

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

2021 has been a half-way year between the difficulties derived from the pandemic and the awakening of social, cultural and economic activities. 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 social interest and research projects to carry out relevant activities for science dissemination.

## 2021 ACTIVITY REPORT

APADRINA LA CIENCIA



## RESEARCH PROJECT FUNDING

### V Call for Ford-Apadrina la Ciencia Contracts



V Convocatoria de Contratos de Investigación para Científicos en Formación

Ford España y Apadrina la Ciencia unen esfuerzos para financiar dos contratos de investigación de un año para completar el trabajo de tesis doctoral de dos científicos.

Envíanos tu candidatura antes del 7 de septiembre de 2021

Presenta tu proyecto de investigación en cualquier área de conocimiento:

Ciencias sociales o Humanas, Salud y Medio Ambiente, Matemáticas, Ingeniería, Tecnología, Energías Sostenibles, Ciencias Naturales y Artes

BASES: [apadrinalaciencia.org](http://apadrinalaciencia.org)  
CONSULTAS: [apadrinalaciencia.proyectos@gmail.com](mailto:apadrinalaciencia.proyectos@gmail.com)

TWO one-year contracts have been given to finish the Ph.D. research projects. The beneficiaries have been:

- **Beatriz Parejo Alonso from the Aragón Institute of Health Research**, whose work focuses on the metabolism of stem cells in pancreas cancer.



Y este año se ha tenido que presentar a una convocatoria. La pandemia nos ha penalizado mucho porque no estábamos produciendo ciencia, queda mucho por conocer sobre el cáncer de páncreas y no podemos dejar de investigar. Por eso es tan importante el contrato que hemos conseguido, que financian la Asociación Apadrina la Ciencia y Ford Motor Company. Fue un respiro. Es clave que la gente colabore con

- **Gala García-Argudo Ripoll from the Department of History and Archeology (University of Barcelona)** whose work focuses on the study of the cultural behavior of the Upper Paleolithic hunter-gatherers.

Thanks to the previous Ford-Apadrina la Ciencia contracts, relevant research lines have moved forward and obtained meaningful and impactful results. Rebeca Martínez Haya, from the Chemical Technology Institute (CSIC-UPV), one of the beneficiaries in I Call, has obtained the [Extraordinary Ph.D. Award](#), and Amanda Sánchez López, from the Spanish National Center for Cardiovascular Research Carlos III (CNIC), the beneficiary in II Call, has published her results in an [outstanding science journal](#) in the research field.



NIH National Library of Medicine  
National Center for Biotechnology Information

PubMed.gov

Avanzado

Ahorrar Correo electrónico

> Circulación. 30 de noviembre de 2021; 144 (22): 1777-1794.  
doi: 10.1161 / CIRCULATIONAHA.121.055313. Epub 2021 25 de octubre.

**La supresión de progerina cardiovascular y la restauración de Lamin A rescatan el síndrome de progeria de Hutchinson-Gilford**



ITQ PERSONAL INVESTIGACIÓN CONTRATOS Y BECAS FORMACIÓN ACTUALIDAD IGUALDAD CONTACTO ENGLISH

David Catalán Martínez and Rebeca Martínez Haya, ITQ students, have been awarded the Extraordinary Prize for Doctoral Thesis from the Polytechnic University of Valencia

SUPPORT FOR SOCIAL INTEREST PROJECTS

III Edition Ford College Community Challenge - 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 “Improving Lives”.

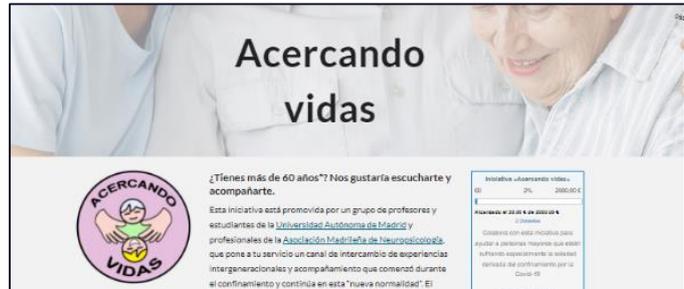
- **“The Circular and Regenerative Campus” (Polytechnic University of Madrid)**

The second stage of the successfully implemented project CircularizatETSII was submitted at the Ford College Community Challenge in 2019. A UPM living lab on Circular Economy.



- **“Moving Lives Closer” (Autonomous University of Madrid)**

An innovative initiative in remote accompaniment for elderly people living alone to meet their needs during the pandemic within the Learning-Service framework.



- **“RED Game” (University Carlos III of Madrid)**

Menstruation is an invisible reality lacking information and training. RED is a card game created to break such taboos from a ludic and amusing approach suited for older than 8 people.

