

## STUDENTS' COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF INNOVATIVE SCIENCE EXHIBITS

The Consortium of the European Project “CSRC” (Cyprus Science & Research Centre) invites you to participate in the university students’ competition for innovative exhibits' proposals. The proposed innovative exhibits<sup>1</sup> should be destined to be installed in the future Science and Research Centre, which will focus on the promotion of science communication, teaching and learning in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts or Mathematics (STEAM). CSRC project aspires to become a Centre of Excellence in Cyprus and the Eastern Mediterranean. It seeks to exploit the knowledge and state of the arts technology for advancing teaching and learning and research in science and for communication of scientific achievements.

### CSRC

It is the first time that all Cypriot universities<sup>2</sup> are joining forces to create a Science Centre. Science Centres play an important role internationally in communicating and promoting science in an informal way to people of all ages. Science Centres contribute to making Science fun and popular to all, setting the grounds for new scientific achievements, and inspiring young people to like science and learn about science. More information can be found about the project on the project's website (<http://cysrc.eu/index.php/en/>). Examples of Science Centers from abroad can be found at the following links: <http://www.universcience.fr/en/home/> , <http://www.cittadellascienza.it/> ).

### Competition Entries

The competition is open to all students, from public and private universities in Cyprus, from all schools and departments, and all levels (undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral and post-doctoral). Interested individuals can also participate in the competition as members of groups. Each group can consist of two up to four individuals. In the case of a group, it is required that the group assigns a representative for the purpose of communication.

### Terms and conditions of the competition

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<sup>1</sup> For the purpose of the CSRC project, an “innovative exhibit” can be considered an object / an artifact, an experimental layout, a three-dimensional structure, or a device, or a model, which allows the visitor of the centre to interact with it, for learning purposes.

<sup>2</sup> The Consortium of the CSRC project is composed by the University of Cyprus, Cyprus University of Technology, Open University Cyprus, University of Nicosia, European University Cyprus, UCLan Cyprus, Neapolis University Paphos, Frederick University of Technology- in cooperation with Cypriot companies GrantXpert consulting and with the guidance of internationally renowned Science Centers, like Fondazione Idis-Città della Scienza (Italy) and Universcience (France); as well as the contribution of other entities such as the Science Education Research Center of the University of Copenhagen (Denmark), the Leibniz Institute for Science and Mathematics of the University of Kiel (Germany), the Knowledge Lab of UCL (United Kingdom), and the Human Computer Interaction (HCI) Laboratory of ICS- FORTH (Greece).

By submitting an application, participants accept the “Terms and Conditions” of the Competition. Applications which are not fully completed, will not be accepted.

1. Exhibition Theme:

The theme of the proposed exhibit should be related to scientific knowledge derived from any of the various Science fields, from the field of Technology, Engineering, Arts or Mathematics (STEAM) or from a combination of these (examples of themes: robotics, space and travelling, environment, health, sports). The theme of the exhibit may also highlight a link between science and society and/or it could be linked to Cyprus (geology, fauna and flora, agriculture etc.). The learning outcomes of the exhibit should be explicitly described.

2. Originality of exhibit:

The submitted ideas / proposals should be characterized by originality and creativity and it should not be subjected to third party copyrights or have been submitted to any other competition, and it should not have offensive content. After selecting the final exhibits, the organizers of this competition, have the right, in cooperation with the creator, to modify the exhibit ideas and proceed with their development.

3. Copyrights:

- The “Statement of Responsibility” form, must be filled as part of the application.
- The CSRC consortium, reserves the right to proceed with the development of the winning exhibits, given that the program will successfully secure the EU finding for Phase II.
- The development or use of the proposed exhibit's idea for other purposes and conditional situations, is forbidden by any means, until the announcement of the competition's results.
- It is clarified and explicitly agreed that the selected winning ideas/proposals, for which remuneration will be given to the winning participants, automatically become property of CSRC and therefore the winning participants renounce any intellectual property rights thereon.

4. Submission of application:

A submitted application is valid if all the mandatory fields are appropriately filled in the Application form. An interested participant may submit up to two applications. In case of violation of the above mentioned conditions, the organizers reserve the right to cancel the application without any warning.

### Application Form

Candidates are required to complete the Application Form where they must provide a short summary (500-700 words), describing the main idea of the exhibit/proposal and the learning outcomes for the visitor of the exhibit. Candidates need to submit this summary **in both English and Greek**. The complete Application Form should be sent electronically through email to:

**The Learning in Science Group – UCY**  
e-mail address: [csrcteaming@gmail.com](mailto:csrcteaming@gmail.com)

**Deadline:** Final Day for submission is **Friday, 23/02/18, by 23:59**

Participant's personal information will be retained in the archive of the project, in accordance with the provisions of the European Law (95/46/ EC and 97/66/EC) and will be used only for the intended purpose of the competition.

#### Evaluation of the application(s)

**Phase 1.** All exhibit ideas will be evaluated on an anonymous basis on the basis of the criteria listed below, by an Evaluation Committee of distinguished academics, experts in Science Communication and in Exhibit Design from Science Centers and Education institutions from EU member states. All candidates will be informed about the results via e-mail. For best exhibit ideas selected, the participant(s) will be asked to develop the proposed ideas for Phase 2 evaluation.

**Phase 2.** Successful participants from Phase 1, will be invited to present their ideas to the Evaluation Committee in an Open Conference Event. Presentations can be in a form of poster (size A0) and/or video/slides. If possible, the idea may be demonstrated with additional aids such as a three-dimensional construction/artifact (i.e. maqueta/ model), computer simulation etc. (see the Application Form - page 3 for additional information). Presentations will be held in June 2018 and the winners of the competition will be announced at the end of the competition, and advertised on the CSRC website.

The proposal will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- Originality / Creativity 30%
- Exhibit Interactivity, Accessibility and Inclusion 25%
- Learning objectives 20%
- Content Validity 15%
- Aesthetics 10%

#### Prizes for the winners

Prizes will be awarded to the three best ideas of Phase 2 competition.

First Prize: 500 Euro,

Second prize 350 Euro

Third prize 250 Euro.

The awarding ceremony will take place at the end of an Open Conference Event, in June 2018 in the presence of the CSRC project consortium members.

**For further information or clarifications, interested participants can contact the Learning in Science Group – UCY ([csrcteaming@gmail.com](mailto:csrcteaming@gmail.com)) or at 22892091 / 22894347. Further updates will be provided via the project website <http://cvsrce.eu/index.php/en/>**