



Fnism
Federazione Nazionale degli Insegnanti
sezione di Catania

Year 2022/2023 –8th edition

The project "Un giardino delle Giuste e dei Giusti in ogni scuola" ("A Garden of the Righteous Women and the Righteous Men" in every school), this year in its eighth edition, is organized by Fnism-Catania (the National Federation of School Teachers) and it is aimed at schools of all levels as well as centers of training and culture.

The Project is sponsored by the Department of Culture and Education of the Municipality of Catania and it is supported by the following associations: Fildis-Catania, UDI-Catania, AEDE-Sweden, Orione per l'ambiente, Le Siciliane and the Giuseppe Fava Foundation.

Through educational paths based on research and action, the project promotes in young people the following values:

– the sense of equality and "grateful memory", by enhancing and revealing the stories and the contribution offered by righteous **women** and **men** to build a world of Freedom, Peace, Equality, Justice and Inclusion, Sisterhood and Brotherhood.*

– the raising concern for our Earth and humankind through the planting and care of trees as "helpers" of humanity.

The project has been inspired by the Garden of the Righteous Among the Nations created in 1960 at the Yad Vashem museum in Jerusalem and the planting of the trees is dedicated to the Righteous people, who in the world have opposed crimes against humanity and totalitarianisms, in keeping with the Jewish traditional practice of planting a tree in memory of a loved person for eternal remembrance.

As part of the previous editions of the project, Gardens have been created in Italian and European schools and squares, from Lampedusa to Syracuse, from Costanza to Stockholm, passing through many Sicilian schools and squares, and the city of Catania has been the cornerstone of this innovation.

The Project is sponsored by the Department of the Municipality of Catania.

The Project, with its proposal of active citizenship, can be included among the civic education paths that schools will start in the new school year.

GUIDELINES AND ACTIVITIES *

The project involves two phases:

- the first is mandatory;
- the second is optional and develops phase 1.

Phase 1-compulsory) - Each class, or work group, or single subject, proposes at least two names, **a Righteous Woman and a Righteous Man, and in memory of each/or both of them, plants and entitles a tree in the garden or in the courtyard of the school** or in a nearby square\garden\green area that will be adopted by all the students of the school. More names can be proposed, yet at least half of them should be of Righteous Women.

-Schools that have already joined in the previous years can choose one of the following proposals: a) to add more trees to be named to those already planted in a garden; b) to set new spaces up in areas adjacent to the school by enriching the memory of the names already registered.

Phase 2 - optional) – Phase 1 of the works can be enriched by the realization of:

- a) an artistic-creative work (**sculptures, murals, installations, artistic benches**) inspired by the history of the Righteous and Righteous to whom the trees are dedicated;
- b) a work of creative writing: a **story** (maximum 5000 characters, spaces included) inspired by the battles, life, ideals, hopes of the women and men of the Gardens of the Righteous;
- c) a video: a **commercial or a short film** (maximum 5 minutes) in mp4 format, on the themes and/or characters of the Gardens of the Righteous.

Each participating school places a plaque next to the trees planted.

Rules for the realization of the plates: the title plate of each plant shows the official design/logo of the project, the name of the chosen character, the reason for the title and, on the back, a short biography of about 200 words.

It is also proposed to each participating school to send a video filming the planting of the trees via wetransfer. The shooting can also be taken with the mobile phone and it must last maximum one minute. All the clips received will be assembled in a video story of the Project which will be presented at the final event.

* **The profile of the Righteous Women and Righteous Men** to whom the Gardens will be entitled is based on the following requisites: they are women and men who have distinguished themselves for their commitment, even at the risk of their own safety, and for the salvation of people subjected to oppression, persecution and discrimination, both for their struggle and their denunciation of abuses and injustices, in defense of a high ideal of human dignity.

FINAL INSTRUCTIONS:

The following materials will be sent to the email address: fnismct@gmail.com by March 19, 2023:

- the biography of each character chosen;
- the motivation for the choice in 10/30 words;

- 5/10 photos, in high resolution and with captions, of the work done, from the research phase to the tree planting and the naming of it. Two of the photos will show the two faces of the plate;
- for schools that will also participate in phase 2:
 - 2 jpg photos of each artistic work created;
 - the story in pdf with synopsis (200 characters including spaces); the video in mp4 format will be sent via wetransfer;
- the teachers or representatives of each individual project briefly describe the teaching activity carried out in a short report according to the model attached to this communication, to be completed in its entirety.

EVENT and AWARDS

The final event will be held in Catania at the Palazzo della Cultura, in the month of April.

The Gardens created will be rewarded with certificates, books and trees to plant, donated by Fnism and by the other supporting associations.

TWO SPECIAL AWARDS

Two special awards, i.e. - "Alessandro Bruno Award" (third edition) and "Simona Carrubba Prize" (first edition) will be bestowed to particularly worthy projects that promote the permanent culture of equality and care for the Earth.

CONCLUSIVE INFOS:

The Gardens created are walkable and visible on Google Map and on the dedicated Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1617261561689867/> which supports the commitment of the participants and it allows the community of the "Gardens of the Righteous and the Righteous" to recognize and find themselves in the shared commitment to Humanity and Earth.

For any further information, please contact prof. Pina Arena, creator and manager of the project, at this email address: pina.arena@mail.com .