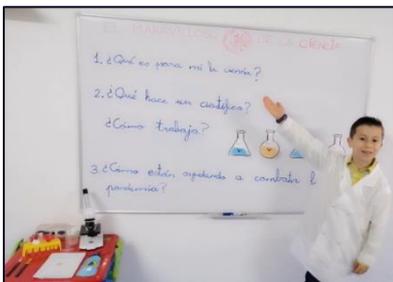
**DISSEMINATION ACTIONS**

**I Contest Merck-Apadrina la Ciencia “Tod@s somos científic@s”**

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

In this first edition, the scholars’ response was excellent with the participation of 200 hundred from 19 Spanish provinces.

The awarded **prizes, science games** as well as **the visit of scientists to class** to carry out together enjoyable illustrative experiments, were welcomed by scholars with enthusiasm.



**Ride on Solar Kayak around the Balearic Islands in 2021**

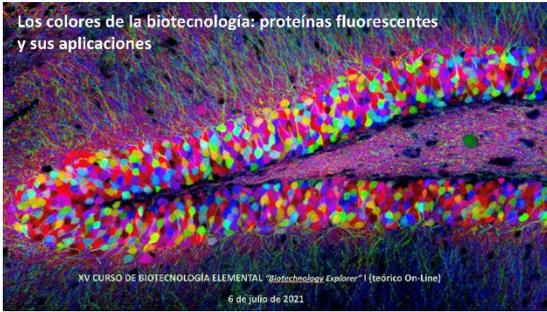
A great feat to **catch society’s attention to the importance of science and research** and encourage donations for young researchers’ contracts thanks to the collaboration of Marcelo Ymbern, who has developed a solar-powered kayak which he has navigated as far as 700 km around the Balearic Islands from June 21<sup>st</sup> to July 7<sup>th</sup>.

You can listen to the interview on Radio 5 [here](#).



**Talk about Social Corporate Responsibility at Merck**

On June 30th, some of the people in charge of Apadrina la Ciencia took part in a “virtual Coffee Hour” with Merck employees of the “Employee & Community Engagement team”, who had the opportunity to know all the taken actions thanks to their contribution and the possibility of their participation. In addition, the managers were able to make an informed decision about keeping the collaboration and they were encouraged to pass our joint action plan for 2022-2024.



## Talk to Secondary and Vocational Training teachers in the XV Elementary Biotechnology Course

The course was organized by the Department of Molecular Biology of the Autonomous University of Madrid in collaboration with the Severo Ochoa Department of Molecular Center (CSIC-UAM). One more year Vice Chairperson Inés M<sup>a</sup> Antón gave the talk “The colors of biotechnology: fluorescent proteins and applications” in July.

## Fair of Coslada Associations

Apadrina la Ciencia was present at the event celebrated on October 2nd to disseminate our work, raise funds, establish contact and create synergies with various organizations and entities. Moreover, as the main dish, we carried out scientific experiments with children while teaching them science in an amusing but rigorous way.



## Lecture at the Athenaeum in Madrid: “Metastasis: the Invasion of Mutant Immortal Cells”.

Given by Apadrina la Ciencia Vice Chairperson, Inés M<sup>a</sup> Antón, on Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

## Transvision Congress 2021

The association was present at this important congress to disseminate our work among speakers and attendees, as well as for fundraising.



## Activity Report 2021

### Scientific Experiments in Schools

On the occasion of the I Contest “We are all scientists” organized in collaboration with Merck, we went to **the schools** whose boys and girls won the first prize in each category since among the rewards was **the visit of a scientist to their class to carry out various experiments** as well as **talks about the scientific profession**. We visited Tres Cantos (Madrid), Linares (Jaén) y Cembranos (León).



Many thanks, Merck Life Science sponsors for supporting Science!

### Participation in Juvenalia 2021

For the seventh consecutive year, Apadrina la Ciencia took part in the symbolic children’s and youth leisure fair Juvenalia, where, for **6 days**, over **4.500 children** carried out **SIX different experiments** with the help of **more than 40 volunteer scientists**. They learnt about Science in a **ludic and amusing way**:



- Chemicave
- Microscope and mutant flies
- Gradient sweet rainbow
- Plants and good bacteria
- Chromatography flower
- Getting to know viruses

You can read the news about our participation [here](#).



## Participation in the Event 'EL PAÍS with Your Future'

The meeting to guide young people in their professional careers in which Carmen Simón, Apadrina la Ciencia Chairperson, offered detailed information and options for science careers to around 1.000 Baccalaureate and Vocational Training students.

## Monthly Participation in the Program "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 every month. 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 at this [link](#).

