

Danube Day 2013 in the Czech Republic

Fantastic fish focus attention on Danube rivers

2013 saw the 10th year of the prestigious **Danube Art Master** schools contest in the Czech Republic. Beautiful, thought-provoking creations lined river banks across Moravia. With 750 pupils entering 300 artworks, it was once again the biggest Art Master competition in the Danube Basin.

With the Czech Republic scooping the top prize in the 2011 and 2012 Art Master finals, the heat was on to try and make it three in a row. 7 and 8 year-old Nela Ptáčnicková, Alena Svobodová and Petra Šlorová won top prize at this year's national stage. Along with their teacher, the girls took their intricate leaf mosaic fishes to the international final in Budapest.

Pupils from 31 schools were inspired by the Morava in 2013: each child demonstrating the importance of their river through art. 70 of the budding artists came together to celebrate Danube Day in Olomouc. The top 20 artists won a thrilling canoe safari down the Morava in the beautiful surroundings of Litovelské Pomoraví, courtesy of Czech organisers, Union for the Morava River, with sponsorship from Coca-Cola.

"As well as working to protect water quality and the environment, international cooperation is needed in cargo and passenger transport, infrastructure, tourism and more."

Tomas Szunyog, Czech Ambassador in Bosnia-Herzegovina, speaking at Danube Day in Vrelo Bosne.

Danube Day Partners

Union for the Morava River; Ministry of Environment; Czech ambassador to Bosnia-Herzegovina and Coca-Cola Hellenic CZ.

Danube Day 2013: Get active for the sturgeon!

For general information about the 14-country Danube Day celebrations, view www.danubeday.org or email the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR): benedikt.mandl@unvienna.org