



## 9<sup>th</sup> Storytelling & Storyboarding Science at Locarno Film Festival Locarno, 10-13 August 2026

### Workshop Description

We seek to challenge, inspire and train scientists to use narrative techniques and strategies employed in film to produce persuasive presentations and publications. Borrowing communication strategies and techniques from filmmakers and applying them in science communication will help scientists for better communication of their research, and scientists are wise enough to do so!

### Program Information

#### I. Theory

- Scientists learn storytelling and storyboarding from the masters of narrative, the filmmakers.
- Scientists learn how to borrow communication strategies and techniques from filmmakers and how to apply them in communicating their science. This will help them to engage audience and increase uptake by incorporating narrative attributes into their teaching, divulgations and publications.

#### II. Practice

- Scientists re-write their biographies, abstracts and presentations by using narrative attributes used by filmmakers
- Scientists attend the Locarno Film Festival 2026 (the 79<sup>th</sup> edition). Which is a great opportunity for them to meet professional filmmakers and discuss with them storytelling technics that they can use in communicating their research
- Eventually, scientists can prepare films about their interviews with the filmmakers

### **Organisers**

- Susanna Bachmann (University of Zurich and ETH; Life Science Zurich)
- Jonas Zahn (University of Basel; Graduate Center)

### **Partner**

Locarno Film Festival

### **Dates and Location**

10-13 August 2026, Locarno Film Festival (Locarno)

### **Registration fee (costs)**

- CHF 100, due only after admission, it covers course material and equipment, accommodation, and entrances to all films at the Locarno Festival.
- Participants cover the costs of their travel to Locarno.
- Organisers cover the accommodation' costs (SHARED ROOMS).
- Participants cover the costs of their food (breakfast is provided for free by the hostel)

### **Registration**

Between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026

### **Trainer**

Samer Angelone (Swiss Science Film Academy)



### Evaluation of the previous workshops

Video-reports <https://vimeo.com/284984815> & <https://vimeo.com/284436101>

### Full evaluation prepared by the Swiss Academy of Sciences is available

#### Which aspects of the course did you find particularly positive?

- To happen at a festival, group discussions, theory, group project
- Combination theory and practice
- Direct link to film industry, link to Locarno Festival
- Theory and practice, learn concept and direct application
- Structure with theory and application
- Theory and practice, making movie, good to have the movie practice optional
- The Locarno Festival
- Group work, Locarno Festival, challenge
- Talking about movies and theory
- Combination with film festival, small group, exchange in general
- Having new perspective on movies, group work
- Motivated group
- Good concepts of storytelling, well-presented, good opportunity to practice

#### Do you think, this course should be offered in the future? Why?

- Yes, very useful for scientists
- Yes, good for communications skills, storytelling and interviews
- Yes, has a positive impact on scientists
- Yes, useful to develop creativity
- Yes, learn a lot of skills which can be applied
- Yes, helped to better structure abstracts
- Yes, it was a great introduction and overview
- Yes, it was a great group experience
- Yes, I feel better equipped to communicate science
- Yes, helpful for storytelling and communication
- Yes, because of the importance of science communication
- Yes, unique course