

CIRCULAR CULTURES DESIGN SCHOOL

FAQs

March 2026



SMART ATTICA European Digital Innovation Hub



Co-funded by the European Union



PROGRAMME 2021 – 2027
COMPETITIVENESS

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A. Applicants

1. Who should apply to Circular Cultures Design School?

The program is open to aspiring professionals and businesses who are active in the fields of arts, design, architecture, technology as well as those who maintain activities in the fields of creative industries.

The program is open to participants from different disciplines within the creative industries, e.g. Creatives, Designers, Architects, Artisans, Material Scientists, Product Designers, Crafters, Urbanists, Urban Planners, Sustainability Experts/Advisors, Web Designers, Game Developers, Marketing Agents, Makers, Graphic Designers, UI/UX Designers, Visual Artists or other relevant disciplines.

We are looking for people that are interested in designing creative concepts for physical and digital spaces, objects, games and tech items using social design and sustainable practices. In-person participation is required from all individuals in all workshops, discussions, and activities that will take place during the period of **22-25 May 2026, in Athens**. The program is open to businesses and their representatives.

2. Are there any age restrictions?

The Circular Cultures Design School is addressed to individuals over 18 years olds residing in Greece. There are no other restrictions for applicants.

3. Do I need to have prior professional experience?

A minimum of 3 years of professional experience in design/ architecture/ technology/ previously mentioned creative industries is required. Applicants must submit their CV and/or a sample of their previous works and demonstrate interest in participating in the CC Design School.

4. What are the benefits of applying as a small business?

Implemented in partnership with Smart Attica EDIH, applying to the CC Design School as a small business representative is highly recommended. The program is designed to offer skills development, mentoring and training support for the digital transformation of SMEs operating in the a forementioned industries to accelerate their technological advancement and provide a platform for networking and collaboration.



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5. What are the requirements for applying and participating as a representative of a legal entity?

Applicants that are applying as representatives of legal entities are asked to complete company details during the submission phase, as mentioned below:

- COMPANY NAME
- COMPANY'S TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (ΑΦΜ)
- COMPANY'S REPRESENTATIVE
- COMPANY'S REGISTERED OFFICE

For applying as a legal entity, applicants might be the legal representative of the registered company or not. Accepted applicants, during confirming their participation will be asked to provide:

- A signed agreement with the Organisers > in which the represented Legal Entity agrees to receive the services provided by the Program,
- A “de minimis” declaration > stating that the represented Legal Entity is eligible to receive the following mentoring/training support being part of an EU funded program

6. Can there be more than one representatives of the same company/ business?

No, only one individual can participate as a representative of a legal entity. This person must submit the name of the entity they represent in the application form. Each legal entity is limited to one representative to ensure a diverse range of participants.

7. What's the relevance with the CC Design School?

Smart Attica European Digital Innovation Hub (EDIH) is the first European Digital Innovation Hub for Artificial Intelligence in Greece. As part of it, CC Design School is designed to foster the digital transformation of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and organizations within the creative and cultural sectors.

Focused on driving the **digital transformation of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and public sector organizations**, the Hub aims to elevate their digital maturity and facilitate the adoption of cutting-edge digital innovation services.

The Hub specifically targets three key sectors: **Culture & Tourism, Energy & Environment, and Supply Chain & Mobility**, with a strong emphasis on supporting the cultural sector in its efforts to embrace digital transformation. Onassis Foundation through the Onassis ONX platform and programs like CC Design School, provides a platform for businesses in the creative and cultural industries to access new technologies, network with experts, and explore contemporary practices of design in the post-digital era.



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8. Can solo professionals apply?

Yes, individual professionals with expertise relevant to the themes of the CC Design School are strongly encouraged to apply. This is a great opportunity for solo professionals to enhance their design skills, gain new insights and network with peers and lecturers.

9. Are there any regional restrictions in place for teams wanting to sign up?

The Open Call refers to Greek residents and Greek legal entities.

10. Can applicants submit multiple applications or be part of several proposals for the program?

Each Applicant may submit only one (1) application. In the case of multiple applications, the first application only will be taken into consideration.

11. How many participants are in the program?

The Circular Cultures is open to up to sixty (60) participants.

12. What is the language of the program?

The program is conducted entirely in English, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity for the audience attended.

B. Application & Selection

13. How and where do I apply?

Applicants from Greece should submit their application via the official portal of the Onassis Foundation website, through an online application until the 4th of May 2026, at 23:59, UTC+2.

