



XI Edition of the Iberian Eustory Competition

The 11th edition of the Iberian Eustory competition, celebrated in 2017/18, has explored the topic of «Historic Heritage». The participation has been lower than previous years but still high, with 67 contributions received and more than two hundred students participating.

Most of the works focused on artistic and historic local buildings, reconstructing their history or denouncing its abandonment, and illustrated their value for the community. Some pieces questioned the idea of economic or industrial progress versus social or cultural richness, as well as political interests existing behind mismanagement. Research techniques employed were diverse: original material in archives and museums, primary and secondary sources, contemporary witnesses, interviews of experts and local authorities, and site visits. Presentation formats were many as well: written papers prevailed but videos and interactive pieces were also very common; and creative formats, such as a Japanese theatre “Kamishibai” or comics, were also present.

Most of the contributions came from Spain (84%), although students from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, together with Portugal, registered as well. The majority was submitted by groups (54%), mostly formed by 2 to 4 members.

The tutor’s figure has proven to play a key role in encouraging students to participate. Almost 80% of the students knew about the competition from their teachers. 93% of the works were tutorised, which has resulted in works of the highest quality. Besides, many works were prepared as a school work, meaning many teachers are using the competition to motivate their students and to introduce them into research’s methodology, in line with Eustory’s motto *learning through research*.

The publication of the winning contributions of previous editions on our web page and sharing materials and resources through our blog and social networks also contributed to this superior quality, as well as to attract more visitors to our website.

First prize was awarded to Bruno Escobar Fernández, a student from Jerez de la Frontera (Cádiz), for “Arte, Nobleza y Humanismo. La Arquitectura y la Intelectualidad cultural del primer Renacimiento en Jerez de la Frontera” (*Art, Nobility and Humanism: Architecture and cultural Inteltnuality of the Early Renaissance in Jerez de la Frontera*). The research was based on 4 works of Renaissance architecture (Casa-Palacio de los Ponce León, Palacio de Riquelme, Casa de Francisco de Siles, and Palacio de Campo Real). The student analysed the presence of an important humanist intellectual trend in a historical period that was not documented.

The jury also awarded six second awards, eight third awards, and ten consolation awards. The wide number of prizes awarded reflects the increase of the scientific quality of the projects submitted as wells as Real Maestranza’s commitment to recognize and promote excellence.