Press release

Lisbon, 23 September 2019

FIRST PODCAST FESTIVAL IN PORTUGAL

***Podes*** *-* which sounds like pods, but it's also Portuguese for "you can" - is the first ever podcast festival in Portugal, which will take place in Lisbon on Saturday, 9 November 2019. It will offer a diverse and exciting program, with workshops, panels, live podcasts, and the first ever podcast awards in the country.

The day will be divided into 3 main blocks, which will be distributed between the Fine Arts Faculty of the Lisbon University, FNAC Forum and Fabrica Features Lisboa, all in Chiado, the absolute centre of Lisbon.

Workshops related to podcast creation will take place in the morning, which include sound editing, masterization or social media management. There will be beginner, intermediate and advanced level workshops, and even those who don't know podcasts can learn what they are, where to find them and how to listen to them.

The afternoon will be devoted to podcast live shows - the line-up will slowly be shared like any other banging festival - and thematic guest panels that will cover sports, diversity and the current state of podcasts in Portugal.

The day will end with the ***Podes*** Awards, which are also the first ever podcast awards in the country. 10 different categories will be awarded, and so will the two main trophies of the night: Podcast of the year, decided by a jury, and the people's choice award, by popular vote.

Why a podcast festival?

Podcast festivals are pretty common all over the world, especially in the English-speaking world, and they clearly strengthen the podcast medium by creating vibrant communities and bringing listeners closer to the content they follow on a daily basis. ***Podes*** is no different, and its main objective is to celebrate and promote Portuguese podcasts and podcasters.

The festival spawned from @portcasts (Portuguese + Podcasts), a small independent project that started as a twitter account that followed Portuguese podcasters and shared their posts about new episodes and other podcast information. The main challenge in a country where podcasts are not totally mainstream is how hard it is to find good independent content that isn't produced by a radio or by a famous person, and this was one way to address that gap, which then quickly evolved to an online page with recommendations and essays about the podcast medium.

**Podes** is the next step in that ladder, which we want to climb as high as possible, opening new paths and possibilities for Portuguese Podcasting.

All the information is available (in Portuguese) at the festival website: podes.pt

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