

# REPORT 2021



**Design**  
Baixa Studio

**English translation**  
Graham Thomson  
Rory Thomson Nelson

**Photographs**  
Belén de Benito, Gerardo Vela, Vicente Paredes, Jesús Barros, Carlos Isabel La-Moneda, Informagen, Dani Vidala and Jesús Barros.

**Acknowledgements for the use of photographs:** Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas, Medioambientales y Tecnológicas (CIEMAT), Gate2Brain, S.L., Nostrum BioDiscovery, S.L., MiWEndo Solutions, S.L., EpiDisease, S.L., Vaxdyn, S.L., Fundación Santander Creativa, Fundación Princesa de Girona and Fundación Isaac Albéniz.

© Fundación Botín  
Pedrueca, 1, 39003 Santander. Tel. +34 942 226 072  
Castelló, 18C 28001 Madrid. Tel. +34 917 814 132 [info@fundacionbotin.org](mailto:info@fundacionbotin.org) | [www.fundacionbotin.org](http://www.fundacionbotin.org)

Legal deposit registration: SA-863-2021

## INTRODUCTION

The Fundación Botín was created in 1964 by Marcelino Botín Sanz de Sautuola and his wife, Carmen Yllera, to promote the social development of Cantabria. Today it maintains its focus on the region while also acting throughout Spain and Latin America, contributing through its activity to the integral development of society and exploring new ways to detect and commit to creative talent in order to generate cultural, social, and economic wealth.

Chaired since 2014 by Javier Botín, the Fundación Botín develops programmes in the fields of art and culture, education, institutional fabric, science and rural development. In addition, it has a Water Observatory which specialises in the analysis of the governance and integral management of water resources, with a dual perspective, both national and global.

The main seat of the Fundación Botín is in Santander and, since 2012, it also has an office in Madrid to respond to the growing demands of its activity. In addition, in Cantabria is the Rectory House of Puente Pumar, the Foundation's centre of operations in the Nansa Valley, from where it carries out its Rural Development, Heritage and Territory programme, an initiative whose objective is to promote sustainable development dynamics in rural areas of Cantabria.

In 2017 the Fundación Botín inaugurated the most important project in its history: the Centro Botín: an arts centre that seeks to bring a different point of view to the art world and whose social mission is to enhance the creativity of all through the arts, in order to generate development and social wealth. Thus, together with the showing of works from the Fundación Botín collection and by major contemporary artists, with the aim of offering visitors more opportunities to know and enjoy the best of the international art scene in an inspiring setting, the Centro Botín also provides a wide range of artistic, cultural and training activities, which year on year are realised in a varied programme that includes concerts, film cycles, dance and theatre shows, different types of visit to the exhibitions, workshops, courses and more.



## BOARD

### CHAIR

Javier Botín

### MEMBERS

Alfonso Botín

Ana Botín

Carmen Botín

Carolina Botín

Emilio Botín

Jaime Botín

Paloma Botín

### SECRETARY

Iñigo Sáenz de Miera  
(NON-VOTING)

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

Iñigo Sáenz de Miera  
DIRECTOR GENERAL

Fátima Sánchez Santiago  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRO BOTÍN

Javier García Cañete  
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMES

José María Ballester  
DIRECTOR OF THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

José Manuel Setién  
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

María Cagigas  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION

## ADVISORY BOARDS

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Luis Bassat

Carlos Bustelo

Pilar del Castillo

Álvaro Fernández-Villaverde

Pedro García Barreno

Antonio Garrigues Walker

Carmen Iglesias

Francisco Jarauta

Emilio Lamo de Espinosa

Jaime Lamo de Espinosa

Ricardo Martí Fluxá

Regina Revilla

Eduardo Serra

Gustavo Suárez Pertierra

### VISUAL ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Vicente Todolí  
CHAIR

Paloma Botín

Udo Kittelmann

Manuela Mena

María José Salazar

Bárbara Rodríguez Muñoz



# 2021 IN FIGURES

## CENTRO BOTÍN

**111,096**

visitors

**65%**

of visits to the exhibitions were by people from Santander and Cantabria

**4,346**

new Permanent passes

**815**

new Friends of the Centro Botín

## EDUCATION

**OVER 600**

schools and colleges belong to the Network of Responsible Education Centres

**OVER 15,000**

students have taken part in in-person and online activities

**2,219**

teachers trained during the year

## SCIENCE

**3**

advanced experimental therapies for rare haematological diseases are being successfully trialled in patients

**€750,000**

invested in Mind the Gap start-ups

**100**

people are employed by Mind the Gap companies

## SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY

**7,186**

social initiatives analysed from all over Spain

**306**

organizations working within the Spirit of Solidarity Network

**2,715**

connections generated between companies and NGOs

## STRENGTHENING THE CIVIL SERVICE IN LATIN AMERICA

**OVER 20**

projects in the Network of Public Service in progress across the region

**410**

alumni from 21 Latin American nationalities in the Network of Public Service of the Programme to Strengthen the Civil Service

**450**

higher education centres in 22 Latin American nations took part in the Programme to Strengthen the Civil Service

## RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**35**

business initiatives in the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Nansaemprende Entrepreneur Support Programme

**€3.5M**

Total annual turnover of the Livestock Promotion Project

**3,000**

people took part in the European Heritage Days

## INVESTMENTS IN THE FOUNDATION'S OBJECTIVES IN 2021

Centro Botín

**€11,188,739.47**

Education

**€854,463.47**

Reinforcing the Institutional  
Fabric

**€2,563,156.83**

Science

**€925,801.80**

Social Development

**€192,690.67**

Water Observatory

**€116,583.77**

Collaborative Ventures

**€392,541.11**

Overall Total

**€16,233,977.12**

## A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



I can only begin this letter by thanking all the people and institutions that have made it possible for the activity of the Fundación Botín, in 2021, to once again generate a social impact equal to, and in some cases greater than, that which it achieved in 2019.

In 2021, not only did all our programmes grow, but they did so while reducing spending, and thereby increasing efficiency, by more than 25%. At times, as we have said on other occasions, doing more with less is not just an expression.

The Centro Botín received 111,096 visitors last year, which amounts to an increase of 105% as compared to 2020. In addition, 396 activities were carried out, 56% more than in 2019, which had an average satisfaction index of 4.8 out of 5. Within

the artistic programme, special mention must be made of the exhibition *Picasso Ibero*, not only because it is one of the most important expository projects in the history of the Fundación Botín, but also for the logistical and organizational challenges that it posed, due to the difficulties and restrictions of the public health crisis. The decision to go ahead with the exhibition, despite not knowing at the time whether visitors from other regions would be able to enjoy it, was nothing more than the logical consequence of the centre's local commitment, one of the essential features of its identity.

It is worth noting that 65% of our visitors over the year were from Cantabria, a percentage which confirms that the project is slowly but surely continuing to improve its integration into its closest environment; something that, by the way, museums around the world are discovering is essential for the arts to impact people and contribute to social development.

Spirit of Solidarity, the project that promotes the strengthening of the tertiary sector by helping small and medium-sized NGOs to improve their efficiency, has supported 50% more social organizations with half the investment. In the last two years, the programme has been extended to two new regions (the autonomous communities of Castilla León and Extremadura) and a digitization plan has been launched for 114 social entities throughout Spain.

Innovation and constant improvement have also marked the work of the education team during 2021, a year in which the Responsible Education programme has proved more necessary than ever, not only in



the classroom and with teachers, but also at home and with the families. With a budget very similar to that of 2019, last year the Network increased by more than 200 centres and the programme was extended to two more of Spain's autonomous communities (Valencia and Catalonia) and three Latin American countries (Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua). In addition, we have already begun to evaluate the programme's impact in mitigating the consequences of the pandemic on students, which will determine its effectiveness in such complex situations.

In the field of Science, the year saw the completion of the investments in the Mind the Gap programme and transfer support. There are already eight companies in the Mind the Gap portfolio, and in 2021 these employed 100 people, most of them in highly qualified posts. In the specific case of the 4 companies that have already entered the market with 30 technology-based services, these achieved a joint turnover of close to 20 million euros in 2021.

Within the Rural Development, Heritage and Territory Programme, the Livestock Promotion Project has just completed 10 years of existence, and in this time it has gone from the 33 farmers who started in 2012 with 425 head of cattle, to the constitution of an association which manages the project and is made up of 142 farmers who slaughtered 3,426 head last year, with a combined turnover of 3.5 million euros. Specifically, in 2021, there was an increase of almost 40% over the figure for 2020, consolidating itself as the leading project for the production of PDO meat in Cantabria.

But, of course, gaining in social efficiency is not something that the Fundación Botín has achieved on its own; rather it is something that has taken place across the board throughout the social sector in Spain. Proof of this is that the sector generated, in 2020, 1.57% more employment than in 2018, and, above all, that it was able to increase its activity by almost 10% (46.21 million direct actions, compared to 42.8 of 2018) with 5% less investment.

