The event ‘A day in Tarraco’ once again fills Tarragona with hundreds of students and hosts the Odissea Awards 2023

The event “A Day in Tarraco” successfully consolidates its position in the lineup of the Tarraco Viva Festival, with a series of activities aimed at high school students organized by the Association of Classics Teachers of Catalonia (APLEC).

On Friday, May 19th, the event “A Day in Tarraco” hosted the ceremony for the **12th edition of the Odissea Awards**, a classical culture contest celebrated throughout Spain and coordinated in Catalonia by the APLEC Association (Association of Classical Languages Teachers of Catalonia). In this edition, the contest had the participation of 473 groups from Catalonia, totaling over 1,000 students from the second cycle of ESO (Compulsory Secondary Education) and baccalaureate.

Approximately 500 students
from 23 institutes in Catalonia
attended the event,
accompanied by their teachers.

The Catalan Institute of Classical Archaeology (ICAC) is one of the sponsors of the contest, along with the Catalan Section of the SEEC (Spanish Society of Classical Studies), the Catalan Society of Classical Studies of the IEC, the Museum of Archaeology of Catalonia (MAC), and the Iberia Graeca Center. The contest also has the collaboration of La Casa dels Clàssics, the Revista Auriga, the ICE of the UAB (Autonomous University of Barcelona), the Department of Education of the Government of Catalonia, and the Editorial Casals. The event was presided over by Jordi Giramé and Magí Seritjol from the Tarraco Viva Festival; Xavier Yáñez, head of the Secondary and Baccalaureate Curriculum Service of the Government of Catalonia; Txell Blay and Xavi Tresserra, from the APLEC Association; and Josep Maria Palet, director of the ICAC.

Magí Seritjol, director of the Tarraco Viva Festival, addressed the attendees and

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encouraged them to be captivated by the classical world, the legacy of Roman culture in Tarraco, and the value of humanities. He also expressed gratitude for the support of high school teachers to the project ‘A Day in Tarraco’, which, in its second edition, surpassed the attendance success of the pilot test with over 750 registrations.



Finally, **about 550 students from 28 secondary schools in Catalonia attended the event**. This remarkable turnout demonstrates the interest in classical culture among young people and the important role that the Tarraco Viva Festival can play in the educational field.

The event ‘A Day in

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Tarraco' reaffirms its success
with over 750 registrations.

During the award ceremony of the Odysseus Contest 2023, there were lively displays of congratulations and well-wishing to the winning colleagues. It was a joyful day that began with an epigraphic scavenger hunt and continued with a historical reenactment show about the Roman legions. In the afternoon, the participants could enjoy various theatrical historical recreations in the activity "Monuments of Tarraco," this year in the amphitheater and the city walls.

An exclusive epigraphic itinerary for the winning groups

In the **12th edition of the Odissea Awards** and the return to normalcy after the pandemic restrictions, the ICAC offered the winning groups a very special activity: **an epigraphic itinerary through the Upper Part of Tarragona** led by two members of the ArPA-LIRA research group from the ICAC, accompanied by transfer technician Ada Richaud.

The walk, titled "From Letter to Stone: Epigraphic, Monumental, and Heritage Itinerary of Ancient Tarraco," guided the students and their teachers through various points of interest in the streets of the Upper Part of Tarragona, allowing them to reflect on the historical characters of Tarraco, their interpretation from a gender perspective, the role of social classes in Roman times, the preservation of pedestals (wear, graffiti…), and the cultural heritage of the city.

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Passejada epigràfica 2023 (1)

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Passejada epigràfica 2023 (2)



Passejada epigràfica 2023 (3)



Passejada epigràfica 2023 (4)

The awarded teams in the 12th edition of the Odissea Contest were:

- 1st prize. *Carthago Delenda Est* team. Institut Can Planas, Barberà del Vallès
- 2nd prize. *Algolacnia*team team. Institut Ronda, Lleida
- 3rd prize. *ΠΆΝΤΑ ΡΕΙ ΟΥΔΕ ΜΕΝΈΙ* team. Institut Montserrat, Barcelona
- 4th prize. *Les Atenes* team. Institut Marianao, Sant Boi de Llobregat
- 5th prize. *Los argonautas prime* team. Escola Closa, Barcelona
- 6th prize. *Pasifaes* team. Institut Moianès, Moià

Our congratulations to all!

Interestingly, the team that won the first prize in the contest consisted of two boys, while the majority of classical studies students are girls. In fact, among the twenty students who went up on stage to receive the awards, there were only four boys.

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Josep M. Palet presented the first prize to the “Carthago Delenda Est” group from Can Planas Institute in Barberà del Vallès, accompanied by their teacher, Isabel Fernández. Photo: ICAC (CC 4.0).

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Xavier Yáñez presented the 3rd prize to the “Algolacnia” group from Ronda Institute in Lleida, accompanied by their teacher, Noemí Peidró. Photo: ICAC (CC 4.0).



Magí Seritjol presented the 5th prize to the teacher Montse Bastons from Closa School in Barcelona on behalf of the "Los Argonautas Prime" group. Photo: ICAC (CC 4.0).

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Xavier Tresserra presented the 6th prize to the “Pasifaes” group from Moianès Institute in Moià, accompanied by their teacher, Joan Fontcuberta. Photo: ICAC (CC 4.0).

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Xavier Tresserra also presented the Odysseus 2023 Photo Prize. Photo: ICAC (CC 4.0).

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