- M<sup>a</sup> José Rodríguez Gómez, 28/01/2021. Electron Microscopy at the Forefront.
- Inés M<sup>a</sup> Antón, 25/02/2021. Support for Rare Disease Day (28th F).
- Ángeles Hueso, 25/03/2021. Microbial Engineering: from Industrial Application to Space Application.
- Amelia Nieto Martín, 29/04/2021. What Do We Know about Pandemics?
- Juan José Nogueira, 27/05/2021. Predicting Nature with Computational Modeling.
- Carlos Pedrós Alió, 29/06/2021. Finding the Perfect Desert (Life in Extreme Environments).
- Rubén Hernández Alcobeá, 15/07/2021. Basic Concepts about Gene Therapy.
- Cristian Smerdou, 30/09/2021. Gene Therapies in Rare Diseases and Cancer.
- Puri Fortes, 28/10/2021. Garbage in the Human Genome.
- José Luis Martínez, 25/11/2021. Understanding the Evolution of Antibiotic Resistance to Fight It.

**SOLIDARITY MEMBERS**

**Beneficiaries of the Airbnb “Host Community Fund”**

Apadrina la Ciencia has been chosen by Airbnb as one of the four beneficiary Spanish NGOs to receive a 25.000 dollar grant from its “Host Community Fund”. You can read the article [here](#).



**Book “Stories in Confinement”**

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

**Collaboration with Intermundial Insurance Company**

Intermundial has launched a solidarity campaign for the clients of their go | easy y Easy Trip policies to donate 1€ to Apadrina la Ciencia.



**AWARDS**

**Nomination for the TOP 100 WOMEN LEADERS**



[Carmen Simón](#), a researcher in the CSIC National Center of Biotechnology, director of the CSIC Postgraduate and Specialization Department (DPE) del CSIC, and **Apadrina la Ciencia** Chairperson, has been a **candidate**, for the third consecutive year, in the 2020 edition for the **TOP 100 Women Leaders in Spain** in the category of “Female Academics, Researchers, and Thinkers”.

### I Foundation Lilly-Apadrina la Ciencia Scientific Dissemination Award



Endowed with **3.000 €**, the award launched by the Foundation Lilly and Apadrina la Ciencia to **acknowledge and support the work carried out by the researchers who devote most of their effort to the dissemination of scientific knowledge**, has been for **Ignacio López-Goñi**, professor of Microbiology at the University of Navarra and author of the blog [@microBiblog](#).

### Finalists in the Solidarity Award Essentia Creativa

In its most participative edition, **Apadrina la Ciencia** has been a finalist in the Solidarity Award Essentia Creativa, acknowledging the social work carried out by non-profit entities to improve our society. See [article](#).

## SOLIDARITY ACTIONS



### Solidarity Flea Market at the CNB

Despite the difficult health situation, we resumed the Apadrina la Ciencia classic Christmas flea market at the National Center for Biotechnology on December 15<sup>th</sup>. The sale of materials made by our collaborators (educational books, costume jewelry, accessories, T-shirts...) was a great success.

### Solidarity Christmas Lottery

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



### Crowdfunding campaigns

“Beating COVID-19 through Evidence-based Science” and “Science: Our Power to Beat COVID-19”, TWO crowdfunding campaigns that are intended to support research projects on SARS-CoV-2 and promote initiatives for the communication of research results to the general public. Access to the campaigns [here](#).



**Apadrina la Ciencia has worked to disseminate knowledge about COVID-19, not only putting special emphasis on prevention measures and the importance of vaccines but also transmitting basic scientific knowledge about SARS-CoV-2 and the ongoing research on this new virus.**

### SOS - ¡WE NEED YOUR HELP!

**No matter how little your help is, you will be contributing to creating a better future for everybody.**

**Be the protagonist. Donate and help us build the future!**

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

- **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 books for children “We are all scientists”, science T-shirts, science toys...
- **Donate all or part of your** wedding, communion **presents...**
- **Organize a solidarity event:** flea markets, solidarity races, solidarity rounding... There are endless possibilities!
- **Offer your business collaboration.** A lot of entities have supported us and funded projects this year.

For instance:

- |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ○ Automobiles: Ford Motor Company | ○ Didactics and toys: Science4you |
| ○ Laboratories: Merck             | ○ Hotels: Petit Palace            |
| ○ Travelling: Airbnb              | ○ Restaurants: Silk and Soya      |
| ○ Insurance: Intermundial         |                                   |

Apadrina la Ciencia non-profit association was set up in 2014 and it is supported by more than 280 researchers from all the fields of knowledge and by public and private –both national and international– research organizations, intending 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.

## Activity Report 2021

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- 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%

Anímate 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](mailto:apadrinalaciencia@gmail.com) para enviarte el certificado de donación.