



**BIBLIOTECA
PÚBLICA
AC.**

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



CONTENT

President's Report	3
Mission and Vision	5
Our Programs	5
Reading Promotion	6
Classes and Workshops	19
Scholarships to Students	25
Cultural Events	32
Information and communication technologies	36
Radio and Biblioteca: culture and knowledge bridges	42
Strategic Alliances	43
Financial Report	44
Our Team	47
Staff	47
Board of Directors and Asociados	49
Volunteers	50
Contact	52

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear friends,

With much pride, I am writing to report what our Biblioteca team has done for the community in the past year.

Under the excellent leadership of our Executive Director, together with a committed Board of Directors, a hardworking staff and dedicated volunteers, we ended 2024 with greater numbers of library users, an ever strengthening scholarship program, stronger programming of classes and cultural events and a sound financial position.

The Biblioteca team is fully focused on continually enhancing the experience for our users.

You may have noticed our new logo and themed communications centered around our programming.

The Communications Committee has expanded our audiences on social media, in the Insiders' News monthly publication, and on Radio Cascabel 92.1FM in a weekly program for Spanish speakers that highlights events and programs offered to the community.

Again focused on the users, this team created and installed new signage in La Biblioteca to help our visitors navigate throughout the building.

Our Cultural Events team, under new leadership, presented a full slate of top notch programming in the Teatro Santa Ana, Sala Quetzal and our main Patio.

We continue to offer lectures from experts on diverse topics and world events. Several new literary presentations showcasing many Mexican authors have created new interest from Spanish speakers in our community.

Our line-up of classes and workshops continues to fill enrollment with programming in the areas of art, music and computer proficiencies.

The new coding club was a big winner with the kids and we continue to expand our digital inclusion strategy with a new robotics club in the Spring of 2025.

The Building Infrastructure Committee, together with our Maintenance staff was able to create a newly renovated space to house our Librarian and a book processing area for our volunteers. This new space interconnects directly with the reading salas. The relocation of these activities to this new space liberates more room around the patio for our users.

If you haven't visited our Bookstore lately, please do so as our new manager continues to search for new merchandise and our volunteer librarians curate an amazing collection of donated books that are sold second-hand.

A full-time dedicated Fundraising Manager was added to the team in 2024. This position reports to our Executive Director and works closely with the Manager of Communications to build a broader donor base of individuals, foundations and public support for La Biblioteca.

You will see much more from this team in 2025. But please don't wait, help us expand the donor base by making a contribution today. You can directly contact the Fundraising area through this email address: dona@labibliotecapublica.org.

Donations from our Scholars Club members continue to help us provide 100 scholarships to high school and university students.

Change is constant and our nimble staff has been able to adjust direction when need be to take advantage of opportunities that present themselves. We made several promotions for open positions from within the staff, which has helped create more innovation and teamwork. The success of any program is because the staff works together, across their respective areas of responsibility, to ensure the success of their colleagues.

Together with many incredible volunteers, the staff fulfilled the mission of La Biblioteca providing educational and cultural enrichment to a diverse group of users and doing so in a way that promotes harmony in our community.

As you review the report below you will immediately see that our four areas of programming (Promotion of Reading, Classes and Workshops, Cultural Events and Scholarships) are stronger than ever.

It is a rewarding opportunity to be involved in such a dynamic and diverse organization! Come join us in 2025.

DEBRA BROUSSARD
 President, Board of Directors
 Biblioteca Pública A.C.

MISSION

La Biblioteca Pública de San Miguel de Allende, A.C. provides educational and cultural activities to foster a harmonious community.

VISION

To be a multi-disciplinary and inclusive cultural center that responds to the need for training, information, and the dissemination of all that develops the prosperity and peace of our community facilitating access to knowledge.

OUR PROGRAMS

READING PROMOTION

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS

CULTURAL EVENTS



READING PROMOTION

La Biblioteca recognizes that reading is a pleasure and a source of information for people who have the universal right to access information, education and cultural practices, and to choose the texts they read.

Reading is an indispensable tool in the formation of the individual and the community. For this reason, La Biblioteca, considering the diversity of its readers, pays great attention to the quality of its bibliographic collections and develops key missions:

- To provide free access to all types of information through its book collections without restriction on a voluntary and autonomous basis.
- To offer writing and reading activities for creative personal development and communication skills.
- To create and instill reading habits from early childhood to adulthood.
- To value critical and analytical thinking, as well as empathy and tolerance.

12,261 = Total books borrowed in 2024

Memberships in 2024

2,017 users applied for membership
24% more member users than 2023.
52% are children, youth and students.
48% are adults.



Community outreach: Biblioteca Pública is everyone's home

School Visits

La Biblioteca pays special attention to school audiences. Indeed, we know that cultural habits are developed from an early age. We also recognize that our cultural center offers children and young people an approach to reading and knowledge different from the school format.

Thus, in the geographical area of San Miguel, La Biblioteca is one of the cultural centers that private and public schools favor to organize field trips with students as part of their educational activities.

Since January 2023, La Biblioteca has been a part of the Programa Territorios de Aprendizaje (Learning Territories Program), promoted by the Secretary of Education of Guanajuato SEG. This program recognizes our institution as a space to compliment education and cultural practices of students in the state.

In 2024, we received 11 school visits with a total of 504 students from different grades, from preschool to university.



Universidad Tecnológica Laja Bajío and Universidad Mexiquense del Bicentenario El Oro Visit

During these visits, in addition to participating in a reading activity, the students received information about the history of the building, how a library works and the services to which they have access. Many students apply for a library card on this visit and become users of La Biblioteca.

Feria de La Biblioteca



Workshops for children

2024 marks the second year of this public event which the objective of making educational, cultural and recreational activities offered at La Biblioteca visible to the local public.

The dynamic of the event is to “take La Biblioteca to the streets”. It is for this reason that the Feria Biblioteca is held in a festive way in the Plaza Cívica, a place very popular with families and residents of San Miguel.

