

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

From *Apadrina la Ciencia*, thanks to the collaboration of our sponsors, private donations and donations by supportive entities, we have managed to fund a range of projects of social interest and research, and carry out relevant activities for science dissemination.

2023

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APADRINA LA CIENCIA



RESEARCH PROJECT FUNDING

I Call “Apadrina la Ciencia” Scientific Cooperation for Development



TWO bursaries have been given to carry out **nine-month training and specialization stays** in Spain. The beneficiaries have been:

Abdouramane Traore, from USTTB at University of Bamako (Mali), will carry out the stay at Institute of Parasitology and Biomedicine López Neyra (IPBLN-CSIC) to work on the research project “Genomic and epigenetic plasticity in *P. falciparum* field-isolates and its link to persistent malaria”.

Emmanuel Iwuola, from Federal University Oye Ekiti (Nigeria), will carry out the stay at Spanish National Center for Biotechnology (CNB-CSIC) to work on the research project “Exploring maize genetic resources with enhanced multiple stress resistance for resilience to climate change”.

Thanks to **SENSE Foundation**, Apadrina la Ciencia has been able to launch the first call aiming to promote **academic excellence** and **collaborations between Spanish research institutions and researchers from developing countries**. The bursaries will contribute to training researchers and enhancing their professional careers, as well as developing research projects in the researchers’ home countries.

SUPPORT FOR PROJECTS OF SOCIAL INTEREST

IV Edition Ford College Community Challenge - Apadrina la Ciencia



A new call by Ford Fund and Apadrina la Ciencia designed to support **THREE funded projects of social interest led by university students with €5,000** to develop creative projects responding to local needs on the topic “Making Lives Better”.

eNetgy (Polytechnic University of Madrid, UPM)

An innovative initiative aiming to fight energy poverty by improving the data collection of collective self-consumption through the design of software solutions. The goal is to facilitate the optimization and management of the user’s consumption.





RuralMed (Polytechnic University of Madrid, UPM)

An efficient tool which enables rural inhabitants to pay visits and/or make videocalls to their GPs or specialists by means of electronic devices with the necessary technological support.

Joining Lives Counts (Autonomous University of Madrid, UAM)

A community-building project aiming to promote the practice of intergenerational, animalistic and conservationist social volunteering among university students. A mobile app will facilitate scientific studies regarding the impact on the biodiversity of feline colonies on campus.



DISSEMINATION ACTIONS



III Contest Merck-Apadrina la Ciencia "Tod@s somos científic@s"

A successful initiative addressed to **3- to 16-year-old** school children to **promote their curiosity, reflection and interest in Science** and scientists' work in our society as well as to arouse science vocation.

The awarded **prizes -science games** as well as **the visit of scientists to class** to carry out enjoyable, illustrative experiments- are always welcomed by scholars and teachers with enthusiasm.

Scientific Experiments in Schools

On the occasion of the III Contest "Tod@s somos científic@s", organized in collaboration with Merck, we went to **the schools** whose children won the first prize in each category since one of the rewards was **the visit of the scientific staff to their class to carry out various experiments**, as well as **talks about the scientific career**. We visited a rural school in Herrera de Duero (Valladolid) and IES Miguel Catalán (Zaragoza).



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Talk at CEIP Alta Gracia Manzanares

With the aim of arousing our children's curiosity about science, Jesús, one of our volunteers, gave the talk titled ***What Is Science for You? What Is a Scientist for You?*** to the 4th and 5th primary students at CEIP Alta Gracia Manzanares, Ciudad Real.

Talk at CEIP La Rioja

In collaboration with Merck, our volunteer team offered the 5th primary students the talk titled ***Discovering DNA***, followed by scientific experiments where the children were able to isolate their own DNA y learn new terms such as "pippete" or "DNA" at CEIP La Rioja.



