

# DAILY NEWS

news from the 24<sup>th</sup> International Olympiad in Informatics



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## Minister Profumo interview

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**Minister Profumo, this week Italy is host to an event that will certainly have a strong impact on the schools because of its scientific and technological calibre. Are there going to be any other projects organized by the ministry aimed at promoting the use and diffusion of ICT in schools and universities?**

First of all, I would like to congratulate the organization for such an event of this magnitude. IOI is important not only for our country, but for the entire international community of young students involved in the ICT field. As you know, the Italian academic sector is undergoing strong renovations, with a focus on implementing new technologies for both organization and communication as well as content management. Certainly this event will be further motivation to accelerate the entire process.

Italian Minister of Education,  
University and Research

## calendar

Tuesday 25

H	CONTESTANTS	LEADERS	VISITORS
06:00 - 07:00	Breakfast		Breakfast
07:00 - 08:00	Meeting point Transfer to Montichiari		
08:00 - 09:00			
09:00 - 10:00	Contest Day 1	Clarification request	Transfer to Brescia
10:00 - 11:00		IOI Conference	Tour of Brescia
11:00 - 12:00			
12:00 - 13:00			
13:00 - 14:00			Lunch
14:00 - 15:00	Lunch		Tour of Brescia
15:00 - 16:00	Result and analysis mode		
16:00 - 17:00			Transfer to Sirmione
17:00 - 18:00	Transfer to Sirmione		Free Time
18:00 - 19:00	Free Time		
19:00 - 20:00	Dinner		
20:00 - 21:00			
21:00 - 22:00	Free Time/Activities	Meeting	Free Time
22:00 - 23:00			
23:00 - 00:00			

# The IOI officially begins

**Walking through the doors, the students begin to feel the real tension of what is awaiting them.**

Even though the inauguration is a moment of friendship and harmony, the contestants are introduced to their battlefield.

Presented by a dynamic young Italian MC Matteo Campese, the representatives of the local institutions which support IOI, including Elena Zanola (mayor of Montichiari); Daniele Molgora (President of the province of Brescia); Angela Nadia Cattaneo (Head teacher of the Tosi High School); Giovanni Azzone (Chancellor of Milan Polytechnic) and Giulio Occhini (director of AICA) inaugurated the competition with inspiring words, giving an overview of what is expected of the teams. Mr. Colosio opened the proceedings with a speech on behalf of the hosts welcoming the contestants and highlighting the importance of young people's contribution to the digital revolution, which is evolving rapidly and whose interesting innovations have a strong impact on socio-economic development. He was followed by Mr. Forster (President of the International Committee of IOI) who underlined the fact that IOI is not

just about the medals, but one also wins by making contact with other young people from all over the world, and the experiences gained here go far beyond IOI.

During the ceremony, apart from the speeches, there was also an uplifting focus on music, featuring the participation of pupils from the Gambara School of Music, Brescia, and including a heartwarming and touching piece played on a priceless 1715 Cremonese Stradivarius violin by Mr. Mosconi.

The teams were introduced separately with a tribute to their flags and all the participants cheered their opponents, demonstrating a strong feeling of respect and sportsmanship. The visitors and observers who accompanied the contestants showed their support with strong and enthusiastic applause which, along with the ringing of the ceremonial bell, marked the start of the real competition.

The inauguration was broadcast in live streaming by students of the ITSOS 'Albe Steiner', Milano.



PHOTO BY CLAUDIO FOCO

## Roberto Grossi interview

**Roberto Grossi, Professor at the University of Pisa and a member of the IOI organization. Roberto Grossi is one of the creators of the Contest management system.**



YouTube

As regards the competition, the competitors and the results, he said that the competition is divided into tasks and subtasks; although you cannot watch the game directly you can follow a real time

scoreboard outside the competition hall and check your team's performance. Competitors need to be good programmers, but also deep thinkers in algorithms and mathematics, and that they should also be able to solve complex problems very quickly.

When asked about his past life as the trainer of the Italian team, he said that now that he is the organizer he is on the other side. It involves more work but there is not so much pressure to perform and you do not have to 'father' your nervous team members.

To the question why there are relatively few females among the competitors, he smiled and said that there exist associations at an international level to foster female involvement in computer science, but for some unknown reason, girls, including his own daughters, simply don't seem to like computer science very much.

**Curiosity**

**Stradivarius**

The town of Cremona has paid homage to IOI in original and spectacular way. During the opening ceremony the public had the chance to witness a unique moment: listening to the sound of an actual Stradivarius violin played by its "curator". This precious instrument, a symbol of Italian excellence, was made by Antonio Stradivari and its name is "Cremonese 1715".





## snack



## Spaghetti alla carbonara

Eggs  
Guanciale bacon  
Pecorino Romano Cheese  
Black pepper  
Spaghetti or fettuccine

Spaghetti alla Carbonara comes from Rome. Originally it was considered a poor but hearty dish served to workers.

The egg and bacon sauce is mixed into the spaghetti with the cheese just before serving. In some parts of Italy, cream is added to the original recipe and the Pecorino Romano (sheep-milk cheese) replaced by Parmesan cheese.

