

E³UDRES² Award of Excellence for Innovative Science Outreach Activity

Award Description:

The *E³UDRES² Award of Excellence for Innovative Science Outreach Activity* honours individuals who have creatively and effectively communicated their research and expertise to the public. This award celebrates innovation in outreach across all disciplines, including natural sciences, humanities, social science, culture, and the arts. The focus is on activities that engage and inspire the public, foster curiosity, and promote understanding in unique, interactive ways.

Eligibility:

- Open to all researchers (of all levels), educators, and outreach professionals from all E³UDRES² Institutions involved in public-facing activities that promote knowledge, creativity, and learning in any field (STEM, humanities, social sciences, culture, etc.).
 - Nominees must have led or been significantly involved in an innovative outreach activity aimed at engaging the public, communities, or specific target groups.
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Application Process:

To apply for the award, nominees need to submit the following:

1. A 500–700-word essay (written in English) that includes:

- **The outreach activity:** A brief description of the activity, including its goals and target audience (e.g., public talks, workshops, cultural events, educational programs).
- **Innovative elements:** What made this activity stand out? Did it use new methods, technologies, or creative approaches to engage people?
- **Impact:** How did the activity contribute to audience engagement, learning, or awareness? If possible, include any feedback, participation numbers, or outcomes that demonstrate success.
- **Visual media:** Photos, videos, or promotional materials showcasing the outreach activity. Give a better impression of the implementation of your activity

2. Supporting Materials (optional, but encouraged):

- **Testimonial or feedback** from participants and/or collaborators.
- **Links to media coverage** or social media posts related to the activity.

3. Nomination Deadline: Applications are due by **09 May 2025**.

4. Submission of Applications: Submit your essay and supporting files by the above-mentioned deadline at alexandros.xafis@fhstp.ac.at.

Nomination Process:

• Self-Nomination:

Individuals can submit their own application by providing the written description and optional supporting materials.

• Peer Nomination:

Colleagues, collaborators, or participants can nominate an individual they feel deserves the award by submitting a short exposé outlining why they believe the method stands out and should be considered. Nominees will be contacted to submit their full application.

• Selection Committee:

A panel of experts from diverse fields will review the submissions and select the winner.

Selection Criteria:

The winner will be chosen based on:

1. Innovation:

- The originality of the outreach activity. Did the approach break away from traditional methods, use new formats, or creatively tackle a challenge in outreach?

2. Engagement and Impact:

- How well did the activity engage the target audience? Was there active participation? Did the activity lead to a greater understanding, awareness, or interest in the topic?

3. Inclusivity and Accessibility:

- How inclusive was the outreach activity? Did it make knowledge and learning accessible to a wide range of people, regardless of background, education level, or physical ability?

4. Evidence of Success:

- o Concrete evidence of the activity's success. This can include (if available) participation rates, feedback from attendees, or demonstrable changes in knowledge, attitudes, or engagement.

Award Presentation:

The awards will be presented during the E³UDRES² Science Festival, on Wednesday 21 May 2025 at 19:00 – 20:30 (look at updated programme for details), where the winner will be recognized for their exceptional work in public outreach. They will also have the opportunity to share their outreach experience and insights with a larger audience at the festival (hybrid participation possible).

Incentives for Award Recipients:

The recipients of the E³UDRES² Award for Innovative Science Outreach Activity will be recognized for their exceptional efforts in advancing science communication and outreach. The winners will enjoy the following incentives:

- A **monetary prize** for the three best submissions of 1000€ for the first place, 750€ for the second place, and 500€ for the third place.
- **Opportunity to showcase their outreach initiative** by leading a dedicated seminar or session, organized by E³UDRES², to share their strategies and successes with the E³UDRES² community.
- **Extensive visibility** through our communication channels, including promotion across E³UDRES²'s social media platforms, podcast, newsletter, and website, providing a broader platform for their work.
- A **custom certificate** that recognizes their exceptional achievement in science communication.

These incentives aim to celebrate the recipient's contributions and amplify their impact within the E³UDRES², academic, and scientific communities.