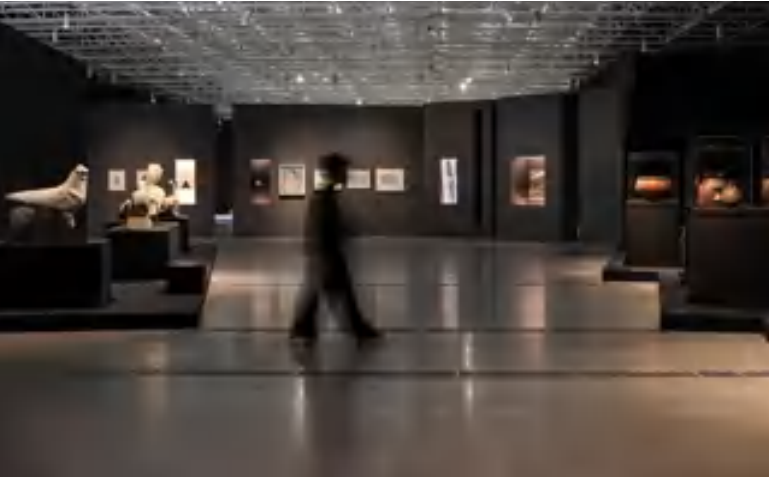
This manner in which our sector has responded to the enormous challenges of the last couple of years confirms, once again, that it is more than ready to take its place as a major player in the recovery of Spain and in the construction of a more competitive and sustainable economy.

Collaboration is the new innovation: nothing that is at all difficult can be done alone, and still less the important work that we as a country have ahead of us. That is why we are convinced that the key to success will be the faithful collaboration between public administrations, private companies and social institutions.

**Javier Botín**

# CENTRO BOTÍN

The Centro Botín is the most important project in the history of the Fundación Botín, an arts centre that wants to bring an innovative point of view to the world of art and whose social mission is to promote the creativity of all publics through the arts to generate development and economic, social and cultural wealth.



**65%**

of visits to the exhibitions were by people from Santander and Cantabria



**111,096**

visitors



**4,346**

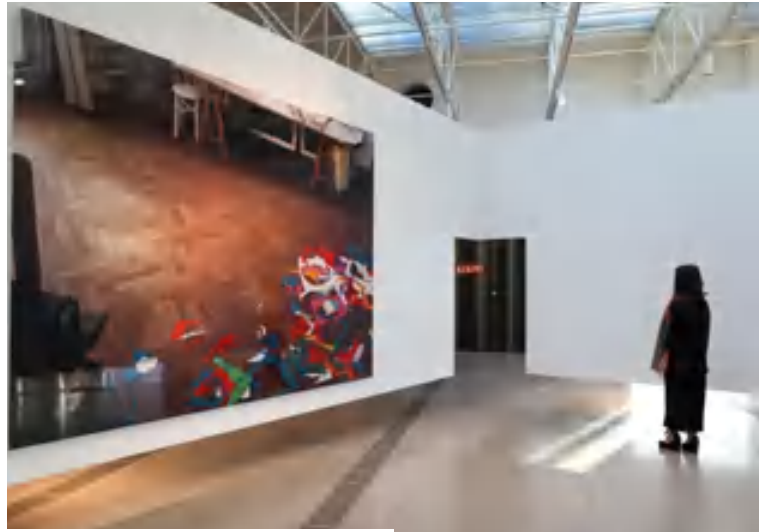
new Permanent passes

**815**

new Friends of the Centro Botín



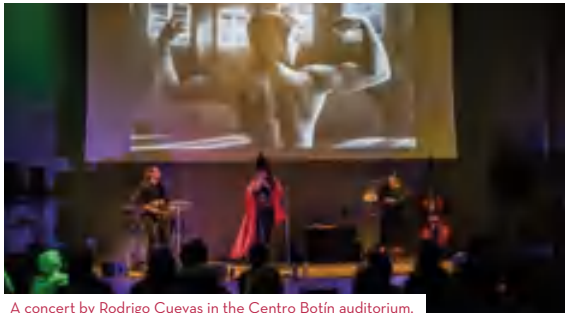
The visit-experience *The Soul of Picasso*.



A view of the exhibition *Thomas Demand: Paper World*.



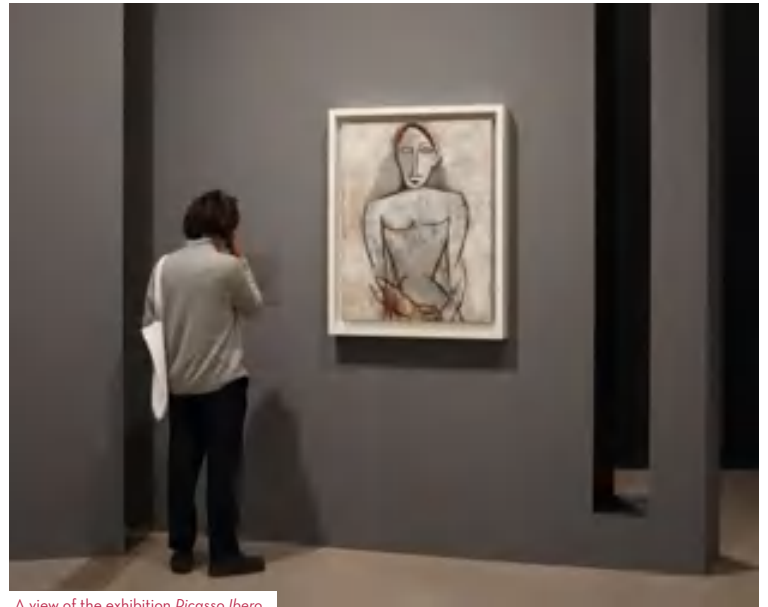
The "Spray and Iberian Art" participatory activity.



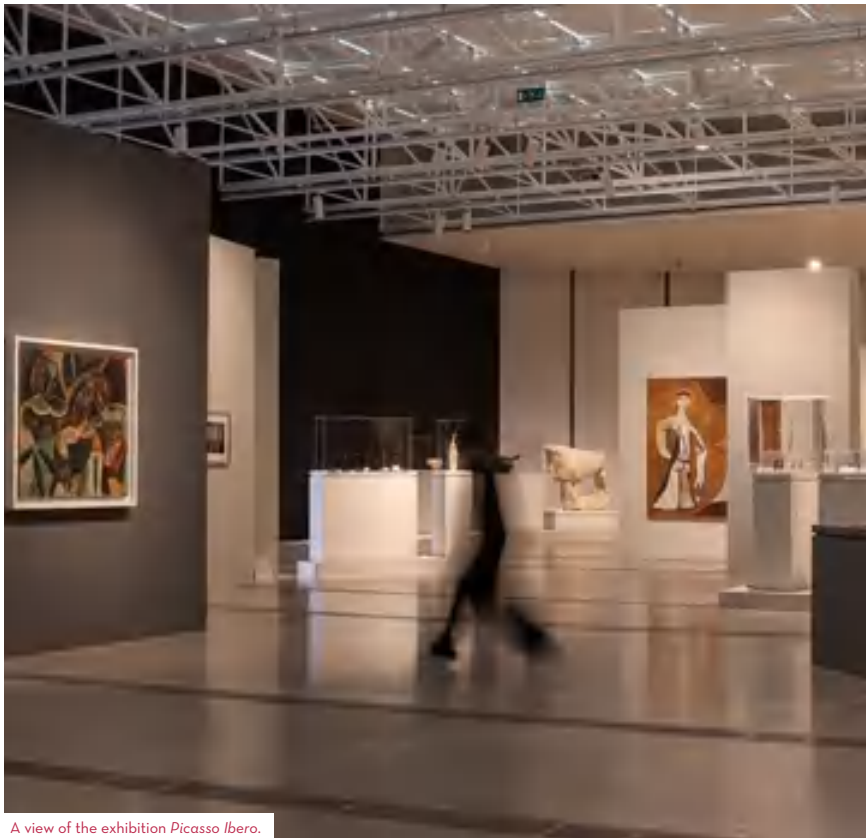
A concert by Rodrigo Cuevas in the Centro Botín auditorium.



A concert by Frente Cumbiero.



A view of the exhibition *Picasso Ibero*.



A view of the exhibition *Picasso Ibero*.

## A MAGNIFICENT YEAR

The visitor data showed the Centro Botín coming close to 2019 figures, with 111,096 visitors in 2021 and an increase of 105% on the previous year. Of the 92,555 registered visits to the exhibitions, people from Santander and Cantabria continue to be the ones who made the most of the opportunity, with 65% of the total, a percentage that grows every year and reaffirms the consolidation of the Centro Botín as a project that, while enjoying an outstanding international standing, prioritises its integration in the city and its local impact. Some 27% of visitors were from other autonomous communities and 7% were from 59 different countries.

18,541 people took part in the Centro Botín's offer of training and cultural activities in and around the arts, a programme that in 2021 included 396 projects, which represents an

increase of 23% on the previous year, with even more activities than in 2019 (+56%).

In 2021, the Centro Botín sought to contribute to the reactivation of the cultural sector, working with 288 artists, experts, researchers, professionals, companies and institutions in the cultural and creative field, 90 of them local, in a year in which we attached special importance to teamwork, collaboration and networking to achieve our goals.

## EXHIBITIONS

With mobility and capacity restrictions still in force, the Board of the Fundación Botín opted to maintain the exhibition calendar, including the culmination of one of the most important exhibitions in the history of the Foundation: *Picasso Ibero*. In addition, the exhibitions that had been postponed on account of the pandemic were held and the Visual Arts Grants were convened again.

