The city starts the program of its Atlantic Capital with informative workshops on the tradition of "the jolateros"



By Negociado de Ciudad de Mar

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Las Palmas de Gran Canaria has begun to celebrate its nomination as Atlantic City 2017. An informative workshop on the tradition of tin boats, the traditional jolateros, is the first activity that the Department of Ciudad de Mar has set in motion with the objective To awaken among the students of the capital the interest in this autochthonous practice, of high ethnographic value, in danger of disappearing.

Councilor for City of Sea and Mobility, José Eduardo Ramírez, explained that the city will turn in 2017 with all kinds of activities to strengthen the city's link with the sea. "The whole coast will host sports, cultural, economic and social cohesion events. Atlantic City 2017 is a collective achievement and its celebration is an opportunity to recognize us in our main asset to achieve smart, sustainable and inclusive economic growth, the sea, "said the mayor.

The Center for Early Childhood Education and Primary Guanarteme has been the scene of this first workshop on the jolateros, small boats for individual use built from a tin can, whose origin is situated on the bank of Arrecife (Lanzarote) in the middle of the past twentieth century. They were toys that children built in the summer by reusing drums and wood. Tin cans were also generalized in San Cristóbal's fishing district of the capital of Gran Canaria and El Confital.

Ramírez said that "these workshops, with which they start the acts of the Atlantic capital, help us to rescue, preserve, protect and disseminate this indigenous and singular practice. We want the youngest and their families to know, respect and value this traditional custom that is part of our marine culture. "

The workshops, coordinated by Lorenzo Lamaur, will reach different schools in the city and children hospitalized in the Maternal Child in Gran Canaria. This activity will close on the beach of Las Canteras next Friday, April 7, with children from the neighborhood of La Isleta and the collaboration of the Trib - Art Association.



Program aimed at enhancing the Atlantic character of the capital

The program of Atlantic City has the collaboration of different institutions and groups of the nautical and marine maritime sector. The mayor explained that they are going to promote "with a more Atlantic character, consolidated events such as the International Fair of the Sea, Fotosub and the Crossing to San Cristobal, even the College of Architects has confirmed that they will dedicate their week of architecture, The first week of October, to the Atlantic ".

The city will celebrate as an international seminar to discuss the role of Atlantic cities, host a meeting of the Atlantic Arc Cities Conference and, for the first time, will award the Atlantic City Award to recognize the work of the actors working in The economic, cultural and environmental promotion of the sea. In addition, next autumn, the city will host two international transatlantic races, the usual ARC and Minitransat, a solo race that will link La Rochelle (France) with Martinique (Caribbean), with stopover in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.

Among the objectives set during 2017, Ramirez stressed that the city council wants to finish defining what will be the beach of the 21st century. "We have started a serious and committed reflection with all the actors who have something to say on this subject and thanks to this we have defined a Plan for Revaluation of the beach of Las Canteras that we will begin to execute throughout this year," he said.

The Atlantic Capital

Las Palmas de Gran Canaria was chosen on 27 September in Dublin, 'Atlantic City 2017' for its innovative and creative policy in the development of the initiative Ciudad del Mar. The award, which is promoted by the Conference of Cities of the Arc Atlantic, places the capital of Gran Canaria in the debate that the coastal cities are playing in front of European and state investment policies. "

The bid for the capital focused on highlighting the Ciudad de Mar initiative as a model of sustainable growth that began with Proa 20 20; Continued with the Ciudad Náutica project in 2010, strengthened with the creation of the City Council of Ciudad de Mar and finally, it has been consolidated since 2015 with a new transformative impulse with the mobility projects, including BRT and the Sustainable Urban Development And Integrated for the next six years in the Southern Cone of the capital. "

Under this new framework, Ciudad de Mar is in line with the objectives of the Atlantic City Awards 2017, thanks to its proposal for a new economic model that promotes the sustainable development of the city and the creation of jobs through innovation in the management of resources.

The participation of the citizens in the direct management of the coast as it happens in the model of Microarea of the Quarries; The development of actions to raise awareness, sustainability and dissemination of the culture of the sea among the children; The promotion of nautical activities in a sustainable way, such as surfing, diving and sailing; And collaborative work and cooperation between public and private institutions, through forums such as FIMAR, Sabor a Mar, the Pact for the Sea or the surf competitiveness plan, are some of the milestones that the European jury valued At the time of granting this title to the capital of Gran Canaria.