

International Year of Light 2015 National Activities in the Czech Republic



Czech Organization

The aim of the non-profit coordination team led by professor Pavel Zemánek from the Institute of Scientific Instruments in Brno was to motivate and incite both public and private sector institutions to take an active part in the promotion of light and the popularization of light science and technologies. The ultimate task was first and foremost to appeal to school children and young students. Many artistic and knowledge based competitions concerning light, public lectures, scientific plays or interactive displays were held throughout the year in the Czech Republic. In total, 71 events at the occasion of the International Year of Light 2015 were registered at the official Czech website.

Highlights & Key Events



SIGNAL FESTIVAL / photo: Alexander Dobrovodsky

Artistic displays of light technologies aimed at broad public took place in the big Czech cities. Video mapping festival *Septembeam* in Olomouc, *SIGNAL festival* in the streets of Prague or light show on the occasion of the *Museum Night* in the *Technical Museum* in Brno were among them.

Art competitions aimed at children took place all over the country in 2015. Picture on the right illustrates what light means to a young girl from the Czech region Bystricko.

Artistic group *Amazing Theatre of Physics* visited many schools throughout the IYL with their play explaining the physics behind light.

Czech scientific institutions concerned with light science paid special attention to its popularization in 2015. Young visitors thus gained an exclusive insight into light technologies during the open days at many Czech scientific institutes.



Photo credit: Městské muzeum Bystrice nad Pernštejnem

Photo credit: The Czech Academy of Sciences



The *Czech Academy of Sciences* celebrated its 125th anniversary in 2015. In honour of the IYL, it dedicated motto of the annual festival *Week of Science and Technology* to light. Moreover, it hosted the exhibition *Light Beyond the Bulb* as well as interactive workshops for children and video mapping show at its headquarters in Prague.