For an entire day, we organize in the Plaza activities that normally take place in our building. The objective is to invite passersbys to learn about our programs and to participate in the different workshops set up under our tent: ceramics, painting, drawing, reading children’s stories, book reading, chess and free games. Everyone can participate!

The Feria is also an opportunity for the students of the guitar, choir, art and creative writing classes to perform in public. This year, we invited the group, Teatro Demediado to perform on the stage of our tent. About 80 spectators took advantage of this free activity.

The Feria 2024 was attended by 1,309 people.



Our Bookstore outdoors

“Un Día en La Biblioteca”

Program

“A Day at the Biblioteca” is a social integration program that promotes cultural practices among children and youth from marginalized areas.

“A Day at the Biblioteca” invites children and youth from neighborhoods, barrios and communities far from San Miguel Centro to spend a full day at La Biblioteca to experience pleasant and inclusive cultural practices.

During “A Day at the Biblioteca”, each group of school children is provided with a complete introduction to La Biblioteca, including transportation to and from La Biblioteca, a tour of our campus, introduction to our activities (classes, film screenings, reading sessions, dynamic activities, etc.) and lunch.

At the end of the day, each beneficiary receives a free membership to La Biblioteca, inviting them to return to take advantage of their user privileges. With this gift, we want to generate a sense of belonging: everyone is welcome to La Biblioteca!

In 2024, families from the Luis Donaldo Colosio neighborhood and the town of Pantoja benefited from this program.



Elementary School Simón Bolívar from Pantoja community

“Alimenta tu mente / Feed the Mind” Program

Feed the Mind is a program aimed at rural elementary schools in San Miguel de Allende area served by our NGO friend, Feed the Hungry, with school kitchens.

The objective of the program is to enrich the schools’ educational offerings in reading and technology, while leveraging the distribution network of Feed the Hungry.

The Biblioteca Pública lends a selection of books to the schools on a monthly basis and offers technological advice if required. Building a bond of trust with the schools is paramount in this program. This is the reason why we invite school children to spend “A Day at the Biblioteca” as an introduction to our collaboration.

In 2024, our first two pilot schools started the program: the “Simón Bolívar” elementary school in the Pantoja community, and the “Lázaro Cárdenas” school in the town of Alonso Yañez. The goal for the year 2025 is to incorporate 3 more schools.



Community Library in Luis Donaldo Colosio



The Colonia Luis Donaldo Colosio Community Library is a collaborative project with Alianza Pro-Lectura de San Miguel.

After a fundraising campaign, 203 carefully selected children's books were purchased and donated to the residents of this community located in the outskirts of our city.

The residents self-manage their Community Library in the house of one of the neighbors, who maintains free access to anyone who wishes to consult the books.

Since the inauguration of this Community Library and until February 2025, members of the Alianza Pro Lectura visit the neighborhood every two weeks to read aloud with the community that gathers in a local park.

Eco-Literacy

The objective of this project in collaboration with Sociedad Audubon de México and Amigos de la Presa AC is to introduce the children of the “Simón Bolívar” elementary school in the Pantoja community to their local environment and foster their appreciation to care for it, through experiences, practices, readings, short films and games.

Four practical work sessions have been developed, two of them at the elementary school with a visit to the Presa Allende to learn about the environmental problems of their local area and another two visiting the Biblioteca Pública under the program “A Day at the Biblioteca”.

Beneficiaries: 96 personas



Elementary School Simón Bolívar visiting the presa Allende

Reading Promotion: It is a pleasure to read

Literature Seminar

The “Seminario de Literatura de la Biblioteca” aims to enrich the reading processes of the community. To achieve this, La Biblioteca offers a program of free literary events in Spanish that consist of dialogues and exchanges of knowledge and wisdom with contemporary writers.

Workshops, talks and book signing during 2024

- **Benito Taibo**
- **Imelda Martorell**
- **Rosa Beltrán**
- **Ernesto Alcocer**

220 people benefited from these free activities.

This is the continuation of the program started in 2023 with the participation of writers Juan Villoro and Socorro Venegas. In 2025, 10 authors will participate in our seminars.



Benito Taibo and Imelda Martorell talk

Summer Book Readings

The purpose of this activity is to promote the pleasure of reading by inviting the audience, free of charge, to witness a dramatized reading aloud. The space where it takes place is La Biblioteca's Bookstore, which makes an intimate forum with a capacity for 30 people.

The stories chosen in 2024 were written by Latin American authors: *La culpa es de los Tlaxcaltecas* by Elena Garro, *Las cosas que perdimos en el fuego* by Mariana Enríquez and *Ce ehécatl* by Dennise Martínez.

This activity is conducted by Dennise Martínez, María Elena Barrientos and Azahar Hernández who are part of La Biblioteca staff.

90 people attended these public sessions.



La culpa es de los Tlaxcaltecas Reading

Books Presentations

Eight book presentations were held with the presence of their authors, which allowed us to create collaborations with local and national writers. These events were held at the Teatro Santa Ana and Sala Quetzal.

In addition, we had two collaborations with other organizations. In February, together with FELISMA, we presented *Mujer sin vergüenza* by Sandra Cisneros, and in November, in collaboration with Libros para Todos and the Atelier school, we hosted writer Jaime Alfonso Sandoval for a conversation with children readers.



Book presentation *Antes de que llegue el monzón* with the writers Susana Pagano y Armida Zepeda

Books presented in 2024

- ***The Tango House***
Natalie Taylor
- ***Mar es la Tierra***
Héctor Celis
- ***Al Sur. Crónica del Valle Encantado***
Michael Sledge
- ***Antes de que llegue el monzón***
Susana Pagano
- ***Busca el cómo***
Camila Sánchez
- ***Mujer nacida bruja***
Dennise Martínez

Attendance: 170 people

San Miguel Writers' Conference & Literary Festival

In 2024, La Biblioteca was pleased to collaborate with the San Miguel Writers' Conference & Literary Festival, organizing a reading circle with Mexican author Guillermo Arriaga, author of "Extrañas" and guest of honor at the Festival.