## happy birthday

**25 September**

Abdullah Mohammad (Ireland)  
Gennady Korotkevich (Belarus)  
Marcos Kawakami (Brazil)



## byte



## Dante Alighieri

Consider the seed from which you sprang:  
You were not made to live like unto brutes,  
But for pursuit of virtue and of knowledge.  
(Dante Alighieri, Inferno, Canto XXVI)

## Special event

## Young digital talents: the conference

Tomorrow, 26 September, in conjunction with IOI 2012, the Regional Education Authority for Lombardy, AICA (Italian Computer Society), Assolombarda (Lombard entrepreneurial association) and UNESCO, have organized an International conference on **Young Talents & the Digital Future**. Findings of a survey will be presented during the conference and a copy of the study distributed to attendees.

This survey was carried out by AICA in cooperation with the Regional ICT Association in Central, Eastern and Southern Europe. The six countries involved – Bulgaria, Croatia, Latvia, Poland, Romania and Slovakia – have had remarkable results in identifying talented youngsters in the field of informatics, and helping them to develop.

The report has wide-ranging implications within education and beyond and is of particular interest to the IOI community. The findings provide a platform for further consideration by educationalists, researchers, decision-makers, public and private organizations in Europe and worldwide.

This conference will feature the **special guest Professor Sendov**, who first proposed IOI to UNESCO in 1987, and who is 80 this year.

Some leaders of IOI 2012 have proposed including **Professor Sendov** in a **BOARD of Patrons of IOI** for this distinguished merit.

### YOUNG TALENTS & THE DIGITAL FUTURE

Auditorium Gio Ponti Assolombarda, Via Pantano 9, Milano  
September 26th, 2012

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 9.30  | Registration   |
| 10.00 | Opening session<br><b>Alberto Meomartini</b> , Assolombarda President<br><b>Cristina Tajani</b> , Milan Municipality Councillor<br><b>Giulio Occhini</b> , AICA CEO  |
| 10.30 | IOI: How & Why<br><b>Giuseppe Colosio</b> , Chair IOI 2012   |
| 10.45 | Growing young talents in Europe: a survey<br><b>Plamen Nedkov</b> , IT STAR<br>Discussants:<br><b>BLAGOVEST SENDOV</b> , IOI Initiator<br><b>Paolo Sestito</b> , Bank of Italy and Invalsi President<br><b>Loredana Cafarda</b> , Eni Information & Communication Technology |
|       | IOI champions:<br><b>Giovanni Mascellani</b> , Italy<br><b>Eduards Kalinichenko</b> , Latvia<br>Moderator: <b>Carlo Massarini</b> , Scientific Journalist  |
| 12.30 | Closing messages by Giuseppe Colosio   |

Copy of the survey "Young Talent in Informatics" will be distributed to attendees

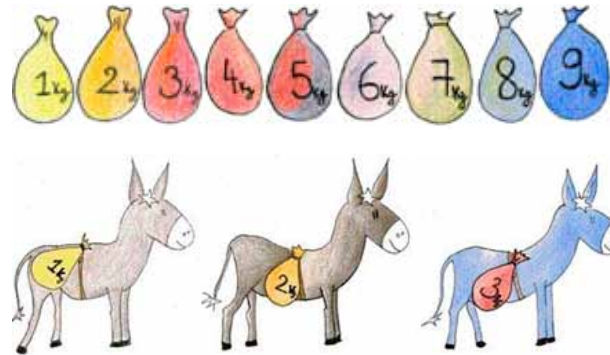
With the support of the President of the Italian Republic

## 1 On donkeyback

A farmer wants to go to market with his three donkeys Fari, Nio and Tonda to sell his crops. He has to load his donkeys with these nine sacks.

Fari carries the 1 kg sack, Nio carries the 2 kg sack and Tonda carries the 3 kg sack.

Complete the load so that each donkey carries the same number of sacks and the same quantity of crops.



## 2 Second Hand shop

In his little shop Paolo sells objects of 4 types. Each morning he displays the list of objects available on his shop window. Here is today's list.

Today

All the objects, apart from 42, are coins.

All the objects, apart from 32, are jars.

All the objects, apart from 47, are pill boxes.

All the objects, apart from 44, are necklaces.

For each type calculate the number of objects on sale today.

## IOI 2012 on the web

- Website - [www.ioi2012.org](http://www.ioi2012.org)
- Newsletter - [www.ioi2012.org/newsletter](http://www.ioi2012.org/newsletter)
- Facebook - [www.facebook.com/ioi2012italy](http://www.facebook.com/ioi2012italy)
- Youtube - [www.youtube.com/user/ioi2012media](http://www.youtube.com/user/ioi2012media)
- Twitter - <https://twitter.com/IOI2012>; official hashtag: #ioi2012

### Game solution issue 2

April fool!

	Anna	Sara	Massimo	Lisa
Anna says		1 or more	1 or more	1 or more
Sara says	2 (6 fish less the 4 she can see)			
Lisa says			3 (more than Sara but not 4 because Lisa has 1 and there are 6 fish altogether)	
Conclusion	0	2	3	1

What Massimo says confirms this solution

### Come on, run away

Sofia and Antonio take 20 and 10 minutes respectively to cross; thus it is clear that they must cross the bridge together, but it is necessary for the lantern to "return" rapidly. On the basis of these considerations:

Giulietta and Romano cross in 2 minutes.

Giulietta returns in 1 minute.

Sofia and Antonio cross in 20 minutes.

Romano returns in 2 minutes.

Giulietta and Romano finish the crossing in 2 minutes.

Total: 27 minutes (Giulietta and Romano can change places in the sequence)

# contact

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## twitter social

