

PRESS RELEASE

THE GLITCH CAMP 2026

**Conceived and organised by the Francesco Morelli Foundation and IED
the third edition of the free urban camp for students from all around the world
in Milan during Design Week**

**For the first time, the Camp is being held at the Ex Macello in Porta Vittoria: a post-industrial space
at the heart
of ARIA, the urban regeneration project that will also host the new IED Campus**

Milan, 19 April 2026 - *“Driving change and contributing to the betterment of future generations is possible if we listen to the places we inhabit. Now in its third year and coinciding with IED’s 60th anniversary, The Glitch Camp transforms Design Week into an opportunity for active and political citizenship: eating, sleeping and living together isn’t just about hospitality... It’s a workshop for the common good. We offer young people from all over the world a unique space for building relationships, meeting the international design community, and becoming catalysts for a better and more stable future,”* says **Riccardo Balbo, President of the Francesco Morelli Foundation and Academic Director of the IED Group.**

Conceived and organised by the Francesco Morelli Foundation and IED, the third edition of *The Glitch Camp* – the free urban camp for students from all around the world in Milan during Design Week – is now underway. Through *The Glitch Camp* project, the Francesco Morelli Foundation (the non-profit organisation that owns the IED Group) and Istituto Europeo di Design (a Benefit Corporation) are helping **to make Design Week and the entire cultural heritage of the Salone del Mobile accessible** to as many young people as possible, promoting design as a tool for connection and an opportunity for personal and professional growth. For the 2026 edition, there are around 300 *glitchers* – the campers – who **will experience the urban camp in a multicultural setting: representing over 30 different nationalities**, with students from across Italy and Europe, as well as from Iran, Israel, Lebanon, Russia, Ukraine, and even Latin America, India and China.

Hosted for the first time at the Ex Macello in Porta Vittoria by Near SGR, *The Glitch Camp* is made possible thanks to the contribution of **Fondazione Cariplo**, which has long been committed to promoting social cohesion and regional development. Near SGR is actively involved in urban regeneration and the creation of new forms of sustainable and inclusive living, including the Ex Macello, a post-industrial space now at the heart of ARIA, the major urban regeneration project covering the entire area that **will house the new IED International Campus.** The presence of *The Glitch Camp* in the area of Milan south of the Porta Vittoria railway underpass creates a positive interaction between the resident community, local businesses, public authorities and the IED community, together with the Foundation and everyone who will “inhabit” these places during Design Week. This reflects IED’s commitment to using design as a socially responsible, ethical, and sustainable driver of change.

As the main sponsor, **IKEA** will furnish the Camp’s spaces to render them functional and welcoming, setting up a *lounge* and a large communal area designed to encourage social interaction. In fact, in addition to addressing the basic need for hospitality, the Camp is also an opportunity for young people to meet and engage in cultural

exchange. Over the course of the week, the Ex Macello will host three social dinners organised in collaboration with IKEA, with the aim of fostering genuine dialogue between students and the design community, and forging new relationships capable of creating connections that rarely find space in other contexts. The Camp will also be equipped with **Ferrino** tents suited for outdoor activities such as trekking and camping, with each tent fitted with a set of IKEA products to ensure a comfortable rest and a pleasant stay.

“Each year we're delighted to support this project, which allows us to fully express IKEA's DNA, viewing design as a tool for inclusion that contributes to everyday well-being. With The Glitch Camp, we aim to help transform an evolving space like the Ex Macello into a welcoming place. One that's open to exchange and conviviality, where people and ideas can come together. Through accessible and sustainable furnishing solutions, we're supporting a project that places the community at its core and promotes positive social impact, in line with our vision of improving people's everyday lives,” explains **Marco Galimberti, Marketing Manager at IKEA Italy**.

“For over 150 years, the tent has been a central component of our projects and of our brand's DNA. We design solutions to accompany people on authentic experiences, from the mountains to the most extreme environments, and develop reliable systems for civil protection and emergency management. For this reason, we're proud to support the students and the IED creative community in The Glitch Camp project, which brings the tent into the urban setting of Milan Design Week, transforming it into a space for experimentation and dialogue. It represents a new way of experiencing camping and, at the same time, of showcasing our expertise in a different context, offering us a valuable opportunity for dialogue with the community of young designers,” explains **Anna Ferrino**.