In addition, three students from La Biblioteca's Literary Creation Workshop, taught by Ana Mateos, received a scholarship to participate in the Festival's program.

Carmen Rioja, Board of Directors Vicepresident, in FIL



Citibanamex DAC Grant

We responded to Citibanamex's Art and Culture Development (DAC) request for proposals with the project *Conversaciones literarias para el fomento a la lectura* (Literary Conversations for Reading Promotion) and were selected as winners!

With this resource, we will be able to carry out the Literature Seminar 2025 program where we will hold 10 book presentations during 2025, increasing the Biblioteca's literary cultural agenda by 50%. At the end of the project, we will have served 960 people.

Visit to FIL 2024

We visited the Guadalajara International Book Fair for the second time during its days reserved for professionals.

On this occasion, we were able to purchase 178 books for the Children's and Young People's Room.

Hosting contemporary art in the Biblioteca

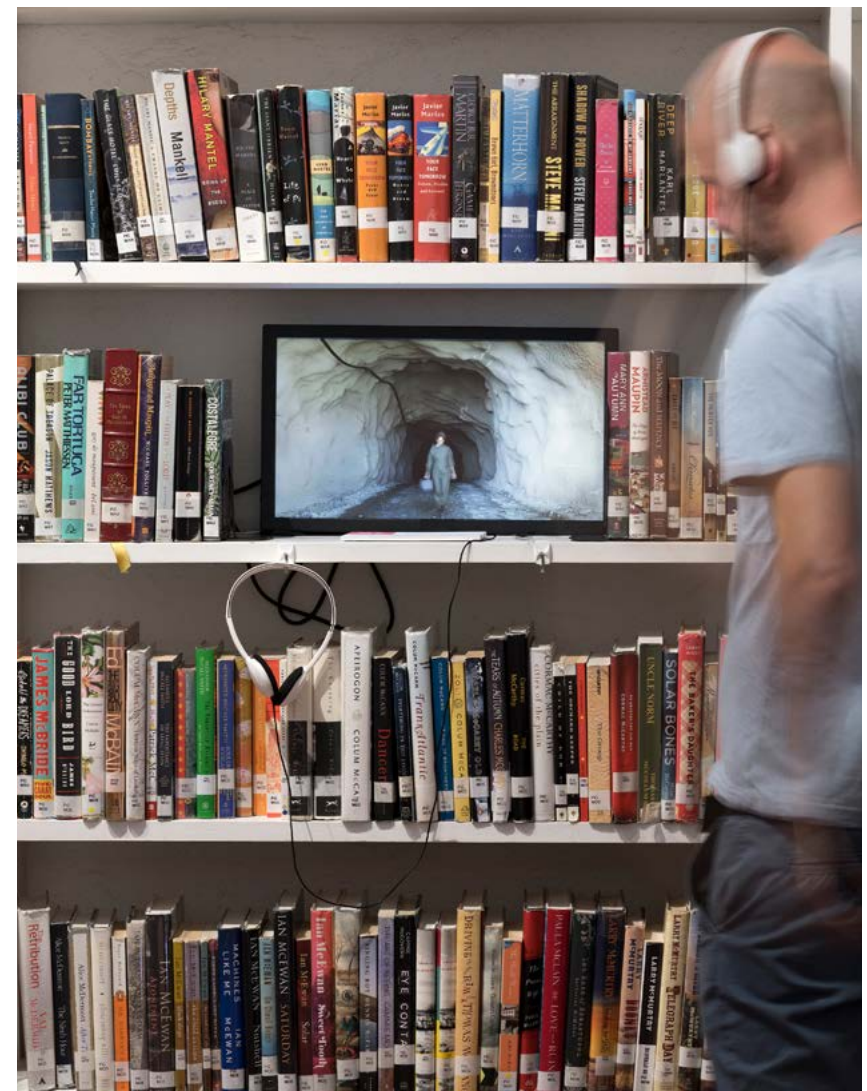
From November 15 to 30, 2024, the Biblioteca hosted the project COMMON EFFORT, A VIDEO ART SHOW.

Cultural and reading practices have changed drastically in the last 10 years. With the consumption of information in digital format, libraries must innovate to remain a place of cultural coexistence.

To insert a video art exhibition in spaces traditionally dedicated to books is to promote a disruptive use of reading rooms. It was an invitation for the public to browse the shelves and book collections in search of unexpected information.

This activity is part of La Biblioteca Pública's desire to offer a space for contemporary creation.

Common Effort is the joint effort of several gallery owners from San Miguel de Allende (Trapo Galería, Nuweland Gallery and YAM Gallery) to activate our city around an enthusiastic, generous and avant-garde artistic program. The selection of video works was completed with artists from Kurimanzutto gallery and Taller 30.



COMMON EFFORT inside reading rooms

In addition to the show at the Biblioteca, several exhibitions were inaugurated throughout the festival, and the public was invited to participate in a talk with artist Carlos Amorales at the Centro Cultural el Nigromante in San Miguel.

The promoters that gave life to this project are Anke Bergsma, Wiebren Bergsma, Adolfo Caballero, Danilo Filtrof, Marie Moébius, Sofía Rivas y Julia Villaseñor.



Artists of the exhibition:

A.H. Fork • Alonso Galera • Augusto Ballardo • Carlos Amorales • Carlos Pez • Cristian Velasco • Dale Lawrence • Daniela Edburg • Eline Kersten • Enrique López Llamas • Gilberto Esparza • Iñaki Bonillas • Ivan Puig • Johnny Miller • Liza Ambrossio • Lothar Muller • Marcela Armas • Minerva Cuevas • Morrigan • Myrte van der Molen • Vladimir Cruells

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

La Biblioteca's goal is to offer equitable access to cultural practices and lifelong learning. This is why La Biblioteca proposes a wide selection of classes and workshops at very low cost, and in many cases free of charge.

