



Media release

The award ceremony of the national Wiki Science Competition 2021 is on May 18 in Lugano / Largest photo competition for science images in the world

Welcome to the Swiss winners

Switzerland (06 May, 2022) – Wiki Science Competition, one of the largest international photo competitions for scientific files in the world, was able to start for the second time with a Swiss national award thanks to the support of Wikimedia CH. The jury, led by media specialist and book author Dominik Landwehr, has now selected the winners. The award ceremony will take place on 18 May from 11:00 to 12:30 in the Auditorium of the Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) in Lugano.

The contest aims to make new scientific images and videos freely available in the online encyclopedia Wikipedia and its media library Wikimedia Commons. A total of 13 countries were represented. "It is impressive to see again this year how it is possible to tell stories with images and thus make science a little more accessible," says jury director Dominic Landwehr.

Seven categories

The following categories have been established for the competition: People in Science, Microscopy images, Non-Photographic Media, Image Sets, Wildlife and nature, and a General Category. New in the 2021 edition was the category Space and astronomy. Criteria for the evaluation of the files were their technical quality and originality, their descriptions, their educational value, as well as their artistic value. The winners from each country participate in the international round.

Attractive speaker list

The ceremony will be opened by Luca Gambardella, Pro-Rector for Innovation and Corporate Relations of USI. Jenny Ebermann, CEO of Wikimedia Switzerland, Ivo Kruusamägi, Chairman of Wikimedia Estonia and founder of Wiki Science Competition, , director of IBSA Foundation for scientific research and Andrea Emilio Rizzoli, director of IDSIA - Istituto Dalle Molle di studi sull'intelligenza artificiale have confirmed as speakers. Alessandro Marchetti, coordinator of the Swiss competition, will present the winners.

Good performance despite small size

During the submission period at the end of 2021, organizers counted a total of 4,500 files that met the criteria. Around 350 photographers uploaded images. In general, Swiss uploaders are very motivated, and the country traditionally performs well despite its small size. The quality of the entries is high, and participants are often already actively involved in outreach and dissemination. The Wiki Science Competition is held every two years. The next edition is scheduled for fall 2023. Only Wikimedia Russia organizes the Wiki Science Competition on an annual basis.

An international collaboration

This international competition is supported by Wikimedia CH and Wikimedia Estonia together. Specifically, it is financially supported by the Education & Innovation program of Wikimedia CH. The Wikimedia CH association is the Swiss chapter of the Wikimedia Movement and officially recognized by the Wikimedia Foundation. Its mission is to support free and collaborative knowledge projects and the work of volunteer Wikipedia authors. The Wiki Science Competition is just one of several Wikimedia photo competitions.

Further information:

- Wiki Science Competition
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Wiki_Science_Competition_2021_in_Switzerland?uselang=de

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