

Invitation to Scientists

Setting the stage

Researcher's Night 2009

This year, in Portugal, scientists will celebrate the “Researcher’s Night” in a very special way: through theatre!

It is our great pleasure to invite all scientists to participate in this thrilling experience, which will empower all participants with a novel way of expression through performing arts, a different insight on their work and another way of communicating with the public. (see invitation for theatre workshop below).

The European Researcher’s Night aims at engaging the public with science and, in particular, with scientists. The initiative is held annually since 2005 in several EU member states and intends to involve scientists in the construction of a more realistic image of the scientists, breaking down stereotypes and bridging the gap between scientists and the public.

In 2009, Researcher’s Night will be held on the 25th September in several European cities. In Portugal, a project involving research centres, a SME, a science museum and several theatre groups, will celebrate this event by delivering simultaneously in Lisbon, Porto, Coimbra and Faro a series of theatre performances.

In Lisbon, scientists will set the stage at Fundação Gulbenkian and use physical theatre, stand up comedy and forum theatre to share with the public their experiences as contemporary researchers.

In Porto, scientists will be at the stage and among the public, involved in different plays focusing on Darwin, Galileo and the challenges that scientists face during their careers.

In Coimbra, comedy will take Darwin to the public, whereas in another play Jules Verne will be the starting point to engage society in scientific knowledge.

In Faro, interaction between scientists and the public will focus on Darwin’s life and discoveries, through plays dedicated to children and adults.

Workshop “Setting the stage”

In Lisbon, we are already preparing the event.

We will use three approaches – physical theatre, stand up comedy and forum theatre. The **Workshop “Setting the stage”, which will be held on 18-19 April and 25-26 April** (see attached program and application form), aims at introducing scientists to these three approaches, so that they get to know them and choose which one they wish to work on in future rehearsals.

Rehearsals will occur from May and will culminate in the performances during the Researcher’s Night (25th September).

For further information visit the blog <http://blogs.publico.pt/cientistasaopalco> or send us an e-mail to cientistasaopalco@gmail.com.

Join us!