



AWARDS

ORNELLA JULIANA PICCINNI WON THE 2021 L'ORÉAL-UNESCO "FOR WOMEN AND SCIENCE" AWARD

Ornella Juliana Piccinni, researcher with INFN Rome 1 Division at the Amaldi Research Center of the Sapienza University of Rome, and a member of the Virgo collaboration, is one of six winners of the 2021 L'Oréal-Unesco "For Women and Science" award. This is a benchmark annual event for raising public awareness on the essential role women perform in scientific research. Ornella Juliana Piccinni was awarded a scholarship worth 20,000 Euro, during an online event on 17 June, thanks to a project dedicated to modelling and identifying gravitational signals produced by magnetars (neutron stars with an extremely intense magnetic field). The project is dedicated to developing a specific line of analysis for studying signals emitted by magnetars, young neutron stars that are distinguished by a high rotation and an extreme magnetic field. Instituted in 2002 by the French cosmetics company L'Oréal, in collaboration with the Italian National Commission for UNESCO, the prize "For Women and Science" assigns an equal amount of funding to 6 scientists under 35 who are active in the fields of Life and Materials Sciences. The purpose is to encourage and support their research work and professional growth in Italian universities or research centres. The jury in charge of selecting projects submitted by candidates has been headed by Lucia Votano, INFN research director, since 2017. ■