“

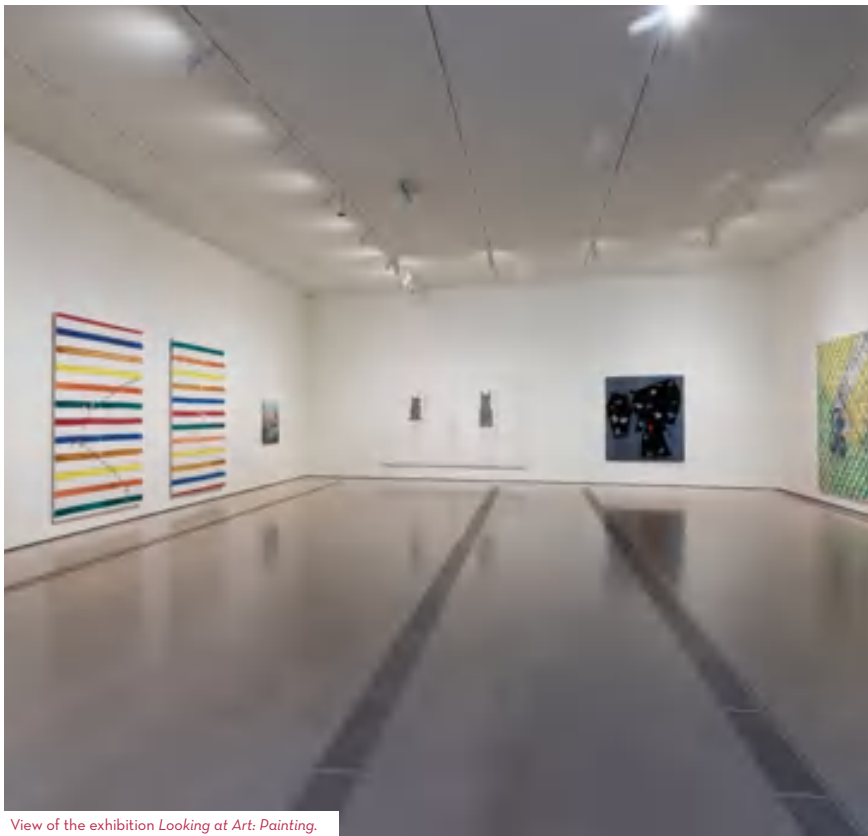
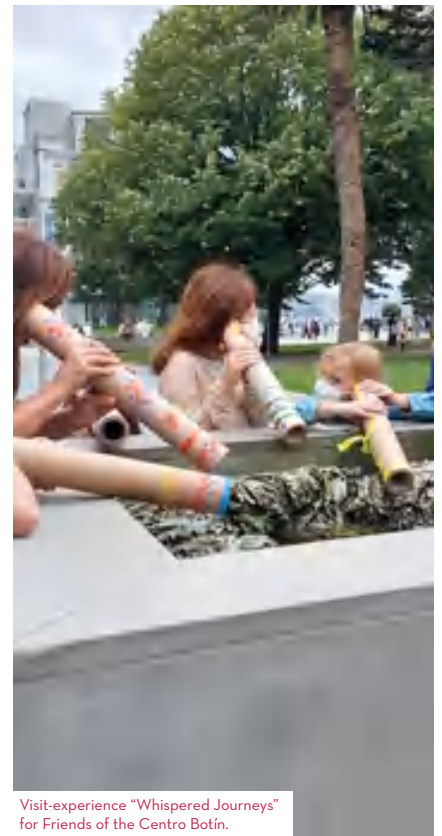
*I hope that one day we have a chance to repeat what has without a doubt been the most significant experience of my “Garage Afternoon” kids. Creating themes based on the works in your collection over a couple of days, seeing them there in the flesh, in the exhibition (many of them had never set foot in an art centre before!), the concert they put on with the songs they created and getting together with other young people... the project changed their lives. They can't stop talking about it. That weekend was their dream weekend.*

Javier Taboada  
Asociación Tardes de Garage

The ***Picasso Ibero*** exhibition, which opened in May, was organised in collaboration with the Musée National Picasso-Paris and with the invaluable support of the artist's family. Curated by Cécile Godefroy, with Roberto Ontañón as associate curator and with a scientific committee made up of the world's foremost experts in Iberian art, this was the first major exhibition to explore the influence of Iberian art on Picasso's life and work. Highly acclaimed by experts and the press, it was also the most visited exhibition of the year, with 65,644 visitors.

Curated by Udo Kittelmann, **Thomas Demand: *World of Paper*** transformed the exhibition hall into an original urban landscape through which to discover the works, photographs and videos produced by the German artist between 1996 and 2021. The exhibition featured an original montage designed by Demand itself, made up of eight suspended pavilions covered in wallpaper, just like the walls of the room itself. The catalogue, with an important contribution from



View of the exhibition *Looking at Art: Painting*.

Visit-experience "Whispered Journeys" for Friends of the Centro Botín.

the artist, recreates the exhibition space and includes a text by the Nobel Prize for Literature, Mario Vargas Llosa.

In the month of November *Itinerarios XXVI* allowed us to access the most current artistic debates through the proposals of the visual arts scholars Olga Balema, Eli Cortiñas, June Crespo, Mario Espliego, Antoni Hervàs, Salomé Lamas, Anna Moreno and Bruno Pacheco.

Completing the exhibition calendar were *Art and Architecture: a Dialogue* and *Looking at Art*, with works from the Fundación Botín collection, inaugurated in 2020; the permanent exhibition *Portraits: Essence and Expression*, with works generously donated by Jaime Botín, patron of the Foundation; and *sculptures by Joan Miró*, lent by the artist's heirs.

Aware of the importance of supporting artists, especially in these difficult times, the programme of Visual Arts Grants was

renewed, which in its 28th iteration, with a jury of Sandra Guimarães, Maider López, Manuel Segade and Jorge Yeregui, saw grants go to Luz Broto, Patricia Gómez and María Jesús González, Lucía C. Pino, Henrique Pavão, Jorge Ribalta and Fernando García Dory.

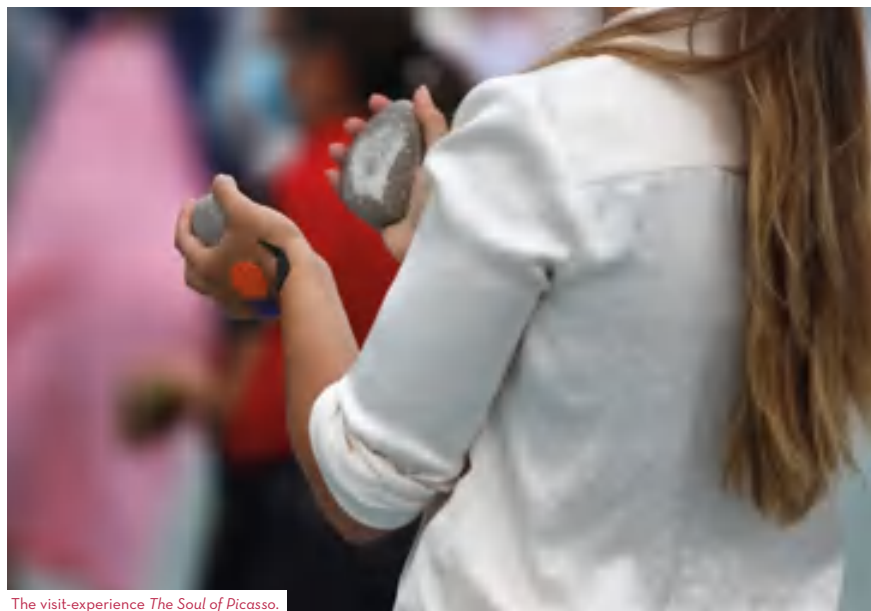
This support for artists has also been reflected in the acquisition of works by Nora Aurrekoetxea, André Guedes and Thomas Demand for the collection of the Fundación Botín.

## ARTS, EMOTIONS AND CREATIVITY

### ADVANCES IN RESEARCH IN COLLABORATION WITH YALE UNIVERSITY AND THE FUNDACIÓN IE

In 2021, we renewed our collaboration with the Yale University Center for Emotional Intelligence to advance the line of research on Arts, Emotions and Creativity. One of the objectives of this new agreement is to develop a specific methodology with which to measure the impact of the Selfie Space courses being carried out with adolescents. In addition, in 2021 all the monothematic workshops created with Yale were tested, with very good results. *Claves - Keys -* have also been incorporated into the exhibitions: these short, fun actions, aimed at developing the visitors' emotional and creative skills, have been taken out of the galleries and adapted and incorporated into the performing arts shows, concerts and film screenings, to the surprise and delight of



The visit-experience *The Soul of Picasso*.

ON Session for Young Friends.

the audiences, with the aim of enabling all the experiences to make an impression on the visitors.

Regarding the collaboration with the Fundación IE, in a follow-up to their first assessment of the impact of the Centro Botín on its visitors, we have developed a second study with a view to measuring the impact of the Centro Botín on the creativity of Santander and Cantabria over the years. In general terms, the results already show that the creative sector has grown notably in Cantabria in recent years and is making a very significant contribution to the regional economy, at around 4.5% of GDP, well above the Spanish average. The consumption of Cantabrian families is still below the Spanish average, but the gap has been reduced considerably since 2017, showing a very positive evolution.

## PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

In 2021 the Centro Botín implemented a cultural and creative development programme of 396 activities, including 51 concerts, 38 film screenings, 18 dance and the-

atre performances, various types of visits to exhibitions, workshops, courses and more. An average of 7.61 activities per week were carried out, with an occupancy rate of 89.15% and a level of public satisfaction of 4.79 out of 5.

Of particular note in the cultural area are the concerts of the season **Open Music. Alhambra Moments**, especially the one that starred the multidisciplinary Rodrigo Cuevas and the classical music recital by Nikolai Lugansky, one of today's outstanding pianists. Special mention must be made of the lecture-cum-recital *The Music of the Iberians*, which engaged in a dialogue with the exhibition *Picasso Ibero* with a survey of the main musical-archaeological finds of Protohistory, including real and virtual demonstrations.

In the performing arts, mention should be made of the dance show by the Galician company La Macana for its singular way of looking at family relationships and how these are affected by the generation gap and technological advances. Also very important were our joint ventures with other institutions, such as the **Santander International Festival (FIS)**, the 10th **En La Cuerda Floja** circus festival and the **Colegio Oficial**

**de Arquitectos de Cantabria** architects professional association.

Furthermore, the 5th Santander International Film Week, organised in conjunction with Morena Films, offered the best of national and international cinema with a special focus on Chilean cinema and a retrospective of the work of director Isabel Coixet.

In the area of programmes for the development of creativity, 2021 was a year of learning and discovery. The changing health situation obliged us to constantly adapt, enabling us to try new formats and capacities. We put on actions and workshops in all the arts for children, families, teens and adults, and were also able to resume the summer course with the University of Cantabria (UC), an event that has been taking place for 14 years: this iteration, entitled "Creativity to Care and Cure: contributions to the field of health from the arts", made even more sense than ever.

We began the year exploring the exhibition *Art and Architecture: a Dialogue* through smells that generated recollections related to particular places, which turned out to be a great vehicle for memory, emotion,



A concert by Israel Fernández in the auditorium.



Las Ginebras in the outdoor amphitheatre, concert for young people.

imagination and the development of creativity. Then we immersed ourselves in the exhibition that was to mark 2021, *Picasso Ibero*, around which we created a great variety of activities. Specific openings were also held for Family Friends and Young Friends (16-25 years old) who, and thanks to the very positive reception these received, they are now a feature of all our new exhibitions. We welcomed the dancers Yolanda G. Sobrado and Rodrigo Alonso, who created a thrilling experience through dance; Mitsou Grabados and The Hero-X, who engaged manually and technologically with Picasso's process of synthesis in becoming aware of Iberian art; and the visual artist Carlos Corres, with whom we made a large participatory mural.

In October Thomas Demand arrived, and with him the return of school groups to the Centro Botín in *ReflejArte*, with more than 600 students taking part. We also resumed our workshops for in-depth engagement with the exhibitions, on this occasion with the photographer Rafael Lafuente, and tried out new initiatives.

For the younger public, an ON Session was scheduled every month of the year. In 2021 we studied and reflected in depth on this collective through the experiences of those

who visit the Centro Botín and those who do not, allowing us to further evolve the way we structure our programme to get closer to their concerns and ways of consuming culture, a venture that we hope will bear fruit in 2022.

We ended the year with the Christmas programme, this time with the intention of making it all the more unforgettable by recovering the participatory activities; and so it was, as the exhibition *World of Light*, an immersive installation designed by Radiante based on laser LEDs, transformed the auditorium of the Centro Botín into a magical space.

#### **Friends, passes, volunteers and sponsors**

We close 2021 with a sincere thanks to all those who continue to support us and commit to the arts as a medium for personal and social well-being and the development of creativity, and also to everyone who decided for the first time to join the Friends of the Centro Botín: in 2021 we added 815 new Friends, allowing us to close the year with 2,745 members.

In addition, 4,346 permanent Passes were issued, to end the year with 144,567 Cantabrians now having this accreditation for permanent free access to the exhibitions.

We must add to these our 30 volunteers and our sponsors, without whose support none of this would be possible. In 2021, the Centro Botín had two strategic partners (Fundación Mutua Madrileña and Fundación Prosegur), fourteen collaborating institutions (Vocento, *El Diario Montañés*, JCDcaux, Unidad Editorial, *El País*, Eurostars Hotels, Spend In, Onda Cero, Cervezas Alhambra, Alsa, Cadena Ser, CANTUR, Santander City Council and Renfe) and seven associated companies (Bridgestone, Viajes Mesana, Derwent Group, Café Dromedario, Bathco, MiCampus and Uría Menéndez), institutions all that support our project and help us fulfill the social mission of the Centro Botín through a shared belief in the enormous potential of the arts to contribute to the development of society.

# RESPONSIBLE EDUCATION

Innovation and constant improvement have marked the work of the Education team during 2021, a year in which the Responsible Education (RE) programme was more necessary than ever, not only in classrooms and with the teachers, but also in the home and with the families.



**OVER  
600**  
schools and colleges belong to the Network of Responsible Education Centres



**OVER  
15,000**  
students have taken part in in-person and online activities



**2,219**  
teachers trained during the year







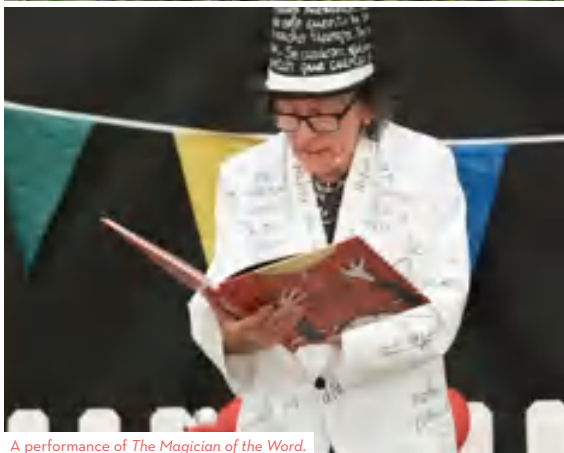
The we are Creative ReflejArte exhibition Artistic smell.



CONECTA ER (CONNECT RE): A get-together with Special Education Centres.



The choral group El Coro de las Emociones.



A performance of The Magician of the Word.



A session of The Education We Want.



Annual get-together of RE Community Coordinators in Madrid (May 6 and 7, 2021).



1<sup>st</sup> iteration of the Specialist Programme in Emotional, Social and Creativity Education for Educational Transformation, Madrid (February, 2021).

Accompanying and supporting the educational centres that are part of the Network was the great challenge in 2021, a year in which most schools had their work cut out returning from confinement and at the same time managing the pandemic that was still with us. In this state of affairs, both the training and the support were tailored to the different situations in which the centres found themselves. In addition, progress was made in the plan for innovation and the updating of educational resources with the aim of being able to work, by way of emotional and social intelligence and creativity, on the situations and challenges in which the educational centres that make up the RE Network found themselves.

At the same time, and despite the circumstances, the RE Network has grown and is now composed of more than 600 centres, expanding its presence in Latin America in conjunction with Fundación Terra, specifically in Central America.

## RESPONSIBLE EDUCATION PROGRAMME

### RESOURCES

Among the range of processes for applying educational resources in the classroom, several activities led to the meeting of the Network of Responsible Educational Centres. In this line, from the Reading and Emotions resource, online sessions of the Magician of

the Word were held in December 2021, with the participation of 4,000 children.

In addition, the Literature, Emotions and Creativity resource was the basis for the *Somos Creativos virtual Gran Show*, together with El Coro de las Emociones and ReflejArte, with 917 online views. The educational concerts at the Centro Botín were attended by 1,229 students from Cantabria and by 8,155 students from the Network of RE centres via streaming. The ReflejArte resource was the basis for *Somos Creativos* and the resulting virtual exhibition, *Artistic Smell*. Last but not least, the Tool Bench educational resource drew up and began to implement an ambitious innovation plan.

### RESPONSIBLE EDUCATION TRAINING

In relation to the training actions of the RE programme, it is worth highlighting the extension of these, which was undertaken in virtual form in Mexico, Chile, Uruguay and Central America. Lastly, the current context has prompted us to digitally transform both the programme and, in particular, the training, once again opening online training windows while also incorporating blended learning for those centres that have requested it. There were more than 40 training programmes throughout the year.

### SUPPORT FOR SCHOOLS

In relation to the accompaniment and support provided by the programme, new initiatives were launched to generate spaces of encounter and reflection in the Network of Responsible Education Centres. Specifically, **RE Converse** brought together nearly a thousand teachers from different countries to share their thoughts on the challenges we have had to face in this time of pandemic, and **RE Connect** convened focused Network meetings for particular type of school such as the Encounter of Special Education Centres.

