

Linking the Roque de Los Muchachos Observatory with the Local Secondary Schools on La Palma

The "Nuestros Alumnos y El Roque" Programme by the LPIYA Group*



Roque de Los Muchachos Observatory



Puntagorda



Barlovento



Los Sauces



Tijarafe

Los Llanos de Aridane



Tazacorte



El Paso

Santa Cruz de La Palma



Las Breñas



Mazo

WHY:

Because we want...

- + to attract the interest for the world of research in general.
- + to bring the activities of the Roque de Los Muchachos to the local population.
- + to disseminate the scientific knowledge.
- + to inspire students to work in research.

WHO:

- + Almost every astronomer working at the Roque de Los Muchachos Observatory.
- + Every secondary school on La Palma.
- + The Canarian Council of Education and the local teachers.
- + The local authorities (provide funding for transport).

RESULTS:

Every year, we reach...

- + 100% the local 16-year old students. (a total of ~800 - total population of La Palma 80,000).
- + ~2 science teachers from every school.

and we engage...

- + 25 astronomers (~8 hours of dedication in total).
- + 5 telescopes can be visited.
- + 12 staff, from different institutions doing team-work.

HOW:

1 astronomer ("the shepherd") leads a group of ~20 students:

- + gives a talk at the school: why astrophysics, distances, the light, the search for life, and questions, many questions...
- + guides a visit to the telescope where the astronomer works.
- + organises a workshop at the observatory where to learn about spectroscopy, the near-infrared, Sun observing.
- + and gives the possibility of extending the programme of activities.



URL:

<http://www.lpiya.org/nuestrosalumnos/>

*: The LPIYA Group gathers communicators and representatives from every institution present at the Roque de Los Muchachos Observatory (ORM): Javier Méndez, Pedro Alvarez, Gloria Andreuzzi, Thomas Augsteijn, Felix Bettonvil, Laura Calero, Romano Corradi, Amanda Djupvik, Markus Garczarczyk, Gabriel Gómez Velarde, Karl Kolle, Iain Steel, Luis Martínez Saez, Emilio Molinari, Juan Carlos Pérez, Saskia Prins, Dirk Rabach, Rolf Kever, Alfred Rosenberg, Montserrat Alejandro Siscart.