



## ODDO BHF STIFTUNG

Dear participants, dear young filmmakers, dear teachers, mentors and guests, it is a great pleasure to be here with you today on behalf of the ODDO BHF Foundation. As a supporter of *À nous le cinéma!* – we are proud to be part of this wonderful project. And today is a special day. Because today, we will see **your films**.

### **Your ideas. Your creativity. And your stories.**

Over the past months, you have learned many things.

You learned how to tell a story. How to use images. How to create emotions. And how to turn an idea into a film.

But I think you learned something even more important.

You learned how to work as a team.

Every film starts with an idea. But no film is made by one person alone.

Someone writes. Someone directs. Someone films. Someone edits. Someone stands in front of the camera. Someone works behind it.

### **Every role matters.** Every contribution matters. And every team needs trust.

You learned how to listen. How to discuss. How to share ideas. And sometimes how to compromise.

These are not only filmmaking skills. They are life skills.

And they will stay with you for all your life.

Nowadays, we see thousands of images and videos every day.

It is important to understand them. To ask questions. And to think for ourselves.

This project helps you do exactly that.

Through **film**. Through **creativity**. And through **working together**.

What I love most about this project is that it brings young people together from all over the world.

### **Look around this room.**

We have participants from Germany. France. Brazil. Japan. South Africa.

And many other countries.

### **Can we give ourselves a big round of applause for bringing all these countries together in one room?**

Maybe this was the first time you met young people from another country.

Maybe it was the first time you worked with people who speak a different language.

But I hope you discovered something important.

### **We are all different.**

But we also have a lot in common.

We laugh about similar things. We care about similar things.

And we all have stories we want to tell.

That is the **power of culture**. And that is the **power of cinema**.

As the foundation of a Franco-German financial group, **we strongly believe** in bringing people together across borders.

That is why we are proud to support a project like this.

Before I finish, I would like to ask one final thing.

Today, when the lights go down and the films begin:

Be proud. Be proud of your work. Be proud of your team. And be proud of **what you have achieved together**.

Creating a film takes courage. Patience. Commitment. And teamwork.

**Not everyone** your age gets the chance to share their story with young people from around the world. - Today, you do.

Some of you may become filmmakers one day.

Some of you may become teachers. Scientists. Entrepreneurs. Artists.

Or something completely different.

But I hope all of you will remember one thing:

**Great things happen when people work together.**

Congratulations to all of you. Enjoy this special day.

And thank you for inspiring us with your creativity.

As a foundation with a **strong European mindset**, we deeply value cultural exchange and collaborative work across borders.

In this context, we would also like to thank all those who **carry and develop this project with such extraordinary dedication**. Without the passion, commitment, and shared vision of everyone involved, a project like this would not be possible.

We are therefore very grateful and proud to support this important initiative and look forward to many more years of collaboration with the DFF and our French partner organizations.

Thank you very much.