

## SCIENTIFIC INITIATION WITH EMPHASIS IN MATHEMATICS FOR YOUNG TALENTS PROGRAM

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Thanks to the support of our donors from GlobalGiving to the Project "Scientific Initiation for 120 students in Paraguay", who contributed with a part of the funds needed for our activities. This program aims to enhance the opportunities for young talents who are, definitely, the most valuable resource of our country.

It is the first and only program with these features in the country; it has national scope and proven international effectiveness and has been conducted continuously since 1989. This program consists of three main steps:

- 1) Detection and motivation through National Mathematical Olympiads;
- 2) Academic and Scientific Training;
- 3) Incentive to Excellence.

The long-term impact intended with the program, is the continuous training of Paraguayan professionals in science and technology, which will be the engine for the social and economic development of Paraguay.





Dr. César López Moreira 693 c/ Ntra. Sra del Carmen Telefax: 605-154 /612-135 omapa@omapa.org.py www.omapa.org.py

After the last report (November 2018), the annual courses finished in 9 cities around Paraguay. Then, we organized the summer courses in December 2018 and January 2019. Most of our students from public schools had a complete scholarship from ITAIPU Binacional (OMAPA's Major Donor). Funds from GlobalGiving donors were used to give some partial scholarships to students from private schools, allowing their attending to courses. These donations are extremely useful and really help us to achieve our goals. We hope to keep receiving the support of our donors, to whom we thank for their support.



During the classes, different types of problems are presented to the students:

- **Motivational problems**, that are chosen to motivate students in the issue of solving math Olympiad problems.



- **Challenge Problems**: those that need some theoretical tools that often they don't have. With the instructors' experience those new concepts are presented and developed through these well-developed problems.
- Additional problems: usually outside the main theme, in order to promote the interaction between the instructor and the students. They are accompanied by different types of materials, such as: cards, balls, etc. It usually is a more playful and open problem.

In addition, the courses' contents are a support for the training of our students who compete in Mathematical Olympiads. The objective of our program is to encourage the study of mathematics throughout the country, and a visible result of this work are the performance of our students on International Olympiads. Last December, the Rioplatense Mathematical Olympiad was organized by Argentina, and our students got several Honorable Mentions

Finally, we encourage our donors to follow our activities through the organization web page:

http://www.omapa.org.py/

as well as the social networks: Twitter : @OMAPApy Facebook: https://es-la.facebook.com/omapa.org.py