

International Poetry and Prose Prize in Ligurian Dialects

REGULATIONS 40th Edition 2026

Preamble

There are people who, when they pass away, do not only leave behind the void of affection but carry with them a piece of a community's memory—a heritage of words, recollections, images, and stories that no archive, no matter how rich, could ever safeguard in the same way. The Prize aims to remedy this, with the ambition of collecting, cataloging, permanently preserving, and disseminating the still-visible traces of those Ligurians who, wherever they may reside, remain the custodians of this heritage born from their roots and which they are willing to pass down to us. Language and identity form an unbreakable bond that we must not lose; for this reason, the *Lauro d'Oro* (Golden Laurel) is dedicated to all those who, with words coming from the heart and from memories, will help us in this endeavor. Our gratitude goes out to them.

Art.1

The *Consulta Ligure delle Associazioni per la Cultura, le Arti, le Tradizioni e la difesa dell'Ambiente ETS* (Ligurian Council of Associations for Culture, Arts, Traditions and Environmental Protection), in collaboration with the *Circolo Folcloristico Culturale Mario Cappello ApS* and the *Associazione A Compagna OdV*, promotes the **LAURO D'ORO International Poetry and Prose Prize in Ligurian Dialects - XL Edition for the year 2026**. The prize will be held biennially.

Art.2

The competition is open to Italian or foreign authors, regardless of their place of residence and with no age limit.

Art.3

Texts must be written in a Ligurian dialect, except for exemptions provided for non-European residents (see **Art.7**), and must include their Italian translation.

Art.4

Poems and prose pieces must be unpublished and sent no later than October 30, 2026.

Art.5

Entry to the award is free.

Art.6

The procedures for text drafting and submission (which can be sent by regular mail or e-mail), as well as for audio recording (if provided), are detailed in **Annex A**. The privacy policy information and consent form for data processing, along with the full acceptance of these REGULATIONS of this XL EDITION 2026, are detailed in **Annex B**.

Art.7

Each poem or prose piece must include:

- Title
- The Ligurian dialect used
- The Italian translation of the text
- The audio recording (optional)

The spelling system (orthography) used will not be a ground for discrimination or exclusion from the competition. Texts written in Spanish, Portuguese, or English will also be accepted; these will be translated into Italian beforehand and subsequently, by internal linguistic experts, into the Ligurian dialect used in the country of origin of the author or their family.

Art.8

Prizes divided by category:

- **Poetry** – First prize: 500 euros – Top 3 finalists: crystal vase (gold/silver/bronze)
- **Prose** – First prize: 500 euros – Top 3 finalists: crystal vase (gold/silver/bronze)
- **Youth** – The two highest-ranking young participants (under 25 years old) in the two categories will receive prizes in shopping vouchers, which may also be combined with the regular prizes.

A special mention will be awarded to all prize winners, and a certificate of participation will be given to all contestants.

Art.9

The composition of the Jury, consisting of 5 members who are not allowed to enter the competition, will be announced at the time of the award ceremony. Its decisions are final and binding.

Art.10

The Award Ceremony will take place by November 2026 in Genoa: the location, date, and time will be communicated well in advance. On this occasion, an online connection will be set up for participants residing outside Italy.

Art.11

The best poems and prose pieces, at the sole discretion of the Jury, may be shared with the public and included on the Ligurian Wikipedia pages dedicated to the event, with the full text and any accompanying audio. In any case, the rights to publish the poems and prose pieces remain the property of the individual authors.

Art.12

Participation in the competition implies full acceptance of these regulations. For anything not covered by these regulations, the Organizing Committee will make the final decision after consulting the Jury.

The President of the Consulta Ligure

Giorgio Oddone

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Giorgio Oddone', written over a circular stamp or seal.