

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

The Pezcoller Foundation awards the Scholarship for SISSA Master course in Science Communication “Franco Prattico”

Linda Trifirò was ranked first by the admissions committee for the SISSA specialisation programme



Trieste, 12 January 2026

Linda Trifirò is the recipient of the scholarship awarded by the [Pezcoller Foundation](#) to the top-ranked candidate in the selection process for admission to the [Master's in Science Communication “Franco Prattico”](#) for the 2025-26 academic year.

Linda Trifirò holds a degree in Medical Biotechnology and is about to complete a PhD in Molecular Medicine, specialising in virology, at the University of Turin. Alongside her scientific work, she has long cultivated a passion for singing and theatre, interests that have drawn her towards science communication through a range of approaches and led her to choose the Master course in Science Communication “Franco Prattico”

Trifirò was recognised by the admissions committee as the most deserving candidate in the selection process. The evaluation, which prioritised applicants with strong motivation and a concrete commitment to science communication, identified

Linda Trifirò as the candidate who best embodies the enthusiasm and determination required to undertake the Master's Programme, which aims to train professionals capable of communicating science effectively and engagingly. In recognition of her outstanding qualities, she was awarded a generous contribution by the Pezcoller Foundation, which will fully cover the Master's tuition fees.

The scholarship is the result of a collaboration agreement launched four years ago between the Trento-based Foundation and SISSA – the International School for Advanced Studies in Trieste. Among its objectives are the promotion and dissemination of scientific knowledge, the potential and implications of contemporary science, the creation of opportunities for interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral exchange involving a wide range of social actors, and the promotion of participation and mentorship activities.

The Pezcoller Foundation is a non-profit organisation whose mission is to promote and support the fight against diseases affecting humanity, with particular focus on cancer, by supporting scientific research and cultural initiatives that foster knowledge and public awareness.

Established in 1993, SISSA's Master's in Science Communication "Franco Prattico" is a one-year programme designed to train professionals across various sectors of science communication, including journalism, publishing, museum work, and event organisation.

Nico Pitrelli, Director of the Master's in Science Communication "Franco Prattico", commented «Linda Trifirò's background and motivations are highly representative of the type of students our Master's Programme seeks to attract: individuals with a strong academic background, combined with a desire to explore new forms of expression and to reflect critically on the role of science in society. The scholarship offered by the Pezcoller Foundation provides essential support, as it enables investment in talent and in the quality of training, while at the same time strengthening a collaboration that has, over the years, demonstrated a strong commitment to the public role of science communication.»

Dr. Enzo Galligioni, President of the Pezcoller Foundation, says «The fellowship for the Master's Degree in Science Communication 'Franco Prattico', now in its 5th year, is one of the projects implementing our collaboration with SISSA.

This collaboration is extremely valuable to us and allows our foundation to interact with the world of science communication: a fast-growing field that needs to be encouraged and supported, even more so in our current era where we are constantly exposed to news and information that may not always be true.

Congratulations to the winner Linda Trifirò and best wishes for her future work!»

For more information about the Pezcoller Foundation and its commitment to supporting scientific research, please visit www.pezcoller.it. Additional details on SISSA's programmes and activities, including the Master's in Science Communication "Franco Prattico", are available at www.sissa.it.

IMAGE

Credit: Linda Trifirò

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