Our classes encourage free expression, creativity and elevate the skills of individuals. Our teachers are professionals and volunteers with high academic credentials and teaching experience.

Music, art, literature, technology, languages, wellness, handicraft

- **851 students registered for classes and workshops in 2024**
- **3,512 hours of classes**
- **Conversation Clubs have an average of 90 attendees per week**

Biblioteca Classes

- Painting
- Ceramics
- Illustration
- Clay Modeling
- Chorus
- Guitar
- Chess Club
- French Conversation Club
- English Conversation Club
- Spanish Conversation Club
- English Learning Classes
- Literary Creation
- Oral storytelling
- Read with your baby
- Reading Clubs
- Computer Literacy
- Computer Coding
- Yoga



Teaching Music at La Biblioteca

Music is not only entertainment, but also a powerful tool that promotes the proper emotional, social and cognitive development of children.

But many times, access to this content is expensive. At the Biblioteca, we advocate for equitable access to these key skills. For this reason, our music classes are free or at very low cost.



Saturday in Biblioteca, guitar class

Chorus

The Youth and Children's Choir of the Biblioteca offers a comprehensive musical education. The young singers, under the direction of Maestro Ramiro Granados, learn the techniques of choral singing and develop their musical appreciation through the practice of classical, sacred and popular music repertoires, particularly Latin American folklore.

The group integrates singers from 7 to 16 years old and meets twice a week for rehearsals and classes. This activity is offered 100% free of charge.

Singing in public and in a group is part of the pedagogical strategy developed by Maestro Granados. It strengthens the bond that unites the singers, teaches them to honor their commitments and to manage nervous tension.

These are times of great enthusiasm, which the children enjoy under the proud gaze of their families. The concerts are held free of charge, in public spaces, temples and churches.

Chorus presentations in 2024

- ***Cantos de pasión***
Templo de la Tercera Orden (March 21)
- ***Las 7 palabras de Cristo en la cruz***
Templo de la Tercera Orden (Marzo 23)
- ***Concierto de aniversario luctuoso del Padre Alfaro***
Templo del Oratorio (March 24)
- ***Celebremos cantando con cri-cri, en conjunto con la Orquesta Sinfónica Infantil y Juvenil de San Miguel de Allende***
Centro Cultural Ignacio Ramírez El Nigromante (April 25)
- ***Aniversario luctuoso 469 del fundador de la ciudad "Fray Juan de San Miguel"***
Santa Escuela de Cristo (May 3)
- ***Armonías del descanso eterno***
Hacienda "El Santuario" (October 30)
- ***Concierto navideño***
Templo de la Tercera Orden (December 18)
- ***Cantos de Navidad***
Templo de la Tercera Orden (December 20)
- ***Villancicos***
Golden Homes (December 21)



Armonías del descanso eterno concert

Pro-Música



Pro-Música class in Sala Quetzal

2024 marked the beginning of our collaboration with Pro-Musica, a non-profit organization well known to Sanmiguelenses, which has been enriching the musical culture in our community for many years, thanks to its high-quality performance and pedagogical program.

La Biblioteca is proud to collaborate with Pro-Musica, to host in our building the “Music Academy” that aims to teach children from 8 to 12 years old the basics of music practice and theory.

Children receive free lessons in very small groups (up to 4 students). They can choose the instrument they desire to learn (violin, viola, cello, clarinet). Instruments are provided free of charge as well.

In 2024, 25 students received this benefit.

Summer Camp

As every year, the Biblioteca Summer Camp is held in July and August.

The mission of this intensive course is to offer San Miguel families a low-cost option for enriching activities while schools are closed for vacation.

The Biblioteca offers the children participating quality activities, in a safe space, with the attention of highly trained professionals.

This year, we received a total of 46 children from 6 to 12 years old, divided into 3 age levels.

During the Summer Camp, participants enjoy classes in visual arts, crafts, choir, robotics, theater and environmental education from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm.

The summer camp includes field trips to enrich their experience. During the 2024 edition, we transported the children to Tikkun Eco Center where they spent a day learning about the environment and sustainable agriculture. They also visited the Casa del Mayorazgo de la Canal Museum in downtown San Miguel.

In total, the Biblioteca taught 67.5 hours of classes during the 2024 edition of the Summer Camp.

Robotics Class



End of the day in Parque Benito Juárez



70 years celebrating traditional festivities

La Biblioteca Pública celebrated its 70th anniversary in 2024.

Our institution is anchored in the San Miguel community through the traditional local festivities that mark the cycles of the year, and invite the participation of our user families.

Children's Day

- Rally-type reading activities
- Theater play *La vaca que se creía mariposa* by Teatro Demediado
- Concert by Paty Monsell

Día de Muertos

- Traditional concert by the Biblioteca guitar class students
- Legends of San Miguel tour through the reading rooms
- Open microphone to tell stories

Christmas Posada

- Biblioteca Guitar Class Concert
- Posada in the reading rooms
- Piñatas and delivery of traditional aguinaldo

Schools in Biblioteca

The Biblioteca lends its space to other schools such as the Atelier School and the San Miguel English School.



SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS

We combat school dropout thanks to our student scholarship program.

Nearly 100 high school and college students are selected each year based on socio-economic criteria and academic excellence.

In addition to financial support, they receive tutoring to guide them in their studies.

2024 SCHOLARSHIPS

- Open to applicants from San Miguel de Allende and the surrounding area, as well as students from the neighboring municipality of Comonfort.
- The Biblioteca is committed to expanding educational opportunities to groups that traditionally face greater barriers to access.
- We identified positive changes in society, where more and more families and communities support women's education, which historically has faced greater challenges.



Welcoming ceremony for new 2024 scholarship recipients

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2024

- 50 high school students and 50 college students.
- Science, engineering, humanities, medicine, arts and more, students.
- 47% of our scholarship recipients are from rural communities, 46% from urban areas and 7% from Comonfort.
- 75% percent of the beneficiaries of our program are women.
- At the end of the year 2024, our active roster is 77 students, opening the opportunity to incorporate 23 new high school scholarship recipients in the 2025 call for applications.

