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Astronomy plays the main part in the opening class of the Summer University of the UdL

■ The 17th edition broke all records with more than 900 students registered

Man's fascination for the surrounding universe will take a leading part in the opening class of the 17th edition of the Summer University of the UdL, which opens officially this Tuesday in La Seu d'Urgell. The Scientific Director of the Astronomic Park of Montsec, Salvador J. Ribas, refers to the Astronomic conference: "an image... more than a thousand words", in an act which takes place at the Civic Centre "El Passeig" in the capital of the Alt Urgell from 8pm.

Ribas will talk about some of the emblematic images throughout the history of astronomy "surely the oldest branch of science since primitive man was fascinated looking at the stars as little spots of light", he explains. The

Scientific Director of the Astronomic park of Montsec will analyze how each of the images has represented a jump forward in our understanding of the universe in which we live.

The Civic Centre El Passeig, will open an exhibition "La Seu del Món", about immigration to the capital of l'Alt Urgell, with photographs taken by students on the course given by the journalist Sandra Balcells in the 2008 edition. The prize for posters for the present Edition will also be awarded to the winner, the illustrator from Galicia, Pablo Álvarez Rosendo.

■ The best enrolment in history

This year the 17th Summer University of the UdL has beaten all records for enrolments, with a total of 915 students registered. La Seu d'Urgell has the highest number of activities with 16 courses and 375 students; followed by

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Salvador J. Ribas: "an image... more than a thousand words" conference

Lleida, Tremp, Àger, Erill la Vall and Seròs.

The courses offered at La Seu include subjects varying from nutrition to emotional education, barroque music to international conflicts, using games for socialization or map reading for GPS users.

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