAL or detailed description).

F. The Project boards must include the name of the designer/designers and title of the project:

- The design must be submitted in **A2 size** (42 x 59.4 cm),
- The designer may produce **one or more boards**, depending on the need for representation and completeness of the project
- The boards should be sent in high-resolution **PDF** format.

G. Requested documents: final (executive) project, duly dimensioned, including (under penalty of exclusion from the competition):

- plan
- perspective drawings (at least two)
- At least one section
- axonometric and/or perspective view and/or photo insertion and/or rendering
- Technical details to an appropriate scale (driveway gate, pedestrian gate and junction module),
- Explanatory report with explanation of design choices,
- Sketch and brief history of the project: inspirations, artistic and functional rationale.

The project shall aim towards an harmonious integration of aesthetics, functionality, craftsmanship and technical innovation.

Art. 4

In order to facilitate the design, the organisers shall provide in attachment the following photographic and planimetric documents:

- Image showing the exact location of the intervention within the urban context;
- Aerial photo of the concerned area;
- Perspective photo of the entrance to the building and its façade.

The purpose of this material is to provide participants with a clear picture of the architectural and environmental context in which the gate and fencing module are to be integrated. **With this information, participants will be enabled to develop a project interpreting the context in both traditional and innovative ways**, leaving plenty of room for creativity.

Art. 5

The intellectual property rights of the submitted proposals belong to the competitors. The property of the works lies with the Associazione Autonoma per la Biennale d'Arte Fabbrile, which is entitled to revise the proposals, implement, integrate and develop them to facilitate any approval and authorisation by the relevant bodies.

The Associazione Autonoma per la Biennale d'Arte Fabbrile reserves the possibility and the right to organise a public exhibition of the proposals submitted to the competition.

The Associazione Autonoma per la Biennale d'Arte Fabbriale will have the full control of the projects, and is entitled to:

- exhibit and present the projects;
- to execute the work in accordance with the time schedule, the funding and the resources made available by various bodies and by sponsors, if any;
- to realise the work fully, partially or in a non-conforming manner with reference to one or more projects submitted without the authors being able to claim any other rights over them;
- to carry out the work without any restrictions deriving from the outcome of the ranking list, being entitled to choose different design solutions, including ones that do not conform to the aforementioned competition results.

Art. 6

The competition is open to any person above the age of 16. Registration is **free** of charge.

Art. 7

The projects will be evaluated by a special jury made up of six national and international experts. A representative of the organising committee and a notary or lawyer will be present, without voting rights.

All of the submitted projects will undergo a first shortlisting process in order to assess their consistency with the theme of the competition and adherence to the required formalities. The Jury's decision is binding and therefore not-appealable.

The activity and deliberations of the Jury are secret. A brief minute of the evaluation meeting will be drawn up by the secretary and stored by the promoting body, while the final report including the final ranking list will be published.

Art. 8

The jury can award, at its own discretion, up to three projects that are deemed to present the most strictly functional characteristics and are consistent with the competition.

The competition award is a medal. The first place winner will be additionally rewarded with an amount equal to € 500,00 (five hundred).

The winner or the winning team (first place) of the competition will also be offered **free hospitality** during the days dedicated to the realisation of the selected project. Such hospitality will cover:

- **accommodation and meals**, according to the terms that will be communicated later on by the organisers.

- The presence of the designer is required to closely oversee the execution of the project and encourage dialogue between the conceptual design side and the realisation side.

Art. 9

All of the projects admitted to the competition will be **exhibited to the public in a dedicated space during the four event days** (4-7 September 2025), in Stia (Municipality of Pratovecchio Stia).

The purpose of the exhibition is to highlight the work of the participants to the competition and to encourage the exchange between different design approaches; the authors of the exhibited projects will be quoted with name, surname (or name of the group) and title of the project.

Art. 10

The names of the winners will be announced during the Final Award Ceremony to be held on **Sunday 7 September 2025 at 5:30 PM CEST** in Stia, B. Tanucci square.

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