Talk on Curiosity and Science

On the occasion of the **International Day of Women and Girls in Science**, celebrated on February 11th, we had the opportunity to enjoy the **interdisciplinary family workshop** in Prádena del Rincón organized by some of the scientists from Sierra Norte (Madrid) with the collaboration of Apadrina la Ciencia.

Talk and experiment on Light and Colour Biotechnology

On the occasion of the Science and Technology Week at CSIC, Drs. José A. López Guerrero and Inés M^a Antón Gutiérrez, vice president of Apadrina la Ciencia, gave an interesting talk titled ***Light and Colour Biotechnology*** at the Centro Cultural Margarita Nelken in Coslada (Madrid). With the help of Alejandra and Elena, two fabulous volunteers, the public enjoyed an excellent demonstration of chemiluminescence.



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Participation in Juvenalia 2023 (22th December, 2023 – 7th January, 2024)

For the ninth consecutive year, Apadrina la Ciencia took part in the emblematic children's and youth fair Juvenalia, where, for **8 days**, over **4,000 children** carried out different **experiments** with the help of **more than 20 volunteer scientists**. They learnt about Science in a **ludic, amusing –but rigorous- way**. They could also enjoy the **storytelling** by María José Rodríguez presenting the children's book ***Estrellas científicas (Women Stars in Science)***.

Scientific activities:

- Microscope and mutant flies
- Gradient sweet rainbow
- Chromatography flower



Collaboration in the Merck Curiosity Cube



Many thanks to our Merck Life sponsors for supporting Science!

Apadrina la Ciencia has cooperated with Merck in the **European visit of the Curiosity Lab**, a retrofitted shipping container that has been turned into a **mobile science lab** to help students **deepen their insight into science and technology**.

The Curiosity Lab was open to students in various schools in Madrid during the third week of October (Móstoles and Tres Cantos) and in the National Museum of Natural Science (Madrid) at the weekend.



Participation in Expofamily 5 (17th-19th March, 2023)



Once again, Apadrina la Ciencia took part in the family leisure event offering a stand where young scientists organized amusing and educational experiments involving children and families.

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Conference Cycle "Science for the Elders"

Apadrina la Ciencia has offered talks and workshops about science and health care for the elders at the Eugenio Trías Library in Madrid, where they have had the opportunity to play an active role with questions and experiments. The talks have been given by four speakers of renowned scientific quality.



- Alberto Díaz-Ruiz. *How Old Do You Think You Are?* 31/1/2023
- Miguel Medina Padilla. *Alzheimer's Future. Beating Oblivion.* 28/2/2023
- Ana Franco Villanueva. *Adaptation to Change, Brain, Time and Health.* 29/3/2023
- Juan Ayala. *The Microbes that Surround Us, What They Do for Us and How Many of Them Are Pathogens.* 25/4/2023

Participation in the Program "Enfermedades Raras" (Rare Diseases) on Radio Libertad

Apadrina la Ciencia collaborates with interesting scientific topics by providing a guest for the program about rare diseases, conducted by Antonio G. Armas on Radio Libertad FM. Our participation has contributed to the program being chosen by a professional jury followed by a popular vote as the winner of the **award Referentes 2020 in the category of radio.**



The podcasts are available in the links below.

- Alberto Díaz-Ruiz. [Modulating Aging from Biology](#). 24/1/2023
- Elisa Varela Sanz. [The Importance of Telomeres in Reproductive Aging](#). 18/4/2023
- Bernardo Herradón García. [From Organic Chemistry to Rechargeable Batteries](#). 6/6/2023
- Ana Franco Villanueva. [Personal Relationships, Body and Stress](#). 3/10/2023

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Participation in 3M Top Scientists



Apadrina la Ciencia participated in the **Top Scientists award ceremony** organized by **3M Foundation**, where Carmen Simón and Inés Antón, heads of Apadrina la Ciencia, shared their experience about the activities carried out in the association and talked about the importance of scientific knowledge.



