

Offering the Moon to the Public

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Abstract

Il Mondo della Luna is a project that puts forward a series of activities with the aim to communicate and inspire young people and the public in general to explore space and planetary science through artistic actions. The focus of the action is F. J. Haydn's Opera "Il Mondo della Luna".



1. Introduction

In a world that is constantly changing and every prevision about the new challenges of the coming years is risky, the most important ability with which we should shield young people, and those who remain young is, besides knowledge, the ability for unconventional and innovative thinking and the ability to envision, to sense, to inspire, to dare.

Especially in an era of worsening economic, political, and especially social and cultural crisis, innovation, cooperation, creativity and education are perhaps the only triggers for the evolution and progress.

According to the Anglo-Saxon approach, Art is not only seen as an artistic creation, but is integrated into the educational process by supporting the approach of other teaching subjects. In the age of Postmodern, Art/Culture/Research/Science must be combined into a harmonious, unified whole, aiming not to fragment knowledge into cognitive objects, but

to the unified expression, combinational thought and multifaceted development of the child.

2. Polymnia's aspirations

The Cultural Company "Polymnia", with a significant artistic and educational work has the belief that the vision for a better world can become a reality through the spiritual development of children and their moral and mental maturity. The Cultural Company "Polymnia" has repeatedly demonstrated the essential role of Education, where the goal is to build knowledge while enhancing Imagination and Creativity, virtues that only indirectly can be cultivated.

For this reason "Polymnia" has developed, via its human resources, educational programs of Science, Culture and Art, in order to stimulate abstract but valuable mental processes. Planetary and space science has often been in the focus of such activities, entertaining a long lasting collaboration with the Hellenic Physical Society in a series of events nationwide, entitled Science and Art. These encompass innovative ideas as divers as a "scientific opera" for children, series of comics inspired by scientific themes where the art of design reveals difficult scientific notions, theater plays inspired by the exciting lives of scientists, etc.

3. Il Mondo della Luna

With the aim of making space science attractive, understandable and accessible, we inspired a series of activities focusing on the performance of F. J. Haydn's Opera: Il Mondo della Luna.

In our presentation we will try to describe these actions as well as the aim of the whole effort to include creativity, critical thinking, real science simulation, imagination, personal empowerment and decoding skills of multimodal messages, in a world that demands the cultivation of multiple literacies.

We believe that this series of activities is intimately linked to constructivism learning, combinatorial knowledge, inquiry-based learning and fostering imagination, in an original and entertaining way.