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ABSTRACTS

KEYNOTE LECTURES, COMMUNICATIONS, POSTERS

Posters 146

6.1 = Genova Botanical Garden as resource for scientists and citizens

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The Botanical Garden of University of Genova is located within the historic center of Genova. The botanical gardens are places of extraordinary importance for scientific research, biodiversity conservation, education and environmental divulgation, so they must be preserved, valorized and made known to citizenship (1). In fact, among the activities carried out by botanical gardens it is important to highlight the role in making known and understanding the importance of the diversity of the plant kingdom and to raise public awareness on the conservation and protection of plant species (2).

The Botanical Garden of Genova has always been a promoter of events and activities, direct to citizenship and to scholastic world, aimed at promote the botanical garden and more generally at stimulating attention on the environmental issues. From several years, the botanical garden participates to different manifestations, such as *Euroflora* and *Festival della Scienza*, to cultural events, by hosting exhibitions and performances, and to educational and outreach activities for students or citizens. Since many years, the volunteers of the association *Amici dell'Orto Botanico* contribute to the preservation and enhancement of the Botanical Garden of Genova and organize guided tours and public seminars. Additionally, since two years the association *ADM (Associazione Didattica Museale)*, in collaboration with mycologists and botanists of the University of Genova, has increased and improved the activities for school, families and citizenship.

Thanks to the contribution of all these different and complementary realities, to involve different type of public, the following activities are carried out in the botanical garden:

- laboratory and guided tours for all types of school,
- workshops for adults or children, such as photography, creation of closed terrariums, tastings, theatrical performances, book presentations, laboratories or manual activities on botany;
- cycles conferences, field trips and thematic guided tours for general public.

Finally, to increase the possibilities of transmitting and spreading scientific culture within the Botanical Garden, the internal spaces have been recently improved with the realization of a teaching aula to accommodate the visitor audience.

- 1) E. C. Moskwa, and C. Gary (2012) Recreation, education, conservation: the multiple roles of botanic gardens in Australia, Annals of Leisure Research, 15.4, 404-421
- 2) V. Kuzevanov, & S. Sizykh, (2006) Botanic gardens resources: tangible and intangible aspects of linking biodiversity and human well-being, Hiroshima Peace Science, 28, 113-134