The *glitchers* will begin each day with breakfast provided by **Morato Pane**, serving as a moment for socialising and dialogue; a special *Morato Social Breakfast* is scheduled on Thursday, 23 April: *“As Breakfast Partner, we're delighted to support this new edition of Glitch Camp, an event with which we immediately felt a strong connection and a shared vision. Today, breakfast is undergoing a genuine cultural transformation, increasingly establishing itself as a new kind of ritual dedicated to socialising and dialogue. We saw this as the perfect opportunity to engage with young designers and explore the many cultures of the world through Morato bread, with every sandwich telling a story of roots, history and identity. “We're proud to accompany the talents of the future in this experience, bringing to the table not only the quality of our products, but also our vision of food as a tool for dialogue, cross-pollination and mutual discovery,”* says **Francesca Carpita, Group Marketing & Communication Manager at Morato Group**.

This year's *Glitch Camp* project was once again realised in collaboration with **Piano B**: an agency actively committed to reducing the environmental impact of events through the development of creative concepts and sustainable production. The camp also aims to ensure **low-impact hospitality** and the **circularity of the products used**. In fact, once the camp has concluded, the sets provided by IKEA will be donated to the **Arché Foundation**, which supports female victims of violence with children.

The third edition of *The Glitch Camp* takes place during **IED's 60th anniversary year**. The underlying theme of the reflection introduced with the anniversary is *Plural Intelligences*, which is explored through a **public programme** (featuring all the events and IED projects presented during Design Week) and the second issue of the Journal **Notes on Plural Intelligences**, entitled **Now-Here Land** ([here](#)), which will be available to all visitors, enriching the Camp experience through its editorial content. Now-Here-Land envisions cities not merely as products of capital, but as sites of collective and ongoing negotiations between human beings, other species and the systems that unite them. The issue explores how community, activism and conviviality can redefine urban relationships, imagining fairer, multi-species ways of inhabiting the city environment.

ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED AT THE GLITCH CAMP

The week features a programme that alternates between different activities. There will be two **workshops: on Wednesday 22 April** at 4:00 pm, **UNIQLD, together with Studio Masachucka** — a Japanese studio based in London and

UNIQLO's official partner for upcycling — will lead a workshop dedicated to **transforming garments**. Participants will work on recycled UNIQLO garments, embellished with hand-made Sashiko patches, exploring themes of repair, craftsmanship and contemporary approaches to circular fashion.

Ferrino, on the other hand, is holding its **Re-Life upcycling workshop on Saturday 25 April** — with two sessions in the morning and afternoon — **dedicated to the design and creative reuse of outdoor materials**. The aim of Re-Life is to breathe new life into discarded outdoor products, transforming them into unique items through a conscious design process. Participants will be guided through the development of a product using recycled materials from Ferrino tents, covering all stages of the creative process, from concept development to pattern making, through to the selection and cutting of the materials. The construction phase will be supported by the Ferrino team, made up of machine operators and technical staff, with participants being given the opportunity to try out the sewing machines themselves under supervision. An immersive experience combining design, craftsmanship and sustainability, making the most of materials and skills in a creative and unconventional setting.

Each morning will begin with **Pajamas on - Let's shake it up! Movement, energy and connection** with Valentina Albini, with warm-up sessions designed to energise participants and prepare them for the day. Evenings, on the other hand, will be enlivened by **DJ sets curated by students from the IED Milano Sound Design course**, transforming the Camp into a dynamic social space where ideas, rhythms and creative energies converge.

THE IED CAMPUS

The Ex Macello in Porta Vittoria lies at the heart of ARIA, the urban regeneration project led by Near SGR that will transform the entire area following years of neglect. In addition to the IED International Campus, the masterplan also envisages a new urban ecosystem comprising multiple functions, including public spaces and green areas, new housing for families and students, services and facilities open to the neighbourhood, and new venues for socialising and cultural activities. In this context, the IED Campus will reunite the current Milan campuses, presently spread across 5 areas of the city, in a single location, expanding from a current total area of 18,000 square metres to 39,000 square metres, enabling activities to be consolidated within a single hub dedicated to education, events and research. The Campus will be one of the largest higher education campuses in Italy operated by a private Institution and dedicated entirely to art and design. The spaces dedicated to teaching, innovation and research, all within the same area, will enhance the Institute's capacity to serve the local community within a virtuous ecosystem of exchange between the IED community and local residents, generating positive benefits throughout the urban area where the Campus will be located.



Main sponsor **IKEA**

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ISTITUTO EUROPEO DI DESIGN

Eleonora Ronsisvalle - Tel. +39 346 1300428

Filippo Nardoza - Tel. +39 334 766640

p.r@ied.it

ddl studio

Irene Longhin | irene.longhin@ddlstudio.net | +39 3927816778

Cristiana Freguglia | cristiana.freguglia@ddlstudio.net | +39 3398739453