

CNIO & THE CITY

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**Titulado Superior* (Advanced Degree)



“CNIO & The City wants to present science as an attractive profession. Despite its difficulties, Science is an option for the future!”

During one’s school years, there are doubts and important decisions to think about: which career to choose, what to work on... CNIO & The City is an educational and science outreach project established in 2017 to strengthen the bridges between CNIO scientists, the educational community, and society as a whole. It was released to impact and inspire them with our science!

After the success of CNIO & The City’s first editions (May 2017 - March 2018; May 2018 - June 2019), funded by the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT) – Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, the CNIO decided to incorporate this project and its values as an essential core of the CNIO outreach strategy.

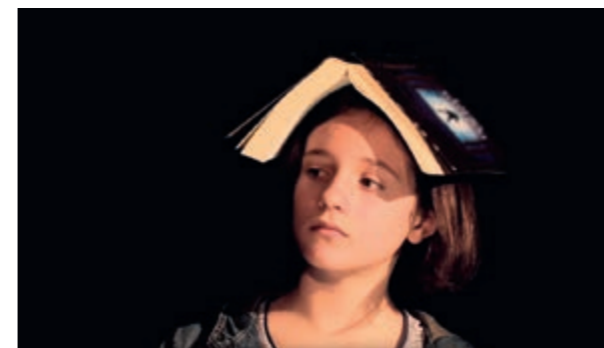
New standards of scientific excellence are reached thanks to these initiatives. This is widely known here at the CNIO, and over 140 CNIO scientists are involved in our activities: principal investigators (32%), staff scientists (15%), post-doctoral fellows (17%), graduate students (7%) and technicians (29%). Thanks to them, we organised lab immersions and scientific projects with secondary and high school students (EDUCACNIO); training courses for teachers (FORMACNIO); and scientific workshops in classrooms (DIVULGACNIO), which were a unique opportunity for the more than 1,200 participants (students and teachers) over the last 2 years.

We also want to go one step further and get closer to the whole of society. This is why we dedicate time to think about and create educational videos, which can be played everywhere: in class, in a large auditorium and even on smartphones! In 2019 we launched 2 cartoon videos about general topics in cancer science (‘History of Cancer’ and ‘Cancer Risk Factors’).

Another video related to the ‘Women in Science’ issues was released to empower our CNIO & The City female participants (78%) and raise awareness about gender balance in science and breaking the glass ceiling. This video was very well received by the media thanks to our February 11th #YoRompoTechoCristal [IBreaktheGlassCeiling] Challenge (International Day of Women and Girls in Science) and was one of the ‘Science Film Festival’ #LabMeCrazy! finalist videos.

CNIO & The City must be a stimulus for young generations and their families too. The inspirational video ‘Changing the World’, which was directed by Amparo Garrido, invited CNIO scientists and their kids to talk about future scientific careers and passions. “I have seen monkey cells!”, explained Diego Megías, Head of the Confocal Microscopy Core Unit, to his son. Science is not only about discovering, but also about getting fascinated and trying new things!

All these activities have transformed ‘CNIO & The City’ into an innovative, inclusive and STEAM education committed project with gender issues as a transversal theme. We have also found that our participants’ knowledge and perceptions about cancer, research and innovation are evolving in a positive way, which suggests that we are helping new generations grow up with a more critical, reflective and no-barriers view of the world around them. This is our mission, and we hope to accomplish it in the coming years!



Changing the World inspirational video (<https://go.cnio.es/CambiarElMundo>). Photo & video by visual artist Amparo Garrido.



Women in Science educational video (<https://go.cnio.es/YoRompoTechoCristal>).