96% of the beneficiaries maintained their scholarship thanks to their commitment and academic performance throughout the year.

Of the 100 scholarship recipients, 29 successfully completed their studies: 12 from high school level and 17 from university.

These results reflect our commitment to education at different formative stages, ensuring that young people with talent and economic need have access to greater opportunities to build a promising future in their communities.

Selection process and criteria for new 2025 Scholarship recipients

Looking ahead to the 2025 cycle, our commitment continues to focus on expanding educational opportunities, incorporating new talent into the Program and strengthening the impact on the communities we support.

Each year, between December and January, the call for applications for the Biblioteca Scholarship is published. In 2025, 23 places will be offered exclusively for high school students.

Selection criteria

- Live in San Miguel de Allende or Comonfort
- Be an active member of La Biblioteca Pública
- Be enrolled as a high school student
- Have a minimum grade point average of 8.5
- Proof of socioeconomic status

The selection process consists of two phases: the first, according to the delivery of correct documents, takes into account that the candidate is the first generation of his or her family to study at this level, the economic need as well as the sustainability of his or her academic project.

The second phase of selection is the period of evaluation and interviews conducted by a selection committee, composed of members of the Scholarship Committee and Biblioteca staff. The purpose of the interviews with the candidates is to verify the motivation and sustainability of the students' projects.

The results of the call for applications are announced the first week of March. Once accepted to the program, scholarship recipients may renew their scholarship every 6 months, under the condition that they remain officially enrolled in an educational institution, and that they maintain their academic level.

Success Stories

In 2024, 11 college students and 12 high school students graduated.

When a student begins receiving the Scholarship, they are assured of receiving support from La Biblioteca for as many years as it takes to achieve his or her goals. Thus, the Program accompanies its beneficiaries and their families for many years.

A key moment for the achievement of our Program and our students is the transition from High School to University.

We are particularly proud that 100% of our high school graduates continued their studies at university, reflecting the transformative impact of our Program on their educational trajectories.



Welcoming ceremony for new 2024 scholarship recipients



Her example has been so powerful that she has inspired her younger siblings to follow in her footsteps.

Her younger sister was also selected as a scholarship recipient during high school and, this year, she has applied for the university scholarship and will be entering college.

On the other hand, her younger brother is also determined to continue this legacy of self-improvement and education. In 2025, he plans to apply to our scholarship program for high school students, hoping to follow in his sisters' footsteps.

Abigail Diosdado Chávez, *inspiration for her entire family.*

Degree in Tourism Administration and Resources from Universidad de Guanajuato, summer 2024.

A young woman from the rural community of Juan Xido Cabras, located about 10 km from San Miguel de Allende Centro, is a living example of how education can transform lives and open doors to a promising future.

Abigail joined our Program as a scholar when she was in high school in 2017, and with effort, discipline and determination, she stayed with it until she completed her university studies. During this time, she not only demonstrated academic excellence, but also became a role model within her community and family.

Promoting the scholarship program in schools

Throughout the year, we carried out school promotion activities in various educational institutions in the city, with the aim of raising awareness of our scholarship program and bringing it directly to our target audience.

This strategy not only allows us to position the Program, but also to establish significant links with institutions committed to education.

In 2024, school outreach included participation in events such as Encuentra tu camino, in collaboration with Bachillerato SABES Cabecera Allende, CECYTE Plantel 1 San Miguel de Allende and Instituto “Las Casas” Bachillerato.

These alliances gave us the opportunity to inform more young people about the educational options and support we offer, reinforcing our commitment to contribute to the academic and professional development of local youth.

A group of donors campaign “The gift of the year”

Our greatest satisfaction lies in seeing 100 students receive the scholarship and successfully complete their studies.

The Biblioteca has the enthusiastic support of a group of individual donors under the leadership of Bill and Kathryn Graham, who share the satisfaction of seeing young people in our community achieve their goals.

Under the slogan “A diploma changes a life”, “The gift of the year” fundraising campaign once again reached its goal of funding 100 scholarships for a full year.

To participate in the scholarship program fundraising effort, contact: dona@labibliotecapublica.org

Educational activities

During 2024, the Program offered educational activities designed to complement the scholarships, providing free formative guidance to young people.

Through 60-minute talks and workshops, these activities provide information on labor market laws, university orientation, entrepreneurship, etc.

Looking ahead to 2025, our commitment is to continue expanding this training offer with topics of interest such as mobility scholarships, entrepreneurship, finance, among others.



Some of the activities 2024

- ***Tu camino a la universidad: descubre, elige y triunfa***
Jóvenes Adelante, A.C.
- ***¡Inspírate! Finanzas personales para jóvenes***
Edith Sánchez-Bermeo, Inversionista
- ***Lo que debes conocer antes de emprender***
Leticia Rodríguez
- ***¡Busquemos universidad para ti!***
Ruth Overa
- ***¡Este es mi emprendimiento! El trayecto para crear y gestionar tu propio negocio***
Mía Hernández, Marca Guanajuato
- ***¡Quiero vivir de mi talento creativo! Claves para gestionar mi proyecto 'craft'***
Anael Olarte Studio
- ***ABC del Servicio Social. Saca el mejor provecho de tu Servicio Social o prácticas profesionales***
Ruth Overa
- ***Estudiar en Francia***
Campus France

Classes and Workshops

Scholarships

The Scholarship Program is not only limited to offering financial support to students, but also seeks to be an integral model that promotes academic and personal development.

As part of this commitment, in 2024 the Biblioteca decided to waive registration fees for some outstanding scholarship students in the Classes and Workshops Program.

This action aims to provide opportunities to those who, despite their commitment and talent, face economic difficulties that could compromise their participation in the courses.

This benefit is exclusively to students with a history of dedication and achievement in previous classes, reinforcing Biblioteca's commitment to continuous learning.

