

**Forestami Academy brings “In the Canopies” to schools
across the Metropolitan City of Milan**

The educational project dedicated to Tree Canopy Cover will engage one hundred 4th and 5th grade primary school classes during the 2026/2027 academic year

Milan, 14 September 2026 – **This year, one hundred 4th and 5th grade primary school classes across the Metropolitan City of Milan will take part in “In the Canopies”, the new educational project of Forestami Academy** – the programme dedicated to urban green spaces by Forestami in partnership with Prada Group – developed in collaboration with **La Fabbrica SB**, an organization accredited by the Italian Ministry of Education and Merit that develops and delivers educational projects for schools.

Throughout the 2026/2027 academic year, the initiative will guide children as they discover the role of plants and, in particular, their canopies in the urban environment. Central to the educational programme is **Tree Canopy Cover**, the indicator used to measure the presence and distribution of tree canopies in cities and to evaluate how urban greenery contributes to environmental quality. Tree canopies play a fundamental role in urban ecosystems: they help mitigate exposure to sunlight, improve air quality, support biodiversity and contribute to making cities more resilient to the effects of climate change.

To support the educational project, a **teacher's guide** has been developed, providing resources and materials to integrate the project's themes into classroom activities, together with a **student diary** that will accompany the children month by month in exploring the concept of Tree Canopy Cover. Through facts, games, quizzes, reading suggestions and writing prompts, the diary will encourage observation and reflection on the role of trees in cities and on the connections between the environment, well-being and everyday life.

Classes will also take part in **workshops led by science communicators, designed to transform classroom learning into hands-on experiences and opportunities for reflection.**

The initiative was presented during an open-air **event held on Saturday 12 September at Parco Nord Milano**, which welcomed children and families for a morning dedicated to nature. Through creative workshops designed to stimulate imagination and strengthen participants' connection with the natural environment, educational activities and outdoor experiences, including a bicycle ride along the park's trails, attendees had the opportunity to explore themes such as urban nature, biodiversity and the value of the environment.

“European policies on ecosystem restoration highlight the need to increase tree canopy cover in cities and to recognize the increasingly central role that urban greenery plays in people's health and well-being” said Maria Chiara Pastore, Scientific Director of Forestami. “Together with Prada Group, through the ‘In the Canopies’ initiative, we aim to help foster greater awareness, starting from younger generations, of the role trees play within the urban environment and of the relationship between nature, urban space and quality of life.”

“Education is a fundamental tool for helping younger generations understand the transformations taking place in their local environments. While in previous years we worked with Forestami to engage and raise awareness among adult audiences, this year, through the ‘In the Canopies’ project, we want to accompany children on a journey that will help them discover the role of nature in everyday life and develop a deeper awareness of the environment around them”, commented Lorenzo Bertelli, Prada Group Head of Sustainability.

Prada Group

Prada Group is socially engaged to contribute to the sustainable development of the communities and stimulate the cultural debate in all its forms of expression. The Group partners with recognized players and international entities to develop educational and training programs, value talent, support scientific research, foster women's empowerment, and promote local culture and artistic heritage. Prada Group operates in the luxury sector through the Prada, Miu Miu, Church's, Car Shoe, Versace, Marchesi 1824 and Luna Rossa brands.

Forestami

Forestami was born from an initiative by architect Stefano Boeri, based on research conducted by the Politecnico di Milano, supported by Fondazione Falck and FS Sistemi Urbani, on the potential and benefits of urban forestry in the metropolitan area of Milan. It later evolved into a project promoted by the Municipality of Milan, the Metropolitan City of Milan, the Lombardy Region, Parco Nord Milano, Parco Agricolo Sud Milano, ERSAF, Fondazione Cariplo, Fondazione di Comunità Milano together with Fondazione Comunitaria Nord Milano and Fondazione Comunitaria Ticino Olona, as well as the Milanese universities Politecnico, Statale and Bicocca. The project aims to plant 3 million trees by 2030, enhance the natural capital of the urban and peri-urban fabric, help reduce air pollution and improve the quality of life in Greater Milan while also combating the effects of climate change. In April 2025, the Forestami Foundation was established, becoming the Third Sector Entity (ETS) responsible for implementing and developing the Forestami project. The new Foundation continues its work thanks to collected donations and can also develop additional projects both within the Metropolitan City of Milan and on a national scale to help improve the environment.

For more information

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