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PRESS RELEASE

European Heritage Award / Europa Nostra Award 2024 for Boulouki - Travelling Workshop on Traditional Building (Greece)

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The [European Commission](#) and [Europa Nostra](#) today announced the **2024 winners of the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards**, co-funded by the [Creative Europe](#) programme of the European Union. This year, Europe's most prestigious awards for heritage go to **26 outstanding winners from 18 countries** across the continent (see the full list below).

Among this year's winners is the collective Boulouki - Itinerant Workshop on Traditional Building Techniques (Greece), whose exceptional work has been awarded in the category of "Education, Training & Skills". Boulouki is an innovative non-profit organization which employs a diversity of educational formats and tools, always connecting them to actual restoration or construction works, with the goal of integrating traditional techniques into contemporary building.

The winners were selected by the [Awards' Jury](#), composed of 12 heritage experts from across Europe, upon evaluation of the applications by the [Selection Committees](#). A total of 206 eligible applications to this year's Awards were submitted by organisations and individuals from 38 European countries.

Iliana Ivanova, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, said: *"Our cultural heritage is our collective treasure, a bridge connecting our past, present and future. It holds a special place in our hearts and daily lives, fostering a sense of belonging and identity. The European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards highlight the crucial role of exemplary projects and individuals dedicated to preserving and promoting our rich heritage. I warmly congratulate this year's winners on their outstanding achievements."*

Cecilia Bartoli, the world-renowned mezzo-soprano and President of Europa Nostra, stated: *"My heartfelt congratulations to this year's winners of the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards on their well-deserved recognition. By honouring these fantastic creative projects, we also demonstrate our great commitment to protecting our shared cultural heritage, which is vital for building a more united, sustainable and beautiful Europe. May their inspiring examples be followed by many citizens – heritage professionals, volunteers and lovers – public organisations and private companies across our continent and beyond."*

The winners will be celebrated at the **European Heritage Awards Ceremony 2024** on **7 October** at the Romanian Athenaeum, the most prestigious concert hall in Bucharest, Romania, which recently received a [European Heritage Label](#) in recognition of its European significance. This high-profile event will be co-hosted by the European Commissioner **Iliana Ivanova** and Europa Nostra's Executive President **Hermann Parzinger**. During the ceremony, the Grand Prix laureates and the Public Choice Award winner, chosen from among this year's winners of the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards and entitled to receive €10,000 each, will be announced.

The ceremony will be a highlight of the [European Cultural Heritage Summit 2024](#) which will take place on 6-8 October in Bucharest. The Summit, co-funded by the European Union, is organised by Europa Nostra in close cooperation with heritage organisations and partners, both public and private, in Romania.

Heritage supporters and enthusiasts are now encouraged to discover the winners and [vote online](#) to decide who **will win the Public Choice Award 2024**, entitled to receive a monetary award of €10,000. You can cast your vote until 22 September.

Boulouki - Travelling Workshop on Traditional Building (Greece)

Boulouki is a versatile collective of architects, engineers and heritage professionals dedicated to revitalising traditional craftsmanship for contemporary construction needs. Their vision is to promote a renewed building culture in Greece and worldwide, drawing from traditional knowledge and techniques.

Since its establishment in 2018 as a non-profit organisation, Boulouki operates on four pillars: education, research, practice and public dialogue. It is the only organisation in Greece that develops and implements professional apprenticeships, combining restoration projects with vocational training. They employ an itinerant approach, travelling around Greece, to conduct workshops that draw from, and respond to, the specific characteristics of every place.

Boulouki is currently developing the first centre for research and training on heritage building skills in the mountainous area of Epirus, at a former school building granted by the local public authorities.

Boulouki's educational approach encompasses three primary formats: hands-on workshops tailored for students and practitioners in heritage-related fields, professional apprenticeships aimed at nurturing a new generation of craftspeople, and community participation initiatives. With a focus on interdisciplinarity, these programs unite masons, academics, students, professionals, and enthusiasts of all ages, fostering collaboration under the guidance of experienced craftspeople. Taking a holistic approach, Boulouki's projects include guided walks, outdoor discussions, lectures, and seminars, as well as cultural mappings and celebrations that actively engage local communities and encourage intergenerational dialogue.

'Under the Landscape' is an exemplary project that began in 2021 and includes all the educational formats that Boulouki has developed so far. It concerns the participatory restoration of a cobblestone pathway and two underground rainwater cisterns which are part of the vernacular architecture and cultural landscape of the famous Santorini Archipelago. The project explores how small island communities may function as cores of social empowerment and creativity, through the participatory and collective care of their heritage.

The project has provided the local community and the regional government with tangible proof of how cultural heritage is a valuable asset. It addressed challenges around conservation, heritage and building practices in the Greek context, namely the limited use of local building materials and techniques, the possibilities to re-introduce them; and the over-development and building sprawl of many Greek islands.

"Boulouki's activities show a remarkable commitment to preserving the Cyclades' unique landscape, that is under increasing pressure from tourism development and was recently listed as one of the [7 Most Endangered sites](#) of 2024. Its exemplary approach encompasses research, documentation, community engagement, and training, and has a strong commitment to sustainability through the reuse of heritage. The collective has succeeded in training in drystone walling, a technique inscribed by UNESCO as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity", the Awards' [Jury](#) commented.