SOLIDARITY PARTNERS



Book Stories in Confinement

The coordinator, **Juan Anselmo de Andrés**, and the other authors have offered **Apadrina la Ciencia** all the **benefits raised by the book sale**, which has been on Amazon [sale lists](#) since 2020.



Book Estrellas científicas (Women Stars in Science)

With the support of Apadrina la Ciencia, **Estrellas científicas (Women Stars in Science)** is born thanks to the author María José Rodríguez. It is a **solidarity book** for **3-8-year-old children** offering close models of female researchers. With the goal of arousing **curiosity and interest in science** among the youngest public, it contains interviews in video format to six Spanish female scientists with understandable language, illustrations, rhyme and a rap.

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Award Ceremony Apadrina La Ciencia - Ford Motor Company Fund

Apadrina la Ciencia and Ford Motor Company Fund celebrated the award ceremony in November with the winners of the **IV Ford College Community Challenge (Ford3C) 2022**. We counted on the presence of Antonio Chicote, Ford Spain Communications Manager, and Rocío Zúñiga, Ford Spain Communications Coordinator and CSR.



SOLIDARITY ACTIONS

Solidarity Christmas Lottery

One more year, thanks to PlayLoterías and our solidarity Lottery, we raised donations to **fund research projects for young scientists** and **disseminate Science** in our country.

Solidarity Flea Markets

In December, we enjoyed the traditional Christmas market with the participation of Apadrina la Ciencia in the Correos (Post Office) building, at the National Centre for Biotechnology (CNB) and the Molecular Biology Centre (CBM). The sale of items made by our collaborators (educational books, costume jewelry, accessories, T-shirts...) was a big success.

CNB



Correos



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Apadrina la Ciencia receives a generous donation from Social Impact Fund

After counting the votes of 775,000 players, Apadrina la Ciencia has been the selected Spanish NGO in the first place to receive a **donation of 90,000 dollars** from the video game developer **RiotGames** based in Los Angeles thanks to our work in Science dissemination.



SOS - ¡WE NEED YOUR HELP!

No matter how little your help is, you will contribute to creating a better future for everyone.

Be the protagonist: ¡Donate and help us build the future!

You can do your bit in many ways. Here are some ideas:

- **Become a member** with the periodicity and amount you decide.
- **Donate.**
- **Share the posts** on your social networks, blog, etc, **talk about us** and help us reach the maximum number of followers.
- **Share a legacy or inherited goods.**
- **Give a solidarity present.** There is a wide range of options: experiment book for children Todos somos científicos, the book Estrellas Científicas, science T-shirts, science toys, earrings, accessories...
- **Donate all or part of your wedding or communion presents.**
- **Organize a solidarity event:** flea markets, solidarity races, solidarity rounding. The possibilities are endless!
- **Offer your business collaboration.** A lot of entities have supported us and funded projects this year.

For instance:

- Automobiles: Ford Motor Company
- Laboratories: Merck
- Travelling: Airbnb
- Insurance: Intermundial
- Video Games Developer: Riot Games
- Hotels: Petit Palace
- Restaurants: Silk and Soya

Apadrina la Ciencia non-profit association was set up in 2014 and it is supported by more than 280 scientists from all the fields of knowledge and by public and private –both national and international– research organizations to promote scientific research in Spain and social dissemination. Outstanding work is carried out in Apadrina la Ciencia with four main goals in mind:

- a) Raising economic resources to support projects by young researchers in Spain.
- b) Highlighting the importance of investment in science.
- c) Boosting science vocation among children and youngsters.
- d) Disseminating research results.

Apadrina la Ciencia was declared a Public Utility Association by the Ministry of Internal Affairs in 2019, so donations are tax-deductible.

Base de la deducción	Deducción
Los primeros 150€	80%
A partir de 150€	35%

Animáte y ayúdanos a seguir financiando contratos y proyectos de investigación:

Nº cuenta: ES17 0049 6704 53 2310017199

Después de la donación envía tu nombre y apellidos y DNI a apadrinalaciencia@gmail.com para enviarte el certificado de donación.