By offering this support, the student's potential is recognized and they are helped to overcome obstacles to continue developing in artistic and creative areas.

During 2024, a total of 9 students benefited from this initiative: 3 in Ceramics, 3 in Painting, 1 in Guitar, 1 in Illustration and 1 in Drawing.

CULTURAL EVENTS

Our artistic and cultural offerings for the inhabitants and visitors of San Miguel de Allende present a comprehensive program that enriches diverse areas of knowledge through events that include opera, classical music, theater, art cinema, talks with writers, dance, poetry, and more.

These events are designed for audiences of all ages, from infants to seniors, including bilingual options.

La Biblioteca has three venues equipped for cultural, artistic and educational events

- Teatro Santa Ana
- Sala Quetzal
- Patio Principal

In 2024

A total of 9,639 people attended 312 events in our three venues.



Teatro Santa Ana

With capacity for 91 people, it has a booth with professional sound and lighting equipment, suitable for stage performances, concerts, conferences, among others.

In 2024, it hosted a total of 226 events, of which 90 were free of charge.

Sala Quetzal

With a capacity for 50 people, it has a grand piano and audiovisual projection equipment, making it the ideal space for talks, master classes, recitals and book presentations.

In 2024, it hosted 118 events, 16 of which were free of charge.

Patio Principal

With capacity for 120 people, it has a removable stage with audio equipment and console, perfect for outdoor events.

In 2024, it hosted 12 events, 7 of which were free of charge.



San Miguel World Music Festival 2024 in Sala Quetzal



Guitar presentation in Patio Principal

Events summary

in 2024

La Biblioteca produced the inaugural **Festival México Negro: Nuestra Tercera Raíz** (Black Mexico Festival: Our Third Root), focused on Afro-descendants in Mexico, in collaboration with the group, The Brothers of San Miguel.

The event included lectures given by academics specialized in the subject, as well as presentations by musical groups, film and dance.

This year, we also hosted the **San Miguel World Music Festival**, offering free masterclasses and concerts.

As well as a venue for **GIFF** - Guanajuato International Film Festival, with screenings and talks with cinematographers.



Saltapatrás in Festival México Negro



Nkumbé in Festival México Negro



We hosted the **Cine Club en Cartelera**, (Theater Club Cinema Listings) program, supporting Mexico's independent film culture and its "**Cine para Todxs**" (Cinema for All) programming in collaboration with the **Morelia Film Festival**, screening more than 44 films and documentaries throughout the year.

We also participated in the program **Más Allá de Guanajuato - 52° Festival Internacional Cervantino** (Beyond Guanajuato of the 52nd International Festival of Cervantes), screening 9 international music, theater and dance events.

La Biblioteca organized conferences and talks of great impact, such as that of **Martin Fletcher**, NBC News correspondent in the Middle East, and writers such as **Benito Taibo** and **Imelda Martorell**.

We implemented a courtesy program for the inhabitants of San Miguel de Allende, providing free access to events.

Another of this year's highlights was the monthly chamber music program, led by violinist **Clif Foster of the San Francisco Ballet Orchestra**, who played alongside musicians from the Bajío.

In theater and dance, we presented the New York-based group **Nepantla**, with a fusion of ballet, folklore and contemporary dance, as well as the play *Camille Claudel*, supported by **EFITEATRO**.

And two plays supported by **Circuito Nacional de Artes Escénicas Chapultepec** (National Circuit of Scenic Arts of Chapultepec).

In addition, during the **San Miguel Solo Theater Festival**, we presented 6 plays from Los Angeles and New York.

A TRANSVERSAL PROGRAM

ICT

Information and communication technologies, keys to understanding the world

The mission of any public library is to facilitate access to knowledge and information. In this era, printed books are no longer the only source of information for communities.

For more than 20 years, offering access to information thanks to digital tools has been part of the Biblioteca's ongoing commitment to the community.

Since the Covid19 pandemic in 2020, it has become absolutely necessary for individuals to know and be able to use digital tools to access not only information, but also the basic services of daily life, education platforms, or public and citizen services.

But not everyone in our community has access to the necessary tools, either because they lack the connectivity, the material, or the skills to use it. The *digital divide* disadvantages people who do not have the benefit of digital tools.

The IFLA/UNESCO guidelines for the development of public library service issued by the UN stipulate that “public libraries have an exciting opportunity to help make global exchange accessible to all (...) and to bridge the so-called digital divide.”¹

Therefore, since 2022, La Biblioteca has set goals for digital inclusion. Our strategic action aims to reduce inequality in access to technology and information. We want to attract the population with digital services that meet their needs and difficulties.

We want La Biblioteca to become a center that strengthens education and access to information, making socially appropriate use of digital tools and complementing it with the dissemination of online cultural and artistic activities that enrich our social fabric.

¹<https://www.ifla.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/assets/hq/publications/archive/the-public-library-service/pg01-s.pdf>

Digital literacy classes: acquiring the necessary skills for social integration

These basic level classes are taught in our computer lab and are open to children, young people, and adults free of charge.

Students acquire skills in information search and processing techniques using Microsoft Office Suite programs, as well as in data design and presentation.

