



DREAMING GREEN

Event Summary

What do Marie Curie and Pablo Picasso have in common? This was the question set forth from the event host (Amanda Jane Ozin-Hofsjaess, Research Programme Administrator REA) as she introduced the concept of Art-Science and background of the competition. She explained that whether with paintbrushes in an atelier or test tubes in the laboratory, artists and scientists use the same process to discover and innovate. With the Art-Science Competition concept, the wish is to encourage students to explore the connections between art and science and come away understanding that art and science are fully integrated within us and it is what makes us uniquely human.

The choice of a “green theme” was to highlight the importance of this topic in all of our lives and priority area of the European Commission and of the European Greening efforts of schools. It was also a natural way to link the collaboration to the EU Green Week as a dedicated partner event. The students were open to interpret the theme in any way; using any media, alone or in groups, as long as they could take a photo of it and explain their intention in terms of art and the science perspective in any field. The outcomes were impressive and the takeaway message was that when you mix Art-Science and Policy then there is a power to the creations to engage citizens and to create a momentum for changes needed.

The feedback to the competition was beyond expectations with 16 European Schools/Accredited schools involved from 7 countries. The art and science teachers inspired over 700 students to send in multimedia works. Each school could short-list 5 pieces for going forward to the distinguished EU-level jury including: Ms. Signe Ratso, Deputy Director-General in RTD, Mr. Marc Bellens, Head of Department D in REA, and two Art-Scientists from EU-funded projects –[Dr. Helena Gonzalez Buron](#) with focus on performing arts and [Dr. Fiammetta Ghedini](#) with visual storytelling for science.

The EU level jury had an immense challenge to choose the six winners in total from the 44 submitted junior words and 25 senior pieces. It was acknowledged that in art there is no gold, silver in bronze and that all are winners. Even so, the prizes were appreciated as follows:

- European Research Executive Agency sponsoring the planting trees in Belgium for each of the artworks
- The organising school (EEBIV) is providing
 - A copy for each of your school libraries the Art-Science-Policy book [Combat pour le climat](#) authored by key note speaker Joana De Carvahlo
 - Green art supply voucher with in kind donation school patron in Brussels “Maison Le Febvre”
- Other kind donations of books from Musée Curie about Marie Sklodowska Curie’s remarkable scientific career as tribute for organisation of the event. The Musée Curie in Paris (in the former Radium Institute). Guardian of a unique historical heritage, the Musée Curie is a museum of story and history: the story of a famous scientific family and the history of science and medicine, the history of the study of radiation and its medical applications.

After setting the scene the host welcomed our distinguished speakers to open the ceremony and provide perspectives at all levels – Commission staff, European Schools, teachers and students:

- The REA Director, Marc Tachelet took the floor and gracefully welcomed the viewing audience and clearly stated his belief of the power of connecting Art-Science-Policy to engage with our young EU citizens.
- The Secretary General of the European Schools, Giancarlo Marcheggiano, stressed the added value of working together and that the creative process of all participants was as important as discovering the winners.
- The insightful educational perspectives from coordinating school EEBIV Manuel Bordoy (Director) and Christos Koutsoukis (Art Coordinator) showed the benefits of integrating arts into science education, so called “[STEAM](#)” approach.
- The “student” perspective was personalised through the story of graduated European School pupil Joana De Carvahlo, showed her career evolution along a scientific administration path and how it is possible to combine art-science talents with publication of her first book, a dream of hers, on [Combat pour le climat](#).

Now was the time to hear from the students as the jury members and other key Commission and school staff starting the prize announcements and to invite the winners to make a statement. All in all, there was a lot to take in by means to the thoughtful, heart-warming and powerful messages from the winners.

Starting with the four junior category winners, **Signe Ratso** prepared an eloquent speech explaining that she was very pleased to be part of the initiative. That the *“competition fits well to the Bauhaus initiative of the Commission; about building a greener future together with citizens through science, art, and culture”*. She started the prize giving by announcing the first junior prize going to:

- **“Green Transition: towards a Green Anthropocene”** - accepted by artist Margarita Shishkova (EEBIV), as she stated full-heartily to the Commission staff and student community in acceptance of her prize to: *“Remain inspired, Dare to dream, Art and Science will help that sooner or later all our dreams come true!”* – words that both Marie and Pablo would have been inspired by (Catalogue #18).

Followed by **Marc Tachelet** awarding on behalf of the REA a charming class of S1-4 pupils (ES Frankfurt) who thanked thanked the jury for their choice of their contribution:

- **“Vertical Garden”** – a stunning installation of a hanging ecosystem of real plants in individually blue-gold decorated Gaudi-and-Hundertwasser-inspired recycled plastic bottles (Catalogue #20).

Isabelle Verwilghen on behalf of the schools awarded:

- **“Reflection through opalescent eyes”** by Juliette Rieunier (AES Manosque) - Beauty and hope of *“how human hands can improve, help build a better place”* as watercolour work (Catalogue #4).

Fiammetta Ghedini on behalf of the jury awarded to a delightful junior winner duo:

- **“Chlona House”** from garbage a beautiful miniature “dream-house” using well-thought out green-technology by Chloe Lapy and Lena Chenot Moussaoui (AES Parma). They explained the 17h they invested to discuss (and *“even disagree on choices”*) for the final construction of their work (Catalogue #7).

Next in the virtual spotlight were our two last winners in the senior category. **Helena Gonzalez Buron** on behalf of the jury award to:

- **“The Writing’s on the Wall”** –calling us, and all her friends who helped her to paint, in action to *“Cut 11% of emissions now!”* Amelie Zimmerman (EEBII) as designer of the piece explained her impressive urban art statement of 15m long x 6m high (Catalogue #60).

Marc Bellens, as Chair of the jury, gave the last award to:

- **“Destructive Diligence”** - The urgent story re-told by Maria Shopova’s (EEBIV) was very impressive. She explaining her blend of nightmare of how *“humanity is working towards its own downfall by ruining the very nature which helps us survive”* and the dream showing *“that there is still hope with the hands reaching out”* saving us (Catalogue #62).

See the [EU Green Week Partner event](#) for further details of the Art-Science competition concept, rules and other references. The event was closed by thanking all the participants and the organisers for contributing to this Art-Science initiative 2021. Recording links to the award ceremony will be available via the EEBIV YouTube Channel.

Gallery of Junior and Senior Prize Winners



Triptych “Green Transition: Towards a Green Anthropocene”

Margarita SHISHKOVA S4 European School of Bruxelles IV



Vertical Garden

Pupils of levels S1-S4 European School of Francfort



Reflection through opalescent eyes

Juliette RIEUNIER S4 Accredited European School of Manosque



The Chlona House

Chloé LAPY et Lena MOUSSAOUI CHENOT S1 Accredited European School of Parma



The Writing's on the Wall

Amélie ZIMMERMAN S7 European School of Brussels II



Destructive Diligence

Maria SHOPOVA S6 European School of Brussels IV