



	29 <sup>th</sup> July		30 <sup>th</sup> July		31 <sup>st</sup> July
	25°		28°		25°



# Catalyzer

July 23 - August 1, 2016



Head mentors, observers and IChO guests having happy meal and fun at the Agricultural University of Georgia

Georgian enamel MINANKARI



Georgia is famous for its art of color and boundless energy. For many centuries it was amazing symbiosis of Georgian, European and Oriental influences. At the XIX century was the recovery and development of Georgian culture with the recreation of unique technology of the past and developing new. This happened with the famous jewelry Georgian cloisonne enamel Minankari. This jewelry of amazing beauty hit with incredible subtlety of color solutions. The method itself remains unchanged for twelve centuries, and its cost is not less than jewelry made of precious metals and stones.

Elarji



Elarji is a popular dish from Samegrelo region, made from coarse cornmeal, cornflour and Sulguni cheese. Ingredients: 200 grams of coarse cornmeal, 4 tbs of cornflour and 1 kilo of sulguni cheese. The cheese must be new. Mozzarella cheese can be used as an alternative to sulguni. Add the coarse cornmeal to a deep pot and water. Any impurities and discolored cornmeal will rise to the surface. Carefully drain the water and remove any floating impurities. Refill with water and keep repeating the rinsing process until all impurities have been removed.

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**Nadine Szczepanski from USA** (*Scientific Committee*)

It is my first time in Georgia. This country is absolutely amazing. Weather is perfect as well as traditional cuisine. I should mention Khinkali, dumplings which is one of the most tasty food I have ever had. Thank you for your hospitality and well organized Olympiad. One day I will be back to Georgia for sure.



**Kurt Nielsen from Denmark** (*Head Mentor*)

I am looking forward for the results. According to the fact that the tasks were absolutely normal and not too difficult my students should have done them well. I like Olympiad in Georgia and this country itself. I like food, people and everything. Hope to be back here as a tourist one day.

**Nobuhiro Kihara from Japan** (*head mentor*)

I am involved in IChO from the very beginning. Olympiad in Georgia is another very good experience. Tasks were absolutely normal and in my opinion most of the students could handle them. And about the Georgia I am fond of the weather here, food and people, who are so warm and hospitable. I want to thank the government, organization team and all the people involved in the process for their dedication.



**Vazha-Pshavela**



Vazha-Pshavela simply referred to as Vazha is the pen name of the Georgian poet and writer Luka Razikashvili noted Georgian patriot and author of the highest calibre in the field of Georgian literature. Vazha-Pshavela is the author of many world-class literary works – 36 epics, about 400 poems, plays, and stories, as well as literary criticism, journalism and scholarly articles of ethnographic interest. Even in his fiction he evokes the life of the Georgian highlander with a near-ethnographic precision. Vazha-Pshavela deals powerfully with the problems raised by the interaction of the individual with society, of humankind with the natural world and of human love with love of country.

*"He is my guest, this day,  
Though he owes me a sea of blood,  
I cannot betray him.  
I swear it, by God, his creator."  
Host and Guest - By Vazha-Pshavela*

Organizers





**Telavi**, the capital of the Eastern province of Kakheti, is home to several of the region's world-famous wineries, art museums, castles and a theater highlighting folk singing and dancing. Telavi is located at the crossroad of the region and is one of the most interesting and amazing city to see.

Cholokashvili Street is one of the most beautiful streets in the city, and has been recently renovated. The homes on this residential street are adorned with colorful gates and intricately carved balconies.

Batonis Tsikhe castle served as the residence of Kakhetian Kings between 17th and 18th century. The castle encloses two churches, the ruins of a royal bathhouse, and the Persian style Palace of King Erekle II.

Nadikvari Park is a wonderful place for leisure. One will find walking trails, beautiful nature, playgrounds, an open-air theater, concert arena and plenty of other attractions.

The almost 900 year old Giant Plane tree is one of the oldest and most unusual attractions of the city.

Old Shuamta is one of the oldest preserved Orthodox churches in Georgia, dating back to the 5th century. The complex also incorporates two dome churches constructed in the 7th century.

Ikalto Monastery complex incorporates three churches dating back to the 6th, 9th and 12th centuries.

During the 19th century, the Tsinandali complex belonged to renowned Georgian poet and public figure Alexandre Chavchavadze. The complex consists of a beautiful garden with over 1,000 varieties of trees and plants from all over the world. Furthermore, within the premise there are wine cellars with unique collections of wines.