### EXTENSION AND BASE TEAMS OF THE NETWORK OF RESPONSIBLE EDUCATIONAL CENTRES

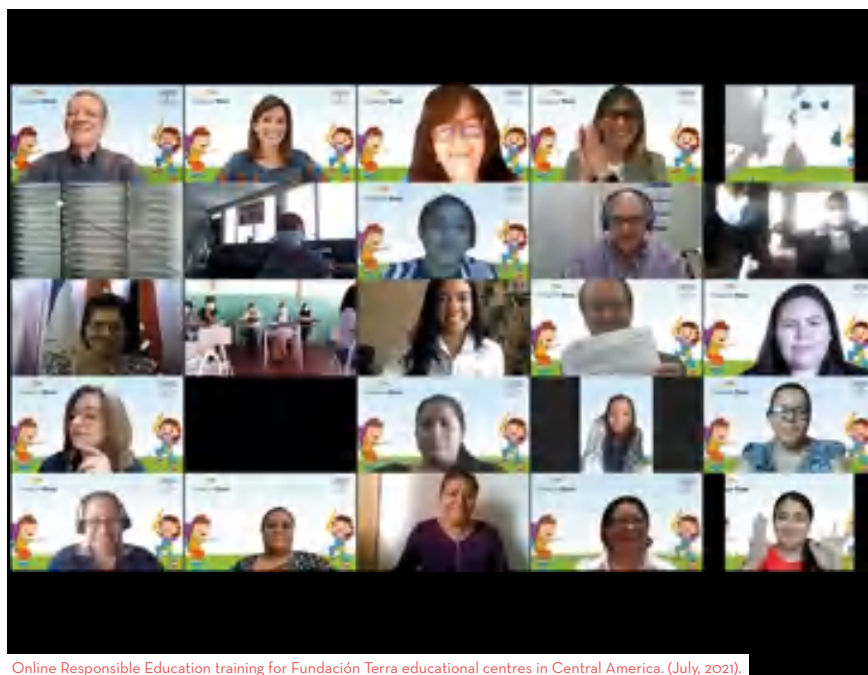
To contribute to the consolidation of the bases and contents of the programme, the 6th Get-together of general coordinators was held in Madrid, with the participation of representatives of Spain's autonomous communities and countries of Latin America, where the Responsible Education programme is already implanted. This Get-together discussed the innovation projects in each of the resources and the ways in which the programme can help in the context of the ongoing pandemic.





*Implementing the RE Programme has been enriching, each resource has enabled the children to be together and dialogue, and to open up to active listening, empathy, resilience, identification and expression of emotions, respect for other opinions, assertiveness and creativity; and this is reflected in class and with their families.*

Francisca Guzmán Sánchez, Head of the Escuela José Vasconcelos, Estado de Morelos.



Online Responsible Education training for Fundación Terra educational centres in Central America. (July, 2021).

## THE EDUCATION WE WANT

The season of lectures *The Education We Want* continued to address educational keys in its sixth iteration, this time focusing on the students. More than 7,000 people around the world viewed these lectures in the course of the year.

In 2021, the lectures dealt with topics such as “Who are we educating today?”, “Freedom and orientation”, “Young people who don’t give up”, “Do we trust?” and “Are our young people happy?”, with speakers of the stature of Gregorio Luri, David Martín, Roser Battle or Chema Lázaro, to name only a few.

## SPECIALIST PROGRAMME IN EMOTIONAL, SOCIAL AND CREATIVITY EDUCATION FOR EDUCATIONAL TRANSFORMATION

In February 2021, the first iteration of the Specialist Programme was inaugurated in collaboration with the Francisco de Vitoria University and run synchronously in online format, with 35 ECTS credits, distributed in 5 modules with more than 70 videos, once a week over 6 months, and with personalised support in the form of a personal mentor assigned to each student. 28 students from Spain, Mexico and the United States and more than 20 professors and 10 invited experts took part in this first iteration.

More than 2,500 people signed up for the 2nd “Challenge to Educate” event, which was held in an online format, open to the public, with the aim of strengthening the teaching vocation and providing tools linked to play in the classroom and affective, relational dynamism and creativity.

## PARTICIPATION IN THE OECD’S 2030 EDUCATION PROJECT

In 2021, a series of International Meetings of OECD Working Groups were held within the Future of Education and Skills 2030 project. The first, held in May 2021, focused on preparing for the post-Covid period -19, in terms of the skills and flexibility that the curriculum should have. The second was a workshop held in June to address the transformation of the skills that will need to be on the learning compass by 2030. In December, a third meeting was held to address the incorporation of values and attitudes into the curriculum, and finally, in December, a round table was convened to ask the experts: “How important is the child’s relationship with families and peers in the digital age?”

# REINFORCING THE INSTITUTIONAL FABRIC

From this area we work to strengthen the institutions that maintain the social fabric, which are today more necessary than ever to the generation of economic and social development. We do this by way of two programmes, one aimed at Spanish social institutions (Spirit of Solidarity) and the other at public institutions in Latin America (Programme for Strengthening the Civil Service in Latin America). In addition, we also support social entities in Cantabria that engage with especially vulnerable sectors and groups.

**306**

organisations working on the Spirit of Solidarity Network



**410**

alumni from 21 Latin American nationalities in the Network of Public Service of the Programme to Strengthen the Civil Service



**21**

social entities received support from the Fundación Botín







Entities of the Network of Beneficiaries of the Digital Transformation Programme.



Graduation of the students of the 12th Iteration of the Programme for the Strengthening of the Civil Service in Latin America.



Students of the 12<sup>th</sup> Iteration during their stay in Santander, Centro Botín.



Activity of the Brumas Youth Workshops.



Students of the 12<sup>th</sup> Iteration of the Programme for the Strengthening of the Civil Service in Latin America working with fishing nets in a team dynamic in San Vicente de la Barquera, Cantabria.



Working sessions with the social entities that have participated in the Extremadura Challenge.

## SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY

This programme seeks to promote the strengthening of the tertiary sector by supporting small and / or medium-sized NGOs and helping them improve their internal efficiency, incorporating external talent and fostering innovation and collaboration in the sector.

### SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY DRIVE

The 13 beneficiaries of the 11<sup>th</sup> iteration received financial aid from the programme to improve key areas of their organization such as the contracting of external professional services (11 entities) or the recruitment of in-house professionals (2 entities). For this second option we launched a drive for unemployed professionals, generating 2 new jobs in the Asociación Abriendo Puertas (Huelva) and the Asociación de Padres de Niños Sordos-Aspansor (Zaragoza).

### SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY NETWORK

During 2020 we worked to provide intensive support for the 284 social organizations of the programme's Network. Our involvement was focused on accompanying these entities in addressing the most pressing challenges in the wake of the pandemic, such as their digital transformation and the search for new formulas to guarantee their economic sustainability in the coming years.

For the first of these challenges, we launched a digitization plan based on the creation of a model of self-assessment of digitization levels in the tertiary sector, with training adapted to each level and digital mentoring. 114 social organizations took part in this programme, and we analysed 80 transformation plans and mentored 25 affiliated social entities over 5 months to help them implement their digitization plan.

To address the second of the aforementioned challenges, we promoted two lines of work: training the entities in relation to fundraising, in which 154 NGOs from the network took part, and spaces of encounter with companies to help them forge strategic alliances. To this end we improved our Spirit of Solidarity Marketplace, a digital platform that brings together more than 180 collaboration initiatives from NGOs of the Spirit of Solidarity Network to make them known to companies. This tool was presented to more than 80 companies.

### CALLS FOR THE SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY CHALLENGE

In this call aimed at promoting innovation and collaboration in the tertiary sector, the seventh that we have organised at the national level, we set out to go a little further and pose micro-challenges at the regional level with the help of partners active in specific geographical areas (foundations that are models in their communities and know their social reality in depth and at first hand), collectively identifying new solutions with which to respond to the challenges that are affecting us as a society at a global level.

Our intention is to launch micro-challenges in different autonomous communities to obtain an X-ray of how the sector is working in terms of the territory in which it operates and thus achieve a greater understanding of the new social reality. The idea is to share all of the knowledge that emerges from the different micro-challenges and exchange experiences between communities to promote positive changes in the sector.

In this initiative, the Fundación Botín provides the work methodology (experience of 8 programmes, 2014-2021) and the execution of the project in the area of influence in conjunction with the local partner.

In this sense, we launched two pilots in the autonomous community of Castile and León in collaboration with the Fundación Tatiana Pérez de Guzmán el Bueno and another pilot in the autonomous community of Extremadura together with the Fundación Caja Extremadura in which we have worked with more than 44 civil society organizations to address the challenge of the digital and social gap caused by Covid-19, out of which 11 social projects emerged as a result of the work and collaboration of the various NGOs.

## PROJECTS ARISING FROM THE EXPERIENCES LAUNCHED IN CASTILE AND LEÓN AND IN EXTREMADURA

**7 projects in Extremadura** stemming from the collaboration of 23 civil society organizations.

ENTITIES	PROJECTS
ASPACE Cáceres COCEMFE Cáceres FEXAS Federación Extremeña de ASPACE & ASPACE · Badajoz	Progressive training network in the natural environment, reinforced to enable the trainee to become a trainer, thus empowering the person and their environment.
AEXPAINBA Fundación Magdalena Moriche	An app that allows companies to connect with NGOs on the basis of compatibility profiles.
DiverTEA Down Mérida Cruz Roja Extremadura AFAM Mérida PLACEAT Plena Inclusión	Creation of an app as a guide that provides functional support, tutored by a technician, who directs and sequences the actions to be carried out in order to foster the increased autonomy and the carrying out of everyday tasks.
Asociación de Zooterapia de Extremadura	Development of a sensorised riding saddle with pressure sensors and inertial sensors (intelligent saddle) and the development of software providing objective data on the horse / rider synergy and guarantees efficient equestrian therapies.
ADMO Extremadura Radio ECCA Fundación	An internet platform providing support and training for people with a serious or chronic diagnosis or illness: reference entities, health, training and social services.
YMCA Cáritas Diocesana Mérida-Badajoz Fundación Don Bosco	An educational platform for training in digital skills aimed at children, young people and families with low socioeconomic status or resident in rural areas.
Asociación eSalud	An innovation lab dedicated to internships and researching and prototyping agrotech solutions, with the aim of increasing the employability of young people in the local environment and bringing future workers into contact with rural companies and entities.

