

Press Release
47th International Children's Exhibition of Fine Arts Lidice

The Lidice Memorial offers you an invitation for the ceremonial opening of the 47th International Children's Exhibition of Fine Arts Lidice taking place at the Lidice Gallery on Tuesday, 28 May 2019.

This year's edition takes place under the auspices of Minister of Culture, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Education, Youth and Sports, Czech Commission for UNESCO, Director of the Czech Centres and Rector of the University of Chemistry and Technology Prague.



Kiara Golvere, 10 years, Latvia



From the ICEFA exhibition at the Lidice Gallery

THEME:

This year, the theme selected in cooperation with the Czech Commission for UNESCO is CHEMISTRY, featuring the following sub-themes: Importance of fire for humankind, Alchemy and alchemists, Atom, Molecule, Compound, Famous discoveries, Chemistry in everyday life, Colours around us.

Why chemistry? In fact, it has been 150 years since Mendeleev's periodic table, one of the pillars of modern chemistry, saw the light of day. Undoubtedly, chemistry permeates our lives, accompanying us wherever we go. The exhibition shows that even chemistry can be inspiring and fun. Visitors are surprised at the creativity, the number of themes and the high quality of the exhibits.

This year's competition has had **15,336 participating children from 70 countries**, among them Srí Lanka, Turkmenistan and for the first time Saudi Arabia. In March, the international panel of judges selected 1,179 entries for awards – the best of them will receive the 'Rose of Lidice' medals (this year 164 of them). Traditionally, just under a thousand of them will be on display at the Lidice Gallery and 200 at the National Technical Museum, which is the main partner of this year's exhibition.

GUESTS:

The opening ceremony will be attended by a number of major figures. Promise to attend has been given by Jan Czerný from the sub-Saharan Africa Department. Also from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Eva Dvořáková and Jitka Jirásková, the director and an officer respectively of the Public Diplomacy Department, will be present, UNESCO will be represented by Secretary-General René Zelený and Head of UNESCO Division of the Ministry of Culture Dita Limová. To be received as a representative of the Ministry of Culture is also Magda Němcová, Head of Separate Division for the Protection of Cultural Heritage. The Czech Centres will be represented by Hana Pištorová, a social sciences specialist, and Monika Koblerová, the head of the Department of cultural diplomacy and Czech Centres Network. Also not to be missing are prominent figures of the University of Chemistry and Technology, among them Rector prof. Ing. Karel Melzoch, CSc., who will attend the afternoon programme. The opening ceremony will take place in the presence of other honorary guests, among them ambassadors of Turkey, Romania and Israel. Not to be missed out are sponsors from the University of Pardubice, who will donate gifts for the PRIZE OF THE DEAN. They are Vice Dean Mgr. Lucie Stříbrná, Assistant Vice Dean Ing. Iva Ulbrichová CSc. and Ing. Patra Šílarová.

PROGRAMME:

However, before all of that, something will take place that we could not get along without. From early morning hours, the core of the event will be under preparation – the opening of the exhibition at Lidice and the prize-giving ceremony. From 7.30 to 8.45 am medallists register at the Lidice Gallery to participate in the rehearsal

of prize-giving ceremony in the garden at 9.00 am. **At 11.00 am** the prize-giving ceremony for the Czech and invited foreign winners takes place in the garden of the Lidice Gallery. The Children's Choir of *International School of Prague* and the Brass Band of Marie Podvalová School in Prague 9 appears at the event. After lunch, i.e. at **1 pm**, the 47th exhibition ceremonially opens for visitors to tour the exhibition mounted by Art Director Dagmar Šubrtová. At **2.00 pm**, the participants will go on vintage buses to the National Technical Museum.

Eliška Cejnarová, 16 years, Art School Černošice



The exhibition at the National Technical Museum opens on 28 May at **3 pm**, when a guided tour is prepared for VIP guests and an educational programme for children. Then, **at 4 pm**, the exhibition ceremonially opens with the appearance of the Brass Band of Marie Podvalová School in Prague 9 – Čakovice. Then, the return trip to Lidice is planned for **4.45 pm**. Oh yes, the return trip is arranged for you and not a usual one at that. The transport from Lidice to Prague and back will take place on vintage buses.

From 8 am to 3 pm the garden of the Lidice Gallery offers an entertaining educational programme on the theme of chemistry. Among other activities, children will enjoy a **"trampoline for bubbles"**, when bubbles from the bubble blower jump as if on a trampoline, although there is no such thing visible there. Furthermore, visitors will be impressed by **"Frosty chemistry"** – a unique opportunity to have first-hand experience of cold chemistry and to get a trophy in the form of the ice cream made using liquid nitrogen. Also the time for young detectives will come – they will learn how to take **fingerprints**, which may come handy in the bunch of similar-minded colleagues. We won't disclose whether **sugar or flour burns**. Come and see for yourselves!

In other words – the participants can look forward to a varied programme and pleasant atmosphere, which, as every year, will be enhanced by the spontaneous joy of children's faces, possibly future chemists or artists.

"The expert panel of judges assesses entries individually, each of them receiving its due portion of attention. It is interesting to notice different views of different countries on the given theme. For a long period, the Czech output is based on the tradition of art schools, which shows itself in the fact that entries by Czech children differ from those coming from abroad. However, we appreciate every entry, because this year's theme was rather difficult for children, but they met this challenge excellently," says ICEFA Curator Lenka Zmeková.

The several-month-long **exhibition** can be viewed **from 29 May to 24 Nov 2019** at the Lidice Gallery and at the National Technical Museum. We look forward to meeting you!

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