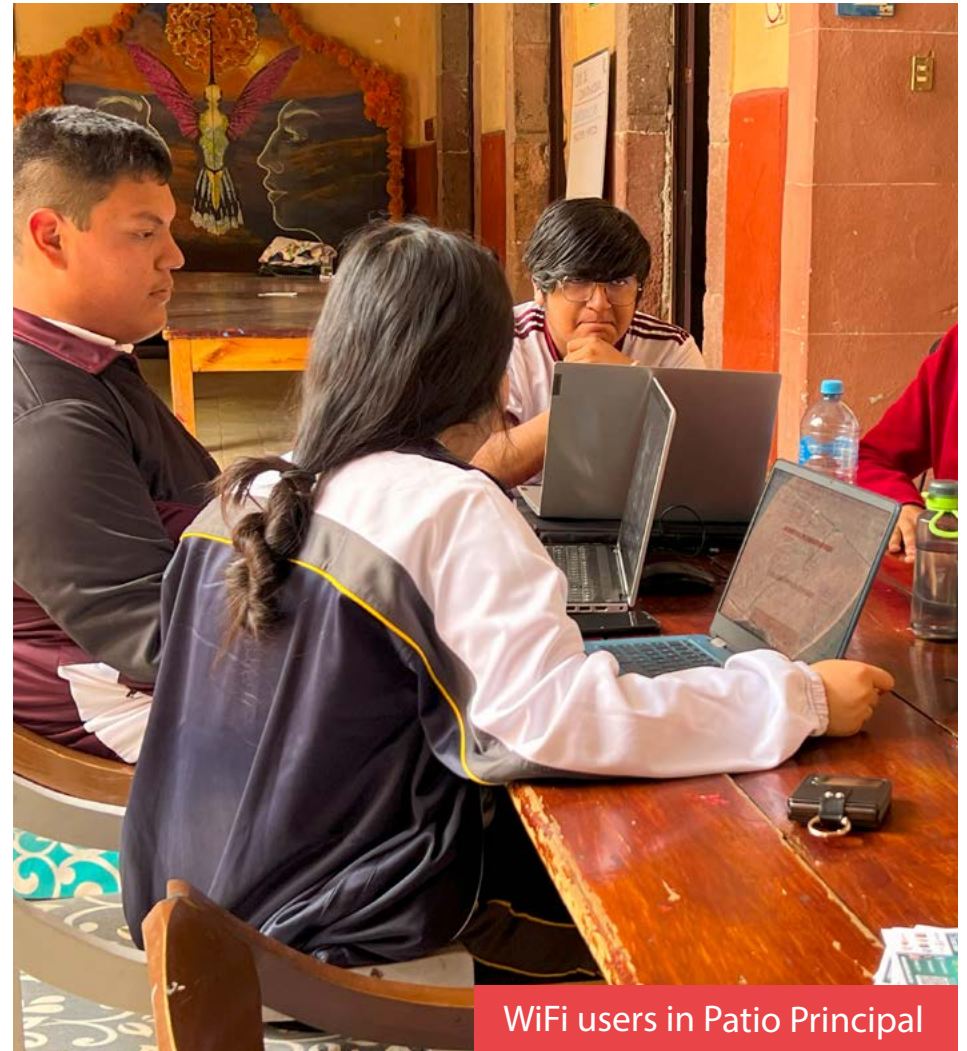
2024 = 159 participants

WiFi access in all public areas of the Biblioteca

Free internet connectivity is guaranteed in all reading rooms and patio.

Connecting to the wireless internet network is unrestricted and it is not necessary to be a member of La Biblioteca.

10,000 individuals connected to our network in 2024.



WiFi users in Patio Principal

Biblioteca online

In 2024, our online presence has improved!

Our community can find us on the most important social networks: Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube and Spotify.

Our book catalog is available on our website.

We increased the online tools available to access our services, such as the purchase of tickets for cultural events and completion of the scholarship application.



Coding Club, learning and creating like an engineer

The Biblioteca's Coding Club is a free after-school activity where children and adolescents from 8 to 16 years old learn to program with languages such as Scratch, Python and HTML.

Programming is a key skill to understanding and navigating our current world. In the Coding Club, participants learn to solve problems with technology by engaging in a comprehensive integrated project management assignment.

In 2024, the Coding Club workshops were offered on a continuous basis.

Levels were:

Nivel 1 Interactive animations with Scratch

Nivel 2 Videogames Programming

Nivel 3 Website development using Python

With a total of 36 active students, 3 instructors and the partnerships with Broadcom Foundation, Raspberry Pi Foundation and CodeClub.org, 2024 has closed with a vision for growth in 2025.

In 2025, the Coding Club will be strengthened with the addition of new pedagogical aspects towards physical computing and robotics.

On December 21, 2024, the Coding Club's final project showcase was held. The children participating in the club publicly presented their annual projects.

Parents and visitors to La Biblioteca were able to appreciate their creations: websites, interactive animations and video games focused on the theme of caring for the environment.

The club members presented their results with great enthusiasm. This activity reinforced their communication and teamwork skills.

The Biblioteca Coding Club is proud to be the first group in Mexico to benefit from the support of the Broadcom Foundation and the Raspberry Pi Foundation, which enable thousands of children and young people around the world to learn and develop their potential through technology.



Partnering with YouthBuild for the social integration of young people

YouthBuild Mexico is a civil association, member of a global network, which seeks to facilitate and improve access to life and decent jobs for young people to promote their social mobility and full exercise of their rights, influencing public and private decision makers.

The agreement between La Biblioteca and YouthBuild provides for the use of La Biblioteca's computer lab for online high school exams.

Creative Technologies LAB: creating art with technology

The comprehensive program “Creative Technologies LAB” aims to motivate the artistic community of San Miguel to incorporate technology and information technology in their creations.

To this end, in 2024 La Biblioteca offered practical courses for children, adolescents and adults, as well as a series of stage shows that demonstrate the quality and breadth of creating with technology.



Karina Álvarez and Roberto Morales concert

Public tech concerts

The objective of these concerts was to showcase the new artistic languages generated by programming and technology.

In these free events, the audience was able to learn about the work of outstanding Mexican artists in the field of electronic arts:

Dr. Roberto Morales, Mexican composer of the University of California Berkeley, researcher of algorithmic music and artificial intelligence; **Karina Álvarez**, PhD in multimedia installations, visual spatialization with video mapping and generative environments; **Edmar Soria**, PhD in music technology with a specialty in immersive sound; and the duo **Interspecifics**.

Creative workshop with technology

“Data Sonification,” ‘Generative Drawing’ and ‘Installation with Raspberry Pi micro components’ were the practical topics taught by teachers Karina Alvarez and Roberto Morales in this intensive 72-hour workshop during the months of May and June 2024 in our computer lab.