14. What does the selection process involve?

The selection process includes two phases: an initial screening by internal evaluators and secondly, a shortlisting where the chosen applications (including the requested supporting materials) will be reviewed in detail by expert members of the Onassis ONX team and British Council team.



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C. Dates & Setup of the Program

15. What are the dates of this program?

The CC Design School will take place from 22-25 May 2026 in Athens.

16. Is the CC Design School in person?

CC Design School requires physical attendance at Onassis Ready in Athens, Greece for the duration of the program.

17. What is the weekly time commitment to participate?

Time commitment varies depending on the phase of the program. The CC Design School will take place at Onassis Ready (Strati Tsirka 2, Ag. Ioannis Rentis 182 33), in May 2026, in the following slots:

22/01 – 11:00- 15:00, Athens

23/01 – 11:00- 15:00, Athens

24/01 – 11:00-15:00, Athens

25/01 – 17:00-21:00, Athens

18. How can people with disabilities attend the program?

We are committed to creating a safe and welcoming environment that ensures the participation of the widest range of individuals. All our spaces are wheelchair accessible. Participants with disabilities are encouraged to attend the program and are invited to inform the organization of any specific needs. This allows us to make any necessary modifications to the facilities and ensure a comfortable and inclusive experience for everyone.



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D. Program Content and Structure

19. Who will be the tutors of the CC Design School?

CC Design School 2026 tutor is Hana Omori, a Japanese–British artist, director, and world-builder, and the creative lead of Keiken (経験).

She constructs immersive narrative ecosystems across games, installation, film, performance, sculpture, architecture, and soft robotics. Grounded in sensory, embodied, and lived experience, her work prototypes speculative futures through experiential systems.

Omori approaches reality as relational and malleable rather than fixed. By staging encounters between divergent perspectives, across disciplines, cultures, and forms of intelligence. She destabilises dominant narratives and tests how perception can be expanded, reconfigured, and collectively transformed.

Rooted in intersectionality and diverse ways of knowing, including non-human intelligence, ecological systems, and marginalised lived experience, she develops narrative architectures and empathetic technologies that position compassion and multiplicity as structural forces in shaping future consciousness.

She is a recipient of the CHANEL Next Prize and a Resident at Somerset House Studios. Her work has been exhibited internationally at institutions including the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa; Amos Rex; PHI Montréal; Serpentine Galleries; the Victoria & Albert Museum; MUNCH; Onassis Stegi; HEK Basel; and the Helsinki and Thailand Biennials. She holds a permanent public artwork with HAM Helsinki Art Museum.

20. What resources and opportunities will be provided during the program?

The CC Design School provides participants with access to a global network of partners, professors and mentors support and guidance from top executives. Access to facilities, equipment and other services might be provided upon availability. Other networking and presentation opportunities may come about during the program and by its completion.

21. Does the program provide a certificate of attendance?

Participants will get a certificate of attendance by the completion of the program, if asked from the Organisers.



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E. Costs and Funding

22. What is the cost of attending CC Design School?

CC Design School is free for all of the participants.

Co-funded by Smart Attica European Digital Innovation Hub, participating legal entities must sign a contract that they agree to receive the services provided by the program and the organizers and provide a de minimis declaration, stating that the represented Legal Entity is eligible to receive the following mentoring/training support being part of an EU funded program

23. Is accommodation and transportation provided?

Accommodation and transportation are not provided; participants are making their own arrangements if needed.

F. Legal

24. Will the information in my application be treated as confidential?

Your application must include only non-confidential information. The organizer, reviewers, and any parties involved in the selection process will treat the submitted information as non-confidential and may discuss, evaluate, and share it for the purpose of reviewing and selecting projects. Please refrain from including any proprietary or confidential information in your application.

25. Does Onassis Foundation own the intellectual property (IP) developed by my team during the CC Design School program?

The submission of the proposal does not constitute any transfer of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) to the Organizers regarding this proposal. Intellectual Property developed by participating teams and companies during the program is retained by that team/company, unless otherwise agreed to in writing.

26. Anything else I need to know from a legal perspective?

Your application to the CC Design School program doesn't create a relationship between us, other than your agreement to this site's Terms of Use, and you won't receive any compensation for your application.



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G. Event Information

27. What should I bring with me to the CC Design School?

You are advised to bring your laptop. Further materials will be provided by the Organizers.

28. I have more questions, who can I email to learn more?

You can reach out to onx@onassis.org and/or Anastasia Mavrogianni (Innovation & Community Events Coordinator (amavrogianni@onassis.org)) to learn more about the CC Design School.



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