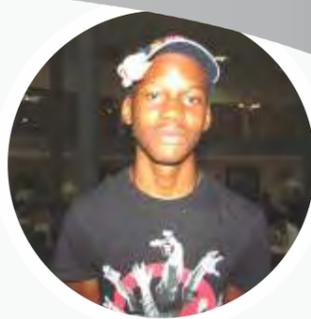
The earliest structures of the Alaverdi Monastery date back to the 6th century, although the present day cathedral is a part the 11th century Georgian Orthodox monastery.

Alaverdi is located 18 kilometers from Telavi and is one of the tallest religious buildings in Georgia. The surrounding courtyard is home to vineyards from which local monks make their own wine.



**Jasson Rodríguez from Costa Rica** (student)

Actually I was pretty calm before the exam even though I didn't know what to expect. I think it was nice to have a break as 5 hour exam is very long. Of course after the exam I was tired but now I'm very relaxed.



**Amam Oghenefejro from Nigeria** (student)

It was a little bit easier than I was expecting. And I'm hoping for something really good. The Lab assistants were very helpful and everybody was right on time.



**Kate Zator from England** (Student)

I liked the first task, the second one was a ride and the third was a bit of a big mystery at first, but when I was working through it everything seemed kind of logical. I really like the mountains around here, because we don't really get many of them in England.



**Andy Sardjan from Netherlands** (Student)

The exam was very hard. I'm not sure if I'm going to get a medal. It was really well organised. There were 300 people so it was a little bit different experience. Georgia is really pretty. I like old churches but roads are a little bit chaotic.



**Arnur Makenov from Kazakhstan** (Student)

I've attended the chemistry Olympiad last year in Baku and comparison to it this year tasks were much easier. I really liked having a break as it was nice to steam out a little bit. Thank you for everything - your much attention, care and well organized Olympiad.



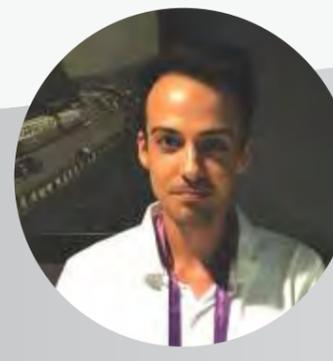
**Joyce Tian from USA** (Student)

I'm not sure how well the exam went but it was really fun. I think it was nice to see myself under the real professional conditions. Our guides have been always super duper helpful, they are like our saving grace. I think Georgia's nature is gorgeous. I come from DC, where there are basically no trees. Quite frankly, I think Georgia is one of the prettiest places I've ever been to.



**Sharifuddin Md Zain** (Head Mentor) - Malaysia

We always hope for the best, our students have gone through enough training. The problem is that they don't have much training in the practical part, they've done a lot more in theoretical part. I've been in the Olympiad since the first time which was in Hungary. I think the Olympiad is well organized considering the fact that you had very short time to do it and I congratulate Georgian team for doing this.



**Rickard Lindroth** (Head Mentor) - Sweden

My students will do practical part very well, it might be difficult to find strategy and work out the full solutions but we will do pretty well. And probably theoretical part is more challenging for them. Exercises are quite fair this year, they are solvable. Georgia for me is very nice, I like the food here I think people are very nice. I am looking forward to go to the old city because I've heard it's pretty.



**Ajay Bissessur** (Head Mentor) - South Africa

Actually we are well prepared for practical tasks. We had a few sessions where we went through actual practice so I think they are ready for the practical part and I think they will do well. Definitely the theoretical part is harder because the time factor. Georgia for me is a beautiful country, good food, lovely weather. And also this is our first time on Olympiad as a country, we've been observers for the past two years.



**Robert Vega-Baudrit** (Head Mentor) - Costa Rica

Georgia is a very different country for me. I think this place has a very good potential in all aspects in near future for tourists. The most amazing here is the weather, also people are very nice and hospitable. I am sure I will be back soon.



**Nino Casapullo** (Head Mentor) - Italy

We have two students from last year so they potentially will be able to have good results, the other two students are younger. I think that this year tasks are easier than last year, this is my second time on Olympiad.



**Miguel Chong** (Head Mentor) - Peru

Our students have been studying this things all year. The theoretical part is much harder because the organic part is very difficult. Actually, Georgia is a very beautiful country, people are very friendly and we are very happy to be here.



**John Jakhongir** (Head Mentor) - Uzbekistan

I think that many students can handle this laboratory work very easily, because nowadays chemistry in many countries is developing very quickly. The level is quite difficult but I think our students can manage it. Without any hesitation I can say that theoretical part is harder.



Happy Birthday  
Dear Robert