"Boulouki's activities have strong social, environmental and economic values. They promote social integration by bringing people of different ages and origins together, they champion the use of local materials and they support the preservation of the built and natural landscape. Boulouki sets a strong example for further restoration projects, highlighting the transformative power of heritage in promoting sustainable development", the Jury added.

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These are the winners of the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards 2024

in five categories¹:

Conservation & Adaptive Reuse

[Royale Belge Building, Brussels, BELGIUM](#)
[Schulenburg Mansion, Gera, GERMANY](#)
[Ignacy Historic Mine, Rybnik, POLAND](#)
[Saxon Church in Alma Vii, ROMANIA](#)
[St. Michael's Church, Cluj-Napoca, ROMANIA](#)
[Snow Wells, Sierra Espuña, SPAIN](#)

Research

[NewsEye: A Digital Investigator for Historical Newspapers, AUSTRIA/FINLAND/France/GERMANY](#)

Education, Training & Skills

[Teryan Cultural Center - Empowering Armenian Refugees from Nagorno-Karabakh, Yerevan, ARMENIA](#)
[Boulouki - Travelling Workshop on Traditional Building, GREECE](#)
[Traditional Farm Buildings Scheme, IRELAND](#)
[Serfenta Crafts Revitalisation Model, Cieszyn, POLAND](#)
[White Carpentry School, Narros del Castillo, SPAIN](#)

Citizens' Engagement & Awareness-raising

[The Square Kilometre, Ghent, BELGIUM](#)
[The Silence that Tore Down the Monument, Kamenska, CROATIA](#)
[Preserving the Community Halls for Local Civil Society Activities, FINLAND](#)
[Fortified Castles of Alsace Association, FRANCE](#)
[Citizens' Rehabilitation of the Tsiskarauli Tower, Akhieli, GEORGIA](#)
[International Festival of Classical Theatre for Youth, Syracuse, ITALY](#)
[Foundation for the Conservation of the Historical Estate Ockenburgh, The Hague, THE NETHERLANDS](#)

Heritage Champions

[Society of Friends of Dubrovnik Antiquities, CROATIA](#)
[Else "Sprossa" Rønnevig, Lillesand, NORWAY](#)
[Professor Piotr Gerber, Wrocław, POLAND](#)

Europa Nostra Awards 2024 for outstanding projects from the UK

This year, Europa Nostra Awards go to four remarkable heritage projects from a European country not taking part in the EU Creative Europe programme.

[Gideon Tapestries, Hardwick Hall](#) (Conservation & Adaptive Reuse category)
[Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings, Shrewsbury](#) (Conservation & Adaptive Reuse category)
[Westminster Hall, London](#) (Conservation & Adaptive Reuse category)
[Marcus Binney CBE, OBE Hon FRIBA FSA](#) (Heritage Champions category)

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TO FIND OUT MORE

[Press release in various languages](#)

About each Award winner:

[Information and Jury's comments](#)
[Videos](#) (in high resolution)
[Photos & e-banners](#) (in high resolution)

[Creative Europe website](#)

¹ The winners are listed alphabetically by country

Background

European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards

The [European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards](#) were launched by the European Commission in 2002 and have been run by Europa Nostra ever since. For 22 years, the Awards have been a key tool to recognise and promote the multiple values of heritage for Europe's society, economy and environment.

The Awards have highlighted and disseminated heritage excellence and best practices in Europe, encouraged the cross-border exchange of knowledge and connected heritage stakeholders in wider networks. The Awards have brought major benefits to the winners, such as greater (inter)national exposure, additional funding and increased visitor numbers. In addition, the Awards have championed a greater care for our shared heritage among Europe's citizens. For additional facts and figures about the Awards, please visit the [Awards website](#).

The Call for Entries for the 2025 edition of the Awards will open in Autumn 2024. Sign up for our [newsletter](#) to receive the Call once it is launched or visit www.europeanheritageawards.eu/apply for more information.

Europa Nostra

[Europa Nostra](#) is the European voice of civil society committed to safeguarding and promoting cultural and natural heritage. It is a pan-European federation of heritage NGOs, supported by a wide network of public bodies, private companies and individuals, covering over 40 countries. It is the largest and the most representative heritage network in Europe, maintaining close relations with the European Union, the Council of Europe, UNESCO and other international bodies. Founded in 1963, Europa Nostra celebrated its 60th anniversary last year.

Europa Nostra campaigns to save Europe's endangered monuments, sites and landscapes, in particular through the [7 Most Endangered Programme](#). It celebrates and disseminates excellence through the [European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards](#). Europa Nostra actively contributes to the definition and implementation of European strategies and policies related to heritage, through a participatory dialogue with European Institutions and the coordination of the [European Heritage Alliance](#).

Europa Nostra has led the European consortium selected by the European Commission to run the [European Heritage Hub](#) pilot project (2023-2025). It is also an official partner of the [New European Bauhaus](#) initiative developed by the European Commission, and is a leading European member and supporter of the [Climate Heritage Network](#).

Creative Europe

[Creative Europe](#) is the EU programme that supports the cultural and creative sectors, enabling them to increase their contribution to Europe's society, economy and living environment. With a budget of €2.4 billion for 2021-2027, it supports organisations in the fields of heritage, performing arts, fine arts, interdisciplinary arts, publishing, film, TV, music, and video games as well as tens of thousands of artists, cultural and audiovisual professionals.