



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

MASTERCLASS ITALY: HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS UNVEIL THE MYSTERIES OF PARTICLE PHYSICS

Almost 2000 high school students from all over Italy are participating in the 17th edition of the International Masterclasses organised by the International Particle Physics Outreach Group (IPPOG) and

coordinated in Italy by INFN, despite the difficulties of this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

They began on 11 February and will end on 27 March. The initiative, which this year involves 25 locations in Italy, is an opportunity for students to discover how research in particle physics works and to analyse real data from the LHC and BELLE II experiments at CERN and at the KEK laboratory in Japan, respectively. Each location organises one or more days of lectures and seminars on fundamental topics in particle physics, followed by computer-based exercises. At the end of each day, just like in a real international research collaboration, there is a videoconference with CERN and the young Masterclass participants from all over the world to discuss together the results of the exercises.

The Masterclasses take place simultaneously in 60 different countries, involving more than 200 of the most prestigious research institutions and universities worldwide and more than 13,000 high school students. ■