

MAD FOR SCIENCE: ENTRIES NOW OPEN FOR THE 2021 EDITION

Saluggia (VC) – November 3, 2020 - The **5th edition** of the **Mad for Science** challenge - a project created five years ago by **DiaSorin** and now sponsored by the newly established **DiaSorin Foundation** - officially starts today.

This one-of-a-kind competition aims to bring Italian high school students closer to the world of Science and Research, challenging them to design laboratory projects on a specific theme and giving the winning High Schools the opportunity to implement their already existing school biolaboratory.

Among the **novelties** of the **2021 edition**, **Classical High Schools with a course of "Biology with biomedical curvature"** will be **eligible** to take part in the challenge along with **over 1,600 Scientific High Schools** competing for the "Final Challenge" that will take place by the end of the 2020/2021 school year.

"Regenerating the future" is the theme chosen for the 2021 edition and is more topical than ever. It will examine the Sustainable Development Goals promoted by the **UN 2030 Agenda** and will focus on the impact of biotechnologies, scientific and technological research and innovation (**SDG 9**), the adoption of new sustainable consumption and production patterns (**SDG 12**) and the development of sustainable cities and communities (**SDG 11**). Schools will be required to elaborate 5 laboratory experiences on the proposed themes working also with an outside Company and focusing their laboratory proposals on the local territory.

Applications must be submitted by December 18, 2020, by filling out the registration form at **www.madforscience.fondazionediadorasin.it**.

The 50 best proposals will be selected by January 11, 2021 and the 50 selected High Schools will submit the complete project proposals by April 14, 2021. By May 7, 2021, an internal jury chosen by the **DiaSorin Foundation** will select the eight finalists who will compete in the **Mad for Science Challenge** in Turin in front of a jury of experts.

The **1st place** winning **High School** at the Mad for Science Challenge 2021 will receive a **prize of 75,000 thousand euros** (50,000 thousand euros to be used for the implementation of its own existing biolaboratory and 25,000 euros for the supply of consumables required for the new laboratory experiences over the following 5 years).

The **2nd place** winning **High School** will receive a **prize of 37,500 thousand euros** (25,000 thousand euros to be used for the implementation of its own existing biolaboratory and 12,500 thousand euros for the supply of consumables required over the following 5 years).

The Jury of the Mad for Science Challenge 2021 will also award a **Special Environment Prize of 12,500 thousand euros** to the finalist High School that will best integrate the eco-sustainability and environmental protection concept into one or more laboratory experiences.

*"The new edition of the Challenge is the first initiative promoted by the newly established DiaSorin Foundation," commented **Francesca Pasinelli, Chairman of the DiaSorin Foundation.** "Our mission is to inspire and support young talents in the scientific and technological field, fostering collaboration between Science and School in STEM disciplines and promoting the value of Science in Society. The Mad for Science challenge provides students with the opportunity to experience science firsthand and get closer to science and critical thinking. "*

For further information please contact: info@fondazionediasorin.it

DiaSorin Foundation

DiaSorin Foundation, established in July 2020 by DiaSorin S.p.A, is a non-profit organization operating in science education and training to support young talents, engage students in science and promote scientific culture.

www.fondazionediasorin.it

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