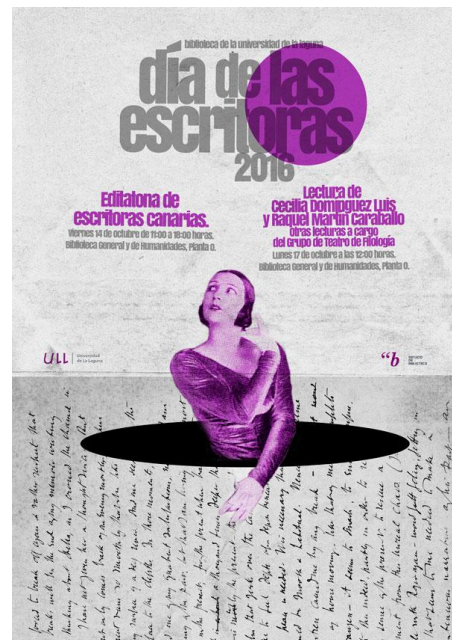


Women Writers Day

Background

The Women Writers Day is a commemoration begun in Spain to recover the legacy of women writers, make visible the work of women in literature and combat the discrimination they have suffered throughout history. The celebration, yearly, is convened on the Monday following the date of October 15, the festivity of Teresa de Jesus. In 2016 it celebrated on October 17.

The Women Writers Day was born on the initiative of the National Library of Spain, the Classical and Modern Association and the Spanish Federation of Female Managers (FEDEPE) to compensate the historical discrimination of women in literature.



How did it start?

In May 2016 a member of WMES, Mentxu Ramilo, suggested to the National Library of Spain, through Twitter, the celebration of an edit-a-thon of Wikipedia on the occasion of the Women Writers Day, that would be celebrated for the first time in October.



The institution agreed and we contacted them via email to take the first steps of the event.

After that, we set up a meeting with a representative of the National Library and we talked about different aspects of the organization: Wikipedia page, inscription, date and hour.

At the same time, the member who started the contact with the National Library began to organize two events on the same topic in the Basque Country, one of them with the University of the Basque Country in which also the focus would be on women scientifics.

Finally, the library of the University of La Laguna also showed interest in the event, after knowing it through the National Library, and they contacted us. So one event in 4 different places.

Execution

After the first contacts, we had several meetings with the different organizing institutions to specify the different details of the event; among other things, they contributed the list of possible articles to be edited. All of them, along with activity



information of each place, such as location, date, time, schedule or statistics, were posted on a [Wikipedia page](#).

The registration to participate in the four places was managed through a single form, which offered the possibility of registering to participate in situ or from home. In the event also participated the user group of Wikimujeres, and promoted the organization of similar events among the groups of the Iberocoop network.

The diffusion was made through the social media of the different collaborating institutions and press release, echoing several newspapers and a television channel.

In La Laguna was held on October 14, between 10 and 18 hours, in the general library of the University of La Laguna, on the island of Tenerife. After access control, the group photo was made on the facade of the library and after a brief welcome, the participants attended a presentation on the edition in



Wikipedia. At lunchtime they stopped to eat in the bar of a faculty and later continued editing until the time was up.

In Madrid the event took place on October 15, between 10 and 18 hours. After inviting coffee to the attendees, the group photo was carried out on the facade of the National Library; already inside the library, the promoter organizations of the Women Writers Day presented the event and some advice was given to edit on Wikipedia. At lunchtime they stopped to eat; the meal, paid between WMES and the National Library, was served by a catering service in a hall of the building. After lunch, the editing session continued until the closing hour.



In Leioa the event coincided with the week of science, technology and innovation, which celebrates the University of the Basque Country, so the activity was used to edit

about women writers and women scientifics. The day took place on October 19 between 10 and 18 hours and was held in the central library of the University. At the beginning of the event, there was a talk on Wikipedia, equality and diversity by Wikimujeres and later we continued with the editing session.

Finally, in Vitoria-Gasteiz took place on October 22, between 10 and 13 hours, in the training room of Saregune. At the beginning there was an introduction on the edition in Wikipedia and, after that, the edit-a-thon was carried out. At lunchtime, to finish the day, we ate together in a nearby bar.



Results

We thought the event, as a whole, was a success. A total of 55 people participated, 33 of which were new editors and 40 were women (72% of the total). The number of articles edited was 64, of which 54 were new. The added bytes were 287 694. In each place, the statistics are as follows:

Madrid					
Total number of articles edited	Number of articles created	Number of bytes added	Total number of editors	Number of new editors	Number of women editors
27	18	108 061	28	15	23

Leioa					
Total number of articles edited	Number of articles created	Number of bytes added	Total number of editors	Number of new editors	Number of women editors
13	12	67 920	9	8	4

Vitoria-Gasteiz					
Total number of articles edited	Number of articles created	Number of bytes added	Total number of editors	Total number of new editors	Number of women editors
15	15	57 898	9	4	6

La Laguna					
Total number of articles edited	Number of articles created	Number of bytes added	Total number of editors	Number of new editors	Number of women editors
9	9	53 815	9	6	7

Unquantifiable results

The experience was very positive, both to increase and improve the user community and to share impressions among the participants. It is usual that in any event of these characteristics, there are opportunities to organize new activities and in the four locations of this event there is interest in carrying out more actions, some already in progress and others concrete for the coming months.

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