**4 projects in Castile and León** stemming from the collaboration of 21 civil society organizations.

ENTITIES	PROJECTS
Fundación Red Íncola Fundación Secretariado Gitano Federación Centros Juveniles Don Bosco CyL Federación Centros Juveniles Valdoco	Creation of a network for digital training through the support of direct care teams (educational staff and volunteers) to help reduce the digital gap for minors and vulnerable adults.
Asociación Alzheimer Ávila Asociación Alzheimer León FAEMA AFA Benavente y comarca	An accessible digital platform with structured resources dedicated to raising the level of digital literacy and the use of new technologies of people with mental health problems, Alzheimer's and other disabilities and the people around them.
Asociación Respirávila Fundación Miradas Aspace Valladolid Asociación Padres de Niños Sordos Salamanca	An accessible, simple, and intuitive front office adaptation of an operating system for Android devices for users with physical disability and / or cognitive and communication difficulties.
Asociación Labores Solidarias La Laia Club Ecoturismo CyL Asociación Autismo Ávila Creando por Soria FUNDABEM Fundación INTRAS Down Valladolid Fundación Madrina	A website and app for organizations and inhabitants of rural and urban areas, to promote the development of activities, proposals, services and actions in order to meet the community's needs.





Students of the 12<sup>th</sup> Iteration during their stay in Santander, Centro Botín.



*For me, the programme was a unique and challenging experience that taught me to strengthen and believe in my abilities to transform, while being transformed by those with whom I share a common vocation. I regard service as a purpose, as an ethical responsibility and as an act of constant love.*

Oriana González Villarroel (Alumni 12<sup>th</sup> iteration, Venezuela)

## STRENGTHENING THE CIVIL SERVICE IN LATIN AMERICA

The programme aims to promote the development of the region through a Network of Public Service with three fundamental values: integrity, proactivity and dedication to service. At the same time, it seeks to enhance the prestige of public service in Latin America and to promote leadership that fosters a culture of encounter, dialogue and progress.

### 13<sup>TH</sup> ITERATION OF THE PROGRAMME

This Fundación Botín programme seeks to encourage the brightest university students in the region, with a vocation for service, to dedicate themselves to public life on completing their undergraduate studies. With this aim in view, 2021 saw the twelfth iteration of the Programme for the Strengthening of the Civil Service in Latin America, in which 32 students from 15 Latin American countries took part, having been selected from more than 3,500 candidates. Needless to say, all of them have excellent academic records and have shown commitment to public service in their countries.

The programme offers a unique experience, combining on the one hand training in fundamental personal skills for public management and, on the other, intense academic training, including master classes and meetings with prominent personalities in the public sphere at the local and international levels as well as workshops and training in leadership and good governance. The programme was run in a mixed format, both online and with in-person sessions at the Fundación Botín headquarters in Madrid and Santander and also in Salamanca, the Nansa Valley (Cantabria) and Galicia, covering various stages of the Camino de Santiago. The programme concluded in Bogotá (Colombia) for the final week of training and the presentation of the participants' innovation projects.

The programme is run in collaboration with the Organization of American States (OAS), the University of Salamanca, the University of the Andes (Colombia) and the Brazilian higher education institution Fundación Get-

ulio Vargas, with prominent speakers from both Spain and Latin America.

In 2021, three of the most significant challenges that these young people will face as future public servants were addressed: governance, inequality and sustainability. These challenges are addressed from a creative perspective, seeking to innovate in viewpoints and actions in finding solutions to the problems confronting our societies and the world in general.

At the end of the Programme the participants were inducted into the Alumni Network, which now comprises 410 members of 21 different nationalities and is understood as a space in which to work, meet and debate public service in Latin America.

### ALUMNI 2021 NETWORK

In 2021, the Alumni Network of the Programme for the Strengthening of the Civil Service in Latin America, which is nourished by the participation and initiatives

of its members, continued with the meeting and training spaces for graduates and professors, with new virtual formats such as **Alumni Conversa** and **Café Alumni**. In the first of these a common horizon was premised at the beginning of the year: the importance of strengthening the public sphere together. Current geopolitical issues were discussed, especially the realities of Latin America, through digital get-togethers on Ibero-American diplomacy and the situation in Colombia and Cuba. There was also a virtual visit to the Centro Botín to discover all the details of the current major exhibition there, the highly acclaimed and much-visited **Picasso Ibero**, in which the innovative inspiration of the public servant was worked on with the network's Alumni.

For its part, Café Alumni presented the OAS summer internships with the testimony of alumni who had already lived the experience. In addition, a season of seven virtual meetings was held on electoral processes in Latin America in which Alumni who have stood as candidates - some elected, other not - shared their experience.

The regional networks continued to coordinate their efforts and initiatives to generate a greater impact in the region. The challenges identified at Cartagena 2019 during the commemorative meeting of the first ten years of the programme have continued to consolidate. In addition, Alumni Impacta provided support to the more than 20 projects of the network currently being implemented in the region.

In addition to all this, Alumni continued with the virtual space **Inspiring Stories**, a series of interviews and recordings which set out specific cases of improvement and strengthening of the public sector through projects, actions and enterprises involving graduates who are already contributing to the improvement of public service in Latin America.

Last year, seven of the network's Alumni were selected to take part in the IAP-Harvard programmes run by the IAP at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid teaches in collaboration with the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies.

The network was intensively involved in the 12th iteration of the programme, with graduates from different iterations, professions and countries running in-person and online sessions to the students, highlighting the value of ongoing support and guidance and the richness of a network that is as heterogeneous as it is committed to its founding principles. There were presentations on "Innovation in the Civil Service", "Good Governance and the Fight against Corruption", "Artificial Intelligence in the Public Sphere", "Implementation of Public Economic Policies in Brazil", "The Work of the OAS in the Americas" and "The Current Situation in the Region". In the last week of the programme, Network Day was held at the Universidad de Los Andes, a training and work meeting between the students of the 12th iteration with the representatives of the Regional Networks and the Alumni at present living in Colombia.

## SUPPORT FOR THE SOCIAL SECTOR IN CANTABRIA

Since its creation, and at the express wish of its founders, the Fundación Botín has carried out a Support Programme for the Tertiary sector in Cantabria by way of institutions with extensive experience in working directly with those groups whose need is greatest, these being resources that will cover the most urgent needs.

### AID FOR SOCIAL INTEGRATION

The Fundación Botín continues to work closely with the Economic Kitchen of the Daughters of Charity and Cáritas Diocesana de Santander to attend to the most urgent needs of people in precarious conditions, and also with the Food Bank Association and the Cantabrian Association for the Fight against Unemployment and its Brumas Youth Workshops.

Also supported by the Fundación Botín in 2021 were the Cantabria Acoge association, which contributes to the social and personal integration and normalisation of individuals at risk of social exclusion, and the missionary workers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, who provide training to girls from unstructured families.

The Bishopric of Santander, the Fundación Asilo San Cándido, the Poor Clares of Villafrechós in Valladolid, the Bernardines of Liérganes, the parishes of Nuestra Señora de la Consolación and Santa Lucía, both in Santander, and Villalba de los Alcores in Valladolid also received the support of the Fundación Botín to cover their most urgent needs.

The Marqués de Valterra nursery school and the Cantabrian Federation of Neighbourhood Associations also received support from the Fundación Botín, as did the Sautuola Social, Cultural and Sports Association, which was thereby enabled to carry out its leisure and free time project.

### CARE FOR THE SICK AND FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The Amica family conciliation and child development centre once again benefitted from the assistance of the Fundación Botín, as did the Fundación Obra San Martín, the Asociación Evangélica Nueva Vida, Proyecto Hombre and the Fundación Síndrome de Down de Cantabria.

# SCIENCE

The programmes in the field of science have the goal of using knowledge generated in Spanish laboratories to develop solutions for the needs and challenges of society, generating social and economic wealth.



**3**  
advanced experimental therapies for rare haematological diseases are being successfully trialled in patients



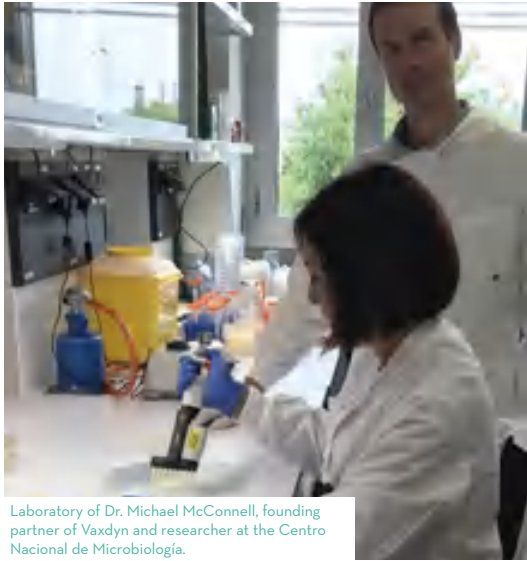
**€750,000**  
invested in Mind the Gap start-ups



**100**  
people are employed by  
Mind the Gap companies







Laboratory of Dr. Michael McConnell, founding partner of Vaxdyn and researcher at the Centro Nacional de Microbiología.