Ten students were selected to take advantage of this course and received a scholarship that covered the full cost of the workshop. At the end of the workshop, the students presented the results of their research and creative work at the Teatro Santa Ana.



Creative Technologies LAB

Coding Club Intensive Workshop: Augmented Reality

12 children enrolled free of charge in this intensive course during the Easter vacations, taught by Dr. Karina Alvarez.

The objective of the course was to introduce children to computer programming in a playful, creative, and practical way.

The children learn to generate images and sounds through simple codes that allow them to generate an artistic result. To achieve this, the children record and mix sounds; they also draw with simple software. This is followed by the integration of the two elements using augmented reality.

At the end of the 4 class sessions, the children produce a 3D image and sound scenario of their own creation, which can be displayed and shared with their family and friends.

With these activities, children develop their logical thinking, artistic creativity, and knowledge of technology.



Coding Club Intensive Workshop

RADIO AND BIBLIOTECA: CULTURE AND KNOWLEDGE BRIDGES

RADIOTECA

The *Centro de Atención para los Adolescentes A.C. (CASA)* started a social and community radio station in its facilities in 2023: “Cascabel Radio Social XHSMA 92.1 fm”.

In May 2024, CASA provided a weekly one-hour space to La Biblioteca to broadcast information about its four programs: Classes and Workshops, Scholarships for students, Reading Promotion and Cultural Events.

Every Thursday from 2 to 3 pm, in “Radioteca” we conducted interviews with various personalities involved in culture and education on topics of interest to the community.

As a need to host ephemeral radio broadcasts, we created the Radioteca podcast on Spotify, which can be listened to free of charge.

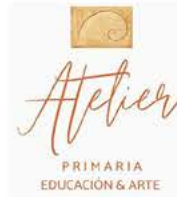


Biblioteca Staff broadcasting from Cascabel Radio

STRATEGIC ALLIANCES



AMIGOS
de la
PRESA



kurimanzutto



ORQUESTA
SINFÓNICA
DE SAN MIGUEL
DE ALLENDE



trapo,



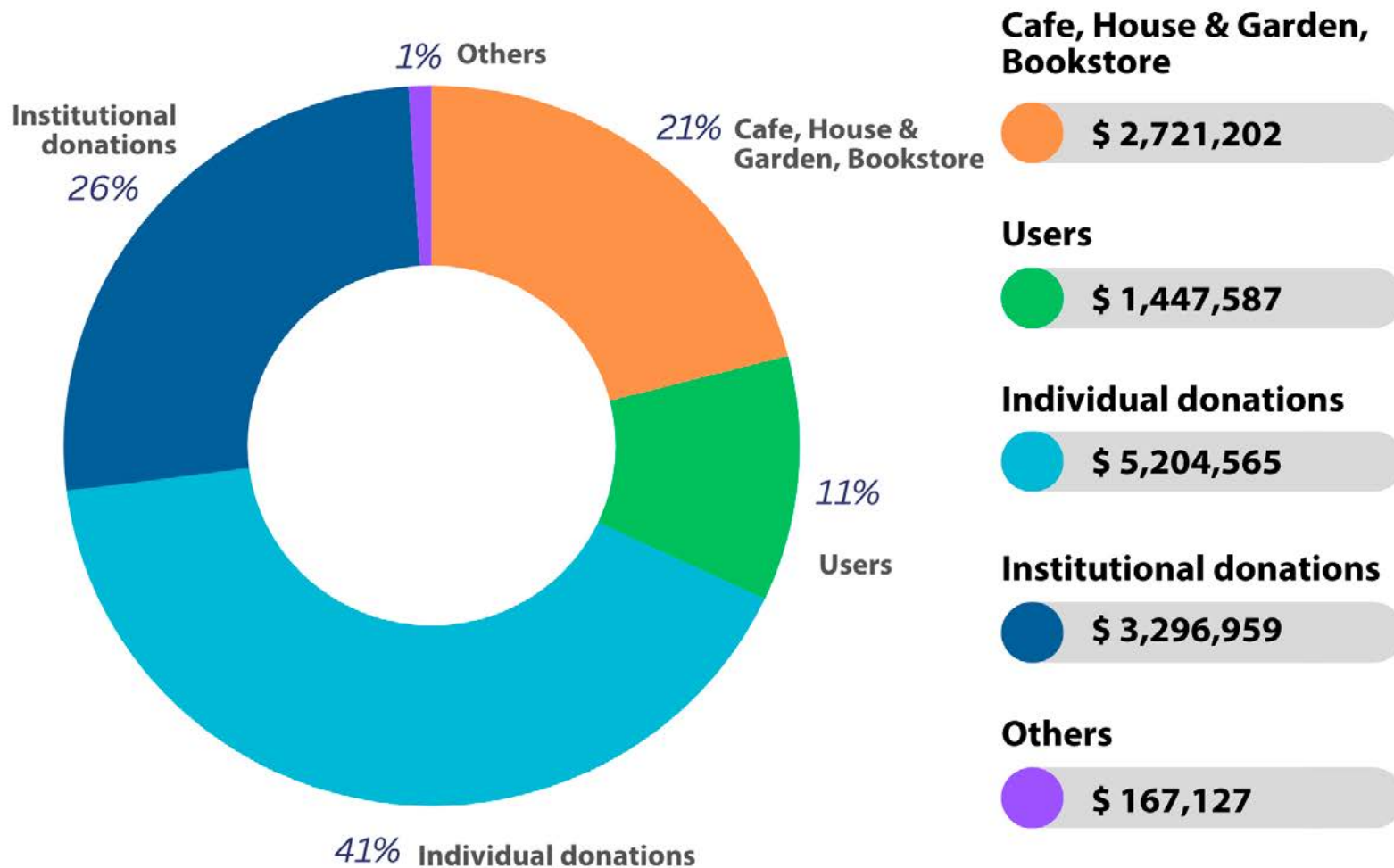
yam gallery



FINANCIAL REPORT

