



# I CONGRESO Internacional de la **Cultura del Agua** **ARACENA**

Del 4 al 9 de junio de 2018



## **I INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF WATER CULTURE**

*(In person and virtual)*

**Grotto of the Wonders, where Water is Art**

**Aracena, June 7 to 9, 2018**

*Cultural and educational animation (from June 4 to 7)*

### **ARACENA TOWN HALL**

### **INTERNATIONAL READING UNIVERSITY NETWORK**

## **RECIPIENTS**

Professors of the International Network of Reading Universities, teachers and students, in general, and of Andalusia and the Region of Aracena, in particular, cultural groups and anyone interested in the topics addressed.

## **INTRODUCTION**

We are in a serious moment of environmental crisis, before which there must be an integrated response from Science, Culture and Education. In this holistic approach, we intend to examine water issues not from a discipline or slope but by promoting this dialogue from the thematic modules of *Water and Science*, *Water and Management*, *Water and Culture*, and *Water and Education*. The aim is to go beyond the one-dimensional approach of Water as a resource to the "Multiple Waters" that model the different hydric cultures of the Peninsula, in order to recognize that diversity and richness, as well as its historical-cultural referents. The result must be the ability to generate projects and actions that, in addition to sensitizing citizens, involve innovative social interventions and contribute to creating good practices, for example, environmental education models that integrate all these perspectives.

The Congress is therefore a debate between experts and those interested in these issues, but also in an open format to the entire educational community, cultural associations and citizens in general. In this context, the Aracena brand is revealed as an indicator that allows interdisciplinarity for its natural conditions, its history and the variety of its cultural offerings, infrastructures, and cultural development. The Grotto of Wonders is an example of sustainable development that encourages and stimulates the care of water, converted into a work of art. It is important to underline the presence of water as the axis of the region, in the context of the richness of its natural and ethnographic heritage.

## **INTERNATIONAL READING UNIVERSITY NETWORK**

The **International Reading University Network** is a Thematic Network of Excellence made up of 50 universities in Spain, Portugal, Italy, Russia and Latin America, dedicated to the promotion of reading and writing. As such, it

has developed transverse and interdisciplinary work lines around reading since its inception. In this context, global social, environmental and heritage crises are exemplified in an emblematic theme such as water, which should be understood not only as a resource but as part of a cultural history and memory, manifested in narratives, arts, rites and other elements of intangible heritage. Therefore, it is necessary to act in the educational and communication fields to address the challenges and demands of the future by investigating the links between reading, ecology and education, and thus promoting the transfer of knowledge demanded by society. For all this, in addition to the resources of the Universities, RIUL has agreements with the MECD and other national and international organizations.

## OBJECTIVES

- To value the Water Culture from a holistic perspective, uniting Science and Humanities, with a view to raising awareness about the culture of water as an instrument of environmental education and sustainability.
- Read the water world from Information and Science. Knowledge and awareness of the water reality of the territory and of Andalusia in general, as a means of awareness and sustainability.
- Compile, understand and assess information on the water reality of a model and peculiar region (Water and Science), addressing proposals for utility transfer for the preservation of the county's heritage.
- Join forces and converge lines of use of the various institutions that deal with Water Management in Andalusia.
- Take advantage of the exceptionality of La Gruta de Las Maravillas, as a magical and mysterious place where foundational myths, legends, and outstanding relationships between Nature and Culture converge.
- Link the feeling and traditional knowledge to proposals on Water Literature in order to raise public awareness and educational intervention.
- To offer the International Reading Universities Network of a research territory that contains a) an important Intangible Heritage of Humanity in its poetics of oral tradition; b) traces of ancient Chairs of Theology and Latinity (S. XVII, Benito Arias Montano).
- Create links of good practices and healthy enjoyment in an environment that has brands of excellence in terms of landscape, monuments, cuisine and how many proposals can be derived from tourism for all audiences.

## THEMATIC MODULES

- 1) **Water and Science. Interdisciplinary studies:**
  - Geology
  - Geography
  - Cultural and environmental history
  - Ecocritic
- 2) **Water and Management:**
  - Water economics
  - Resource management
  - Water governance
- 3) **Water and Culture:**
  - Folklore, mythology, anthropology
  - Water cultures and diversity
  - Water and nature in the arts
  - Media and water culture
  - Tourism and memory places
- 4) **Water and Education:**
  - Ecological literacy and environmental education
  - Ecological readings
  - Library and Children's and Young People's Literature