# MUZA COMPETITION 4 APPLICATION GUIDELINES

**1-st Phase**

"MUZA COMPETITION" is a project implemented by the Union of Albanian Municipalities, which includes the participation of passionate and professional youth, in the revitalization of ethnographic elements in the field of fashion design. The project is dedicated to young people aged 18-35 from all Albanian-speaking cities in the Western Balkans region, to offer them a wider range of professional opportunities aimed at promoting employment in creative economies, promoting the creation of start-up businesses or expanding existing businesses.

“MUZA COMPETITION” will be a center for creative economy and a place for new business opportunities, exchange and collaboration, ideas and solutions, promotion and presentation of the latest innovations. Our goal is to support the potential of new creative minds, to foster their interest in cultural heritage, presenting the synergy between contemporary fashion trends and traditional elements.

Now is the time to complete the documents to apply and get to work right away to submit all of your designs by **April 28th, 17:00 PM.**

# The application criteria are as follows:

1. Young people aged **18-35** from albanian-speaking cities in the Western Balkans region;
2. Submission of sketches/designs which should contain as main themes, **elements of Albanian ethnography and cultural heritage of different cities from the albanian-speaking region,** based on the details as follows:
   * A portfolio with a minimum of **15 clothing sketches**, to show your initial design concept (maximum 20 sketches) in a format of your choice.
   * Elements of ethnography should present only a certain region, for example the region of Malësia e Madhe, etc.
   * For each sketch, you should briefly describe the materials, you intend to use in the making.
   * Your designs will be evaluated in several categories; use of cultural heritage elements, methods used to produce designs, creativity and originality, sustainability, marketability.
   * Every outfit should be a complete outfit.
   * Shoes and accessories are not required to be designed, but you will need to provide shoes/ accessories for your collection when you reach the further stages of the competition.
   * Creations must be original and not previously published or used.
   * No clothing is required to be produced/manufactured in the first stage of application.
   * Young people who have applied in previous editions of Muza Competiton (except for the winners of monetary prizes in those editions) can re-apply in this fourth edition of Muza, only with the condition that the application for this fourth edition is not the same as the previous application.
   * Applicants who advance to the second phase will be required to present **one** complete outfit based on the sketches from their application. The jury will evaluate the outfit by considering the methods of preparation, materials used, and other aspects of the work.

# Documents you are required to submit:

1. Identity card of the applicant;
2. CV
3. Application form according to the form required on the application page;
4. Submit **15 clothing sketches to** show your initial design concept (maximum 20).

# When submitting your application documents you should keep in mind that:

1. All documents must be completed in Albanian or English.
2. All the above documents must be submitted in the project official email: **muzacompetition@gmail.com** in a **pdf format.**
3. **The deadline** for applications is Monday, **April 28th, 2025** at 17:00 PM (GMT + 1).
4. Any application received after the competition deadline will not be accepted.
5. After submitting the application, you will receive a confirmation by email.
6. Please note that you will **NOT** be able to change your application after you submit.