

**INFO PACK**  
**Training Course**

# ACADEMY WEEK 2026

**14 - 18 SEPTEMBER 2026**

**13<sup>th</sup> (arrival) to 19<sup>th</sup> September (departure) 2026.**

## DEAF ACTIVISM THROUGH MEDIA, ART AND ADVOCACY

Academy Week is a training and skills-building programme designed for young Deaf participants from different European countries. The aim of the programme is to create a space where participants can learn, share experiences, and develop new skills together.

Each edition of Academy Week focuses on a specific theme. This year, the theme is Deaf activism, explored through media, art, and advocacy. Through workshops and activities, participants will reflect on how Deaf people can express themselves, raise awareness, and promote change in society using different forms of communication and creativity.



Douglas Izu Ozoigboanugo, served as Secretary of the World Federation of the Deaf Youth Section (WFDYS). He is a Deaf Rights Advocate passionate about disability inclusion and deaf education.

He currently serves as Secretary of the Governance, Peace and Migration (GPM) Committee of the European Union Youth Sounding Board (EU-YSB) under the EU Delegation to Nigeria and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

During his leisure time, he writes about the lived experiences of deaf people on his Facebook page, using storytelling as a tool for advocacy.



Alicia Sort Leal — From Barcelona, currently living in the Netherlands. Neuropsychologist and theater director, expressing activism mainly through art, especially through illustrations and theater.



Patrick McMullen is a Deaf entrepreneur and the founder and CEO of Inclusify Studio, an influencer marketing agency that helps brands and creators grow on social media. He started as a creator himself, growing over 1 million followers on TikTok before shifting his focus to building a business. Now he runs campaigns for brands and creators across multiple industries. Patrick is passionate about social media and entrepreneurship, and loves helping others figure out how to do both well.

## **FINANCING RULES:**

Accommodation, meals and working materials are provided by the organisers.

Travel costs to the venue and back will be reimbursed up to the maximum of **320€ per person**.

A registration fee of **€50** will be required to confirm participation.

## **TRAVEL DETAILS**

The ARRIVAL Day is Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

Be in Pianezza before 7.00 pm.

The DEPARTURE Day is Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2026  
after breakfast.

It is not possible to arrive later than 13<sup>th</sup> September 2026 and depart before 19<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

Food and accommodation for extra-days will not be covered by the organizers.

## **HOW TO GET TO TURIN:**

### 1. Flight

The main and better-connected airports to Turin in Italy are Torino Caselle (TRN) and Milan (MXP) or (BGY).

- [www.aeroportoditorino.it/it](http://www.aeroportoditorino.it/it)
- [www.milanomalpensa-airport.com/it/](http://www.milanomalpensa-airport.com/it/)
- <https://www.milanbergamoairport.it/it/>

### 2. Train

The main railway stations closest to the Istituto dei Sordi Foundation are **Turin Porta Susa** and **Turin Porta Nuova**.

Alternatively, the institute can also be reached via the secondary railway station called "**Alpignano Station**".

### For those landing in Turin airport (TRN)

To guarantee the connection with the city centre, take the train from the airport to Turin Porta Susa railway station (SFM4 or SFM7 lines). The journey takes approximately 30 minutes to reach the city centre and costs €3.70 per passenger.

### 3. Bus

The nearest bus station to the Istituto dei Sordi Foundation is “**Torino – Corso Vittorio Emanuele II**”.

### For those landing in Milano airports

Malpensa Airport – Torino

Bergamo Milan Airport - Torino

A direct shuttle bus service operates between Milan Malpensa Airport (MXP) or Milan Bergamo Airport (Orio al Serio – BGY) and Turin. These services are usually provided by private coach companies (such as FlixBus, Flibco or other airport transfer operators) and connect the airport with the city centre of Turin.

The main arrival point in Turin is the coach station located at “**Torino – Corso Vittorio Emanuele II**”, which is the closest stop to the Istituto dei Sordi Foundation.

### WHAT TO BRING:

- Clothes suitable to the weather conditions in Italy and personal hygiene items.
- Please bring at least one computer per national team.
- Any medicine you think you will need during your stay.

### ACCOMMODATION:

Participants will be accommodated in Hotel Gallia - Centro Congressi ([www.galliahotel.it](http://www.galliahotel.it)) in Via Torino, 29/A, 10044 Pianezza (TO).

The hotel provides breakfast, towels and bed linen.

How to reach the Istituto dei Sordi Foundation from Hotel Gallia:

- On foot:

From Hotel Gallia, the Istituto dei Sordi Foundation can be reached on foot in approximately 10–15 minutes. The route is straightforward and mainly flat, making it an easy walk.

- By public transport (bus):

Alternatively, you can take a local bus from nearby stops around the hotel area. Several urban bus lines connect this area with the institute or nearby stops.

	BUS CP1	BUS 32	BUS 132
Direction	Pianezza Musinè	Robotti	Alpignano Stazione
Hotel Bus Stop	Valeo	Valeo	Valeo
Istituto dei Sordi Stop	Pascoli	San Pancrazio	San pancrazio

We strongly recommend participants to inform the organisers about any special needs such as dietary, vegetarian or any other kind of special needs.

Each day, you will be offered a selection of dishes, which must be confirmed by 2:00 PM for the same evening's dinner, via a communication channel to be defined later.

## **HOW TO GET THERE**

To reach Hotel Gallia from Turin:

Take the metro line 1 and get off at "Fermi" station.

From there, take one of the following buses: CP1 or 132, and get off at the "Valeo" stop.

Alternatively, you can take bus 76 and get off at "Statale 24", then walk for approximately 10 minutes to reach the hotel.

## **TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT RULES**

### **Travel reimbursement criteria:**

- Most economical criteria: you must find the most economic transport fares.
- Taxi will be reimbursed only in particular cases to be agreed with us in advance.
- It is not possible to arrive later than 13th September 2024 April and depart before 19th September 2024.
- Maximum Reimbursable limit: each participants has a budget limit reimbursable, please, check it in the respective section of this infopack.

### **Flight reimbursement:**

To obtain the reimburse of your flight you need to keep all your boarding passes and provide an invoice from the Travel Agency / Flight Company that must contain the following data:

- Must be clearly written in English and not handwritten.
- There must be written “paid”.
- Date, place, and number of the Invoice.
- The name of the passenger.
- The full details of the flight (departure/destination and travel days).
- The total amount of the flight.

We will not assure the reimbursement if the invoice does not contain all the elements.

### **Tickets (bus, train):**

They can be reimbursed only if they are legally valid documents.

They must clearly contain the **price** and the **dates**.

If that info is missing, please, ask the responsible of the service to add it and put their stamp to validate it.

### **Reimbursement:**

Only original tickets and flight complete with boarding pass will be reimbursed.

Please keep all the bus, train, and airplane tickets, including boarding pass as well.

Expenses will be calculated in Euro and the reimbursement will be paid in Euro.

Reimbursement will be done by bank transfer after receiving the original tickets and boarding passes by post through Google Form.

**Lost or missing tickets will not be reimbursed.**