

Implementing CREATive Strategies Into Science Teaching

Issue #6 October 2015

CREAT-IT Closing International Conference

9-10 October 2015, Athens

Athens has become the epicenter of innovation and creativity in Science Education since Saturday 3 October. Between 3 and 10 October numerous important events and workshops are realized. The main event is the "Inquiry based learning and Creativity in Science Education" International Conference which will take place on 9-10 October 2015, in Athens, Greece in order to bring together researchers, primary and secondary school educators to share their views and experiences and also to present best practices developed in the framework of the closing National SCIENTIX conference and the CREAT-IT closing International conference.

The aim of the conference was to provide an opportunity for teachers to present innovative educational scenarios and educational activities implemented in their schools, which promote inquiry based learning and creativity and are based on innovative ideas and approaches while highlighting the use of new technological applications (virtual laboratories, simulations, interactive augmented reality applications and robotics applications).

More than 200 participants attended more than 50 oral presentations, 6 workshops, 8 virtual presentations and 9 posters from 16 countries, in which were presented research on innovative practices in science education and results (qualitatively or quantitatively) obtained from activities based on the principles of inquiry based learning and have been applied in real school environment.

Before and during the days of the Conference the following workshops:

On Thursday, October 8 a workshop for postgraduate university students was conducted by members of the CREAT-IT Consortium under the topic "Write a Science Opera — Science Theater" and it was realized in the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. On Friday, October 9 it was repeated for more than 100 undergraduate university students.

The Conference was co-organized by <u>Science View</u>, <u>CTI Diophantus</u>, <u>European Schoolnet and Hellenic Physicists Society</u>.

You can find the full programme of the events and the Conference and the conference proceedings here: http://www.scientix.ea.gr/



Anna Craft: What next for Creativity?

Event at the University of Exeter, UK

On Saturday 10th October, the CREAT-IT project was shared as part of the 'Anna Craft: What next for Creativity? event at the University of Exeter in the UK. Education leaders gathered from as far afield as Denmark and Austria to celebrate Anna's life and work, including EU-funded projects such as CREAT-IT that Anna was involved in towards the end of her life. They debated issues alongside University staff, primary and secondary school students, teachers, colleagues from the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts Commerce and Manufactures (RSA), and regional social enterprise the Real Ideas Organisation (RIO), as well as Anna's close family and friends.

A poster detailing the CREAT-IT framework, principles and applications had pride of place in the event's display area, where it triggered discussions relating to the challenges and advantages of pan-European collaboration within creativity in education. Many of Anna's theory, which alongside the work of Exeter colleagues, underpin CREAT-IT were also spotlit through the launch of a new book: "Creativity, Education and Society, writings of Anna Craft". This was launched amid a champagne toast to Professor Craft, and is available from:

Blackwell's Bookshop, Exeter

www.Blackwells.co.uk/exeter

ISBN 9781858566665 usual price £26.99

20% discount from Exeter@blackwell.co.uk 01392 433992 until 31-Oct-15

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University of Exeter, EXETER (UK)

Science View (Greece)

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CENTER FOR THE PRO-MOTION OF SCIENCE -CPN (Serbia)

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Skylight

A Global Science Opera



Are opera and physics two incompatible concepts...?

If we attempt to approach the visual dimension that encloses a scientific experiment then the broader concepts - those of the "Music" and "Science" - may sound more friendly, definitely more "familiar" from the actuality of educational programs and exhibitions organized in the last years and correlate them.

On October 3rd, 2015, the first Global Science Opera, "SkyLight", was perfromed and streamed live to audiences around the world. The event, which was initiated by the

CREAT-IT team, in collaboration with several other international education initiatives, was an exciting one for our team, as well as for the teachers, scientists, and artists involved. The "SkyLight" network of 35

countries essentially created an informal global opera company in which the various teams composed, performed, researched, communicated, provided costumes, umented, and more. Original Music (digital and live orchestrated), was synthesized exclusively for this project and accompanied both pre-recorded and live the most participants in this first attempt at co-creation of a global educational Science Opera. Time zones were a challenge, as pupils from Brazil, Australia, USA and Europe were all streaming their performances during the same event, which was why a sleep-over at the Andross School in Perth, Australia, was needed.

The opera, created during UNESCO's International Year of Light 2015, was streamed live from Ellinogermaniki Agogi (Greece), and narrated by Oded Ben-Horin and Andrea Volbers (Stord\Haugesund University College, Norway) and Petros Stergiopoulos (EA, Greece). This creative

science exploration event created was covered by media in various European countries and beyond. A statement by European Space Agency's astronaut Andre Kuipers may be viewed here.



Skylight Photo Gallery









Final dissemination activities in Serbia



In the concluding week of the CREAT-IT project, CPN organized two final events in order to present to Serbian educational community results and outcomes of the CREAT-IT project.

On 28th of October, CPN visited the school that has helped us most in profiling and shaping national pedagogical framework for the work in WP2 – XIII Belgrade Gymnasium. This program gathered around twenty teachers, most of them teaching natural sciences, but also arts. The collaboration between CPN and the teachers from XIII Gymnasium will be continued in recently initialized project CREATIONS.

The final presentation took place on 30th of October during the Belgrade International Book Fair, which is the

biggest cultural event in Belgrade, attracting 150,000 visitors each year. CREAT-IT official info day included project's presentations, workshops and introductions to the translated materials available at ODS portal. The aim of this program was to group participants willing to use CREAT-IT approaches and practices in their regular

educational activities. The common feeling, among several dozens of participants, was that at least some of the proposed methods will find its place in Serbian educational system.



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.