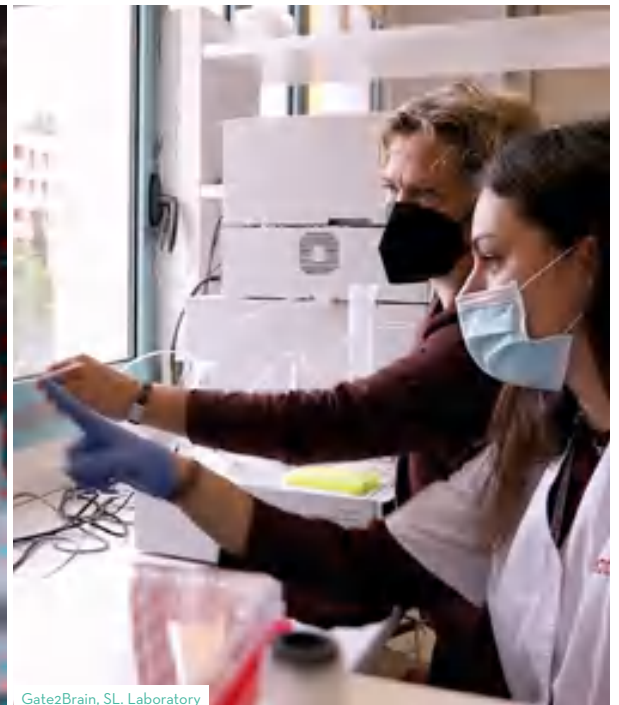
The team at MiWEndo Solutions, SL



PCR Covid-19 test laboratory, EpiDisease, SL.



Work in the laboratory EpiDisease, SL.



Gate2Brain, SL. Laboratory

### TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAMME

For over two decades now the Fundación Botín has maintained a firm commitment to and belief in Spanish science and its ability to contribute to the country's development, providing researchers and their institutions with professional support in technology transfer. Because of this, the Foundation supports the management of result transfer activities in the Division of Innovative Therapies (CIEMAT-CIBERER / IIS-FJD), directed by Dr. Juan Bueren and aimed at developing advanced therapies for patients with rare diseases for which there is no effective treatment and that often affect children.

It is worth mentioning the advances made in the development of therapies against three hematological diseases: Fanconi anaemia subtype A, Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency, and Leukocyte Adhesion Deficiency Type I. This year, the three projects have continued to progress in the clinical phases, showing positive results in patients. In addition, Fundación Botín has supported these teams in forming partnerships with investors, pharmaceutical companies and biotechnology firms to contribute to the development of new therapies based on their research results.

At the same time, 2021 saw the Fundación Botín begin to work with the Organization of Ibero-American States (OEI) to promote technology transfer in Latin America, as part of the FORCYT programme (Strengthening of Science and Technology systems in Latin America). This OEI initiative, co-financed by the European Union, aims to improve and enhance the impact of scientific knowledge generated in Latin American countries on the region's economy and society.

Within the framework of FORCYT, the Fundación Botín has started a pilot project in Colombia and Chile to provide training, guidance, and support in technology transfer to four research groups selected as the result of a competitive process. This collaboration began in October 2021 and will continue for the next year and a half. In addition to individual mentoring sessions, there will also be training sessions open to the candidates who were not selected and



Preclinical trials of the MiWEndo Solutions colonoscopic device.

other interested researchers, with the aim of increasing the scope and multiplier effect of the programme.

### MIND THE GAP PROGRAMME

Since 2010, Mind the Gap has supported the earliest phases of biotechnological business projects originating in the academic field, this being the first *impact investment* project to emerge in the Spanish scientific field. Mind the Gap provides financial investment (up to half a million euros per project) and management support by an experienced professional to the entrepreneurial team.

Since 2016, the programme has implemented its investments through a co-financing vehicle with participation by private investors alongside the Fundación Botín, making it a pioneering initiative on the national scene.

In 2021, Mind the Gap invested €750,000 in start-ups, a figure that has risen to €5 million since the start of the programme. It is worth noting that funded projects have managed to attract over 18 million euros of additional capital, meaning that, for each euro invested by the programme, a further 3.6 euros were mobilised in private capital.

Currently, Mind the Gap has a portfolio of 8 companies, which in 2021 amounted to 100 jobs, most of them highly skilled. Furthermore, the four companies that have already reached the market with 30 technology-based services achieved a joint turnover of close to 20 million euros in 2021.

“

*The company Cyclomed Technologies, as a technology company with a complex and unconventional product objective, represents a challenge, not only for development, but also for support. Mind the Gap has shown a clear willingness to share risks. With the normal operational difficulties of a unique project, we feel it has been an essential close and brave promoter of our work.*

José Manuel Pérez Morales,  
Director of the CIEMAT Technology Department and member of the promoting team of CycloMed Technologies, a Mind the Gap beneficiary company.



## MIND THE GAP COMPANIES

---

### GATE2BRAIN, S.L.

Their objective is to develop a new technology to transport medicine to the brain, the first application of which is centred on treating a devastating and currently incurable paediatric brain tumour, the diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG).

**Researcher:** Meritxell Teixidó.

**Research bodies:** IRB Barcelona - Institute for Research in Biomedicine, Universitat de Barcelona, Hospital Sant Joan de Déu.

---

### MIWENDO SOLUTIONS, SL

They are developing a medical device that uses microwave imaging technology to automate the detection of polyps during colonoscopies, thus improving the diagnosis, understanding, treatment and prevention of colorectal cancer.

**Researchers:** Marta Guardiola and Glòria Fernández-Esparrach.

**Research bodies:** Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Hospital Clínic de Barcelona.

---

### VAXDYN, SL

They are developing a vaccine to treat infections by antibiotic-resistant bacteria (superbugs), one of the most pressing global health challenges as defined by the WHO. Vaxdyn's vaccine will fight three of the most lethal known superbugs.

**Researchers:** Jerónimo Pachón and Michael McConnell.

**Research bodies:** Instituto de Biomedicina de Sevilla, Centro Nacional de Microbiología.

---

### CYCLOMED TECHNOLOGIES, S.L.

Their goal is to develop a cyclotron whose compact design will allow it to be transported, enabling the production of *in situ*, short half-life radiopharmaceuticals, both in hospitals and research centres.

**Researcher:** Luis García-Tabarés.

**Institución Researcher:** Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas, Medioambientales y Tecnológicas.

---

### EPIDISEASE, S.L.

The company focuses on diagnosis based on epigenetic techniques and is developing the Scolipro® test for the diagnosis of idiopathic scoliosis in teenagers, which would reduce patients' exposure to X-rays. Since 2020, it has also provided Covid-19 diagnostic services (PCR and antigens).

**Researcher:** José Luis García Jiménez.

**Institución Researcher:** Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red.

---

### INNITIUS

Focused on the development of *in vivo* diagnostic technologies based on the use of torsion waves, they are currently working on the Fine Birth device to diagnose patients with symptoms of preterm birth.

**Researchers:** Guillermo Rus, Miguel Carvajal and Francisca Molina.

**Research bodies:** Universidad de Granada, Sistema Andaluz de Salud.

---

### NOSTRUM BIODISCOVERY, S.L.

They collaborate with companies working on the development of medicines and molecules of biotechnological interest, supporting the initial phases of drug discovery to reduce the cost and time involved in their development.

**Researchers:** Modesto Orozco and Víctor Guallar.

**Research bodies:** Institut de Recerca Biomèdica de Barcelona, Centre de Supercomputació de Barcelona, Universitat de Barcelona, Institució Catalana de Recerca i Estudis Avançats.

---

### LIFE LENGTH, S.L.

The firm's activity is based on measuring telomeres; chromosomal structures whose length is an indicator of cellular aging. They are developing a prostate cancer diagnostic test that will avoid unnecessary biopsies. Since 2020, they have also provided Covid-19 diagnostic services.

**Researcher:** María Blasco.

**Research bodies:** Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Oncológicas.

---

# RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Rural Development, Heritage and Territory Programme in the Nansa and Peñarrubia Valleys proposes a model of territorial, economic, and social management in rural areas based on the interaction between different actors to reverse the trends in rural dynamics.



**35**

business initiatives in the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Nansaemprende Entrepreneur Support Programme



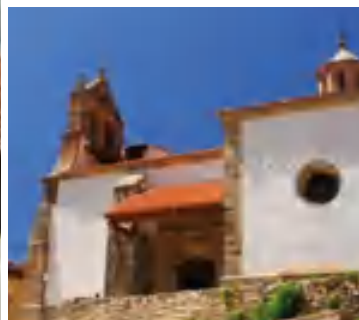
**3,000**

people took part in the European Heritage Days



**€3.5M**

total annual turnover of the Livestock Promotion Project





European Heritage Days in Casona de Tudanca.



