Science Book Cafe: Days of Creative Science in Rome

The "Science Book Cafe" project will soon start in Rome, organized by FormaScienza in cooperation with the Network of the Public Libraries of Rome and several schools. The Network of the Public Libraries of Rome counts 38 libraries diffused through the whole territory of Rome. In the past years the System has created 16 "bibliopoints", school libraries in suburban schools open to the population that provide their library collections to the public and develop projects to promote reading. Starting in September 2015 the bibliopoints will become venues where the schools will organize their science cafes involving the local communities (parents, generic public) with the tutoring of the FormaScienza team. The teachers will be trained through a long CREAT-IT workshop (5 meetings) with Dr. Cinzia Belmonte of FormaScienza. After the workshop the teachers will guide their students to organize their junior science cafes. The responsible of the School Office of the network of the Public Libraries of Rome, Dr Anna Taccone, says: "We believe that the junior science cafe is a creative and effective method to actively engage students and the public in science. We are trilling to cooperate with CREAT-IT!". The final events will take place in December 2015 and will be live-streamed on Youtube channel of FormaScienza. Follow us!

CREAT-IT Summer School in Marathonas
Introducing the Creative Science Classroom

The CREAT-IT project realized a very successful Summer School in Marathonas, Athens, Greece in 12-17 July 2015. The Summer School has been a meeting point for science educators, scientists, artists, art educators, and policymakers wishing to learn creative strategies in today’s science teaching. The CREAT-IT 2015 Summer School introduced teachers in three distinct but inter-related case studies of the project: Science Theatre, Write A Science Opera - WASO and Junior Science Cafes, which together provide a large picture of the promising possibilities in the field of creative science teaching.

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Teaching is creativity!
An interview with Kamran Shaikh, a CREAT-IT Summer School participant

Kamran Shaikh is a University Professor on Science Technology and Mathematics Education at Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec in Canada. On 12 - 17 July 2015 he attended the CREAT-IT Summer School where he developed practices and exchanged experiences.

- Why did you decide to attend the CREAT-IT Summer school?
The reason why I came here to attend the summer school is to embark upon a journey of creativity with my methods of teaching with regard on science technology and mathematics. To empower my students and allow them to voice their opinion in the most efficient.

- What did you find interesting in the Summer School?
What i found most interesting about Summer School and the CREAT-IT project was the collegiality and collaboration among the countries of Europe as well as the overall participation of those were willing to integrate creativity with overall teaching methods and a better pedagogical approach.

- How can creativity be envolved in teaching?
Creativity can be envolved in teaching as teaching is creativity. Learning is creativity. It is taking the world around you, both nature, both philosophy, logic and reason and integrating them into your overall ethos, pathos and logos.

CREAT-IT Summer School Photo Gallery
Participants from 7 countries (Spain, Netherlands, Serbia, Canada, Greece, Israel, Portugal) learned about the three case studies, as an in-depth analysis of creativity in science education took place. They also watched performances presented by Greek High School students. In addition they created new, original scenarios as part of a growing online network and they performed, a combination of Science Cafe, Science Theater and Science Opera. Inspired from the country that was taking place the Summer School, the title of the performance was “Greece enlightening”. This year's scientific exploration was dedicated to the theme of Cosmic Light, to coincide with the International Year of Light 2015 (http://www.light2015.org/).

Finally they learned how to use the CREAT-IT portal and exchange experiences with other teachers on the influence of the practices, upload their scenarios or create their own groups, enriching in that way the Creative Science Classroom and strengthening Creativity in Science Education.

Get to Know the Creative Science Classroom

The Portal - portal.creatit-project.eu

The project’s website provides an entryway to the CREAT-IT Portal which makes the project resources available to teachers, students, artists and researchers. Get familiar and participate in:

Junior Science Cafes
Science Theater
Write A Science Opera

The Website - www.creatit-project.eu/

The development of the CREAT-IT website allows for constant online presentation and dissemination of the project’s progress and results. The website acts as the project’s main hub of information about the project’s planned activities and serves as a provider of relevant educational activities in school.