

PRESS RELEASE

17 September 2026



CARTOON FORUM UNVEILS WINNERS OF THE 2026 TRIBUTES

Cartoon Forum, a European co-production forum for animated series, has announced the winners of this year's Tributes, recognising the dedication and creativity of key players in the European animation industry. The awardees in the three established categories — **Producer, Broadcaster and Investor/Distributor of the Year** — were chosen by the Cartoon Forum participants attending the event, which concludes today, September 17, in Toulouse, Occitanie.

This year's Tributes also introduced a fourth category, the **Ecoprod-Cartoon Tribute**, honouring a European animation production company or initiative that has made a significant contribution to advancing sustainability in the sector. Organised in partnership with Ecoprod, a non-profit organisation supporting the audiovisual industry's environmental transition, the new award featured three nominees, with the winner selected by Ecoprod.

The 2026 Tributes winners are **Bobby Prod (France)** for Producer of the Year, **BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) (UK)** for Broadcaster of the Year, **Folivari International (France)** for Investor/Distributor of the Year, and **Gao Shan Pictures (France)** for the Ecoprod-Cartoon Tribute.

All nominees have strong ties to Cartoon Forum, having participated in the event both to pitch their projects and to connect with the European animation industry. Companies from the Czech Republic, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Spain and Sweden were also among this year's nominees.

[Cartoon Forum Tributes award ceremony – Images for downloading.](#)

CARTOON FORUM TRIBUTES 2026 – WINNERS

INVESTOR/DISTRIBUTOR OF THE YEAR

France's **Folivari International** is an independent sales agency bringing high-quality animated content to audiences worldwide. Founded in 2024, the company maintains a distinctive slate combining Folivari productions and third-party acquisitions. Its series line-up includes titles such as *Samuel*, *Pil's Adventures* and *Ted & Paula's Tadpole Journey*, all pitched at Cartoon Forum. Beyond traditional sales, Folivari International also develops transmedia strategies to expand the reach and impact of its titles.

BROADCASTER OF THE YEAR

BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) is the UK's public-service broadcaster, with its children's services CBeebies and CBBC catering respectively to pre-school and school-age audiences. The BBC is a major commissioner and co-producer of children's animation, with a strong focus on original content and partnerships with independent production companies. It has been a long-standing presence at Cartoon Forum, where it has discovered European series for its programming slate, including *Duck & Frog*, *Maddie + Triggs*, *Piggy Builders*, *Pablo* and *Dungeons & Kittens*.

PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

Bobby Prod is a French animation studio specialising in series for YA and adult audiences. Founded in 2008, it has built a strong identity around irreverent humour, creative freedom and bold storytelling, and is now developing a new slate of creator-driven projects, from original series to feature films. The company is also behind *The Broos*, which originated on social media before being developed as an animated series in co-production with ARTE France. The project joined the Cartoon Forum Coaching Programme in 2021 and was selected for Cartoon Forum 2024, highlighting the potential of digital-first storytelling to reach wider audiences.

ECOPROD-CARTOON TRIBUTE

France's **Gao Shan Pictures** is a 2D and 3D animation studio and production company rooted in La Réunion. The company creates bold, distinctive and meaningful films for international audiences with sustainability at its core, as reflected both in the stories it chooses and in the way they are produced. Its credits include acclaimed feature films and series such as *Jim Queen*, *In Waves* and *The Smurfs*. At Cartoon Forum 2026, Gao Shan Pictures will present *The Roots of My Hair*, a 2D animated series for teenagers aged 12 to 15.

The studio has been awarded the **2026 Ecoprod–Cartoon Tribute** in recognition of its commitment to sustainability across its operations, production methods and storytelling.

ABOUT CARTOON FORUM

Created in 1990 to boost the co-production and distribution of European animation across television and new media platforms, Cartoon Forum has helped 1,053 animation series obtain financing totalling more than €3.83 billion. Cartoon Forum 2026 is organised by CARTOON – European Association of Animation Film, with the support of Creative Europe – MEDIA, CNC (Centre national du cinéma et de l’image animée), Région Occitanie, Mairie de Toulouse, Toulouse Métropole, Casino Barrière and France Télévisions (FTV).

CARTOON Director: Annick Maes – forum@cartoon-media.eu

Press Officer: Gerardo Michelin – gerardo@latindie.com - Tel: (+34) 630 572 268

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