*At AFTECA we are very grateful to the Fundación Botín for its firm commitment to the Livestock Project, which in these 10 years has reversed the trend in the management of our farms and has consolidated a new economic model for the rural environment of Cantabria.*

Manuel Herrero  
Chair of AFTECA

During 2021 - the year in which we had to learn to live with Covid-19, assimilating the changes we implemented on a day-to-day basis - the Rural Development Programme maintained its commitment to the inhabitants of the Nansa and Peñarrubia Valleys, adapting its initiatives to keep closely in touch with a large part of the population whom we were committed to supporting. In this way, taking advantage of the advances of digitalization, the was launched in a blended format and the Livestock Project, which in 2021 celebrated 10 years of activity, held online meetings for its coordination. We also collaborated with the population to resume normality and organise the European Heritage Days in the Valle del Nansa.

#### VALDERREDIBLE REVITALIZATION PLAN

Within the framework of the agreement signed between the Fundación Botín, the Government of Cantabria and Valderredible Town Council for the drafting of a revitalization plan that would contribute to the development of the municipality, the Regional Government published in its official bulletin an agreement approving implementation of the Strategic Document. At the same time, meetings were held with experts and steering committees to move towards the next phase, which will be the development of the Action Plan for the Revitalization of Valderredible.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Fundación Botín extended its commitment to fostering entrepreneurial talent in rural areas with the launch of the 7th iteration of Nansaemprende, now more digital than ever. This has made it possible to support and promote business initiatives not only in the Nansa Valley, but also in the rural areas of all the valleys of Cantabria, thereby covering a greater scope of action.

In this 7th iteration, which registered 35 business initiatives from rural Cantabria, the Fundación Botín had the backing of the Chamber of Commerce of Cantabria and the Santander International Entrepreneurship Centre (CISE), key organizations in the ecosystem of Cantabrian entrepreneurship with whom we designed an innovative online training course, integrating lean startup methodology with the development of value propositions for rural areas.

The Livestock Promotion Project, in turn, completed 10 years of activity last year, during which time it has generated a turnover of some 15 million euros. In 2021, the project maintained its leadership in the region, increasing production by more than 40%, which amounts to 3,426 cattles slaughtered and a global turnover of over 3.5 million euros.

In this way, AFTECA, the association which coordinates the management of inspections and slaughter, continues to consolidate its lead in the production of meat with the Carne de Cantabria PDO certification, accounting for 65% of the certified animals in the region.

#### SOCIAL DYNAMIZATION

During 2021, the programme continued to develop, support and promote the talent of young people of the Nansa Valley in conjunction with the EntreValles association, a group of university students who came together through their involvement in revitalization activities and their commitment to their territory. This support led to EntreValles taking part in various conferences and meetings related to youth and the rural environment. The association also took on the challenge of organising the European Heritage Days (JEP) in 2021, which were held in August and were attended by more than 3,000 people. The Fundación Botín has supported EntreValles by joining forces to secure the collaboration of regional and local administrations and of all the other agents working in favour of the Nansa Valley, thus ensuring that the European Heritage Days will continue to be promoted by the population of the Nansa Valley with the goal of conferring added value on the tangible and intangible heritage of the area.



# WATER OBSERVATORY

The Fundación Botín Water Observatory is an interdisciplinary think tank that aims to contribute to current and emerging debates on water management, both in Spain and in the rest of the world.



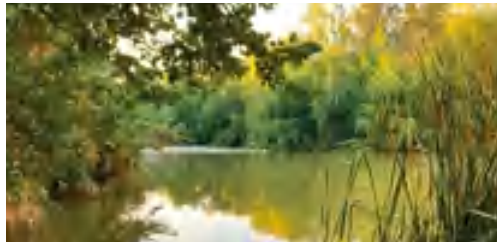
**OVER 2,200**  
people listened to the Walk the Water podcast on the Manzanares river in Madrid



**OVER 900**  
people enrolled in face-to-face seminars and webinars for water management professionals



**6**  
science and art outreach walks on water and territory





A light painting, representing the flow of water below ground between two springs, on the Amaniël Journey of Water, in the Dehesa de la Villa in Madrid. The activity was part of Madrid Science and Innovation Week.



*The fact that you have given us this recognition will surely help us to advance in this ambitious goal of reaching out to all the schools in A Coruña.*

Ricardo Vázquez, director of R+D+i of the supply company EMALCSA, when collecting the prize awarded to their educational project "A Auga Non Para".

Created in 2008, this ideas lab specialises in analysis of the ownership and integrated management of water resources and works to promote and improve water policy, to ensure the transfer of knowledge to society and to foster sustainable water management. In recent years the Water Observatory has focused its activity on improving the state of Spain's rivers and aquifers, generating an understanding of key aspects of water management, serving as a platform for dialogue and the skills enhancement of water professionals and promoting the involvement of society in that improvement.

#### GENERATING SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE

The doctoral research of the Water Observatory has focused on the causes of the decrease in circulating flows in the rivers of the Tagus basin and on optimising the management of the reservoirs at its head. At the end of the year, a new doctoral student joined the Observatory to analyse the quality of pre-potable water in Spain, with a special focus on rural areas, which are often more vulnerable to the degradation of domestic water quality.

#### SEMINARS AND WEBINARS FOR THE WATER SECTOR

During 2021, two face-to-face seminars and three webinars were organised for experts in the water sector. The face-to-face seminars dealt with various topics relating to research by the Water Observatory, such as the technical and institutional challenges to preserving and improving the fragile health of Spain's rivers and the causes and possible solutions of the collapse of the Mar Menor. The webinars were held in collaboration with the Rosenberg International Forum on Water Policy at the University of California and addressed current international issues.

#### AWARDS GIVEN AND RECEIVED

The Observatory convened the 7th iteration of the Awards for Sustainable Management. This year there were 42 nominations from seven countries and a joint award was convened with the Royal Academy of Doctors of Spain on the occasion of its centenary.

In 2021, the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM) bestowed on the Water Observatory the Public-Private Partnership Award for Cooperation for the Sustainable Development Goals, carried out in collaboration with the UPM.

#### ACTIVITIES FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

September 2021 saw the release of the podcast *Caminar el agua* (Walk the Water); a four-part podcast about the Manzanares River in Madrid, produced in collaboration with the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT) and the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. The podcast, available on the main online platforms (Spotify, Apple Podcast, iVoox, YouTube), is inspired by a 4-day journey on foot along the Manzanares river and brings together interviews with 22 experts from different fields and the voices of residents of Madrid. Walk the Water is an initiative promoted by the Water Observatory of the Fundación Botín and the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, and aims to create a space for citizens to engage with the issue of water by carrying out guided walking tours led by experts, as well as artistic and cultural activities. In 2021, six events were held, two of which were staged in collaboration with Madrid City Council's CentroCentro public cultural centre, and an exploratory light installation, inspired by water travel in the Dehesa de la Villa, was set up during Science and Innovation Week in Madrid.

# COLLABORATIVE VENTURES

The Fundación Botín develops programmes in the fields of art and culture, education, institutional development, science, and rural development. We also collaborate with other institutions and foundations with whom we share strategies and objectives.

**8**  
institutions received support from the Fundación Botín



**20**  
young people from different autonomous communities took part in the Junior Leadership Campus of the Princess of Girona Foundation



**3,000**  
spectators attended the proposals of Santander Escénica, the programme created by the Fundación Santander Creativa in response to the Covid-19 emergency







Hugo Manso. Hilo Producciones.



An Encuentro de Santander concert. Claudio Martínez Mehner, piano, and participants on the Encuentro. The Argenta hall of the Palacio de Festivales de Cantabria. July 2021.

In 2021, the Fundación Botín maintained its support for the Fundación Santander Creativa (FSC), which on the occasion of its tenth anniversary took the opportunity to reflect on its journey and make some adjustments to better meet the needs of the sector. As well as this, the institution organised a lecture programme to analyse its role as a transformative agent in local culture and, at the end of the year, hosted an installation by the multidisciplinary artist “Palo Pez” to celebrate the people behind these cultural projects.

The Princess of Girona Foundation continued to receive the support of the Fundación Botín for its commitment to the country’s youth and the goal of improving

their employment prospects and professional and personal development through training and mentoring, among other resources. The Isaac Albéniz Foundation also received support, with a contribution to the running of its summer courses and to support the activity carried out by the Reina Sofía School of Music.

Other significant contributions included those to the Ateneo de Santander, a long-standing collaboration, while Empieza por Educar, the Asociación Plaza Porticada, the Casa de Cantabria in Madrid and the Santander International Festival also received support from the Fundación Botín in 2021, thus contributing to the development of their activities.



*The joint activities of the Fundación Botín and the Fundación Albéniz have always been many in number, because we share many goals and values. In addition to concerts, exhibitions, publications, lectures and courses in collaboration with the UIMP, the reception and availability of the library bequeathed by Federico Sopena, the great Spanish music intellectual, is of particular significance. In addition, in recent years our collaboration has been enriched by the existence of the wonderful Centro Botín, a unique space from which culture is naturally projected around the world.*

Paloma O’Shea. Chair of the Fundación Albéniz.



20 young people from different autonomous communities took part in the Junior Leadership Campus organized by the PGF in 2021



FUNDACIÓN  
BOTÍN