



IX Edition of the Iberian Eustory Competition

«Historic Heritage» was the topic of the 9th edition of the EUSTORY competition in Spain and Portugal. The figures of this year were very positive and confirmed a continued increase in both the number of contributions and the number of participants. The number of students who took part was 274, submitting 76 contributions. This demonstrates a considerable growth compared to the previous edition, when we received 36 from 79 participants. Among the contributions we received, 59% were prepared in teams, 83% came from Spain, while 63% had their origin in public high schools.

EUSTORY enjoys a growing reputation as one of the most prestigious history competitions in the country. Word of mouth and our efforts to get teachers involved were the key factors contributing to this edition's success. We also focused on increasing visibility across social media, traditional media and the net.

Teachers and family members tutored 73 out of 76 contributions. Given the tutor's involvement, as a new feature of this edition students were required to attach a tutor's report to their research and procedural report.

This year's winning contribution was «Arte románico en Corullón. Lo que permanece y lo que se perdió» (*Romanesque Art in Corullón. What remains and what was lost*), conducted by three students - Ignacio Maña Mesas, Aitor Yebra Gómez and Jorge Delgado Blanco - and one tutor - Francisco Javier Corral Rodríguez - from IES Europa de Ponferrada in León (Spain). Their research presented a detailed multidisciplinary analysis of local historic heritage. They used different formats such as a photographic application, a 3D recreation, a magazine and a video documentary. They also filmed a drama based on a legend about the local Romanesque church, for which they involved an entire theatre group, while one of the authors composed an original soundtrack. Finally, they also presented a proposal for further preserving the site, including the improvement of the signposting and raising awareness of its future opportunities for inspiring artistic creation.

The historical periods covered by this year's contributions were more diverse than in previous editions, in which the topic was framed in a specific historical time. Contributions could be chronologically divided into:

- General: 33
- Modern History: 18
- Early Modern Times: 12
- Postclassical Era: 10

- Ancient History: 4
- Prehistory: 2

It is fair to say that artistic or creative contributions were more frequent than the exclusively academic ones. We also noticed a wider range of technologies used: apps, 3D recreations, videos, audios, blogs, websites, and different kinds of interactive presentations. Paradoxically, technical diversity of the winning contributions required a bigger academic effort that provided more unity and coherence overall.

In total, there was one winner, three second prizes, four third prizes, and fourteen special mentions. The topic of Historic Heritage will be repeated for the 10th edition. We expect the number of contributions to rise again due to its greater renown among high school students and the fervent commitment of several tutors, who see in EUSTORY an enriching pedagogical tool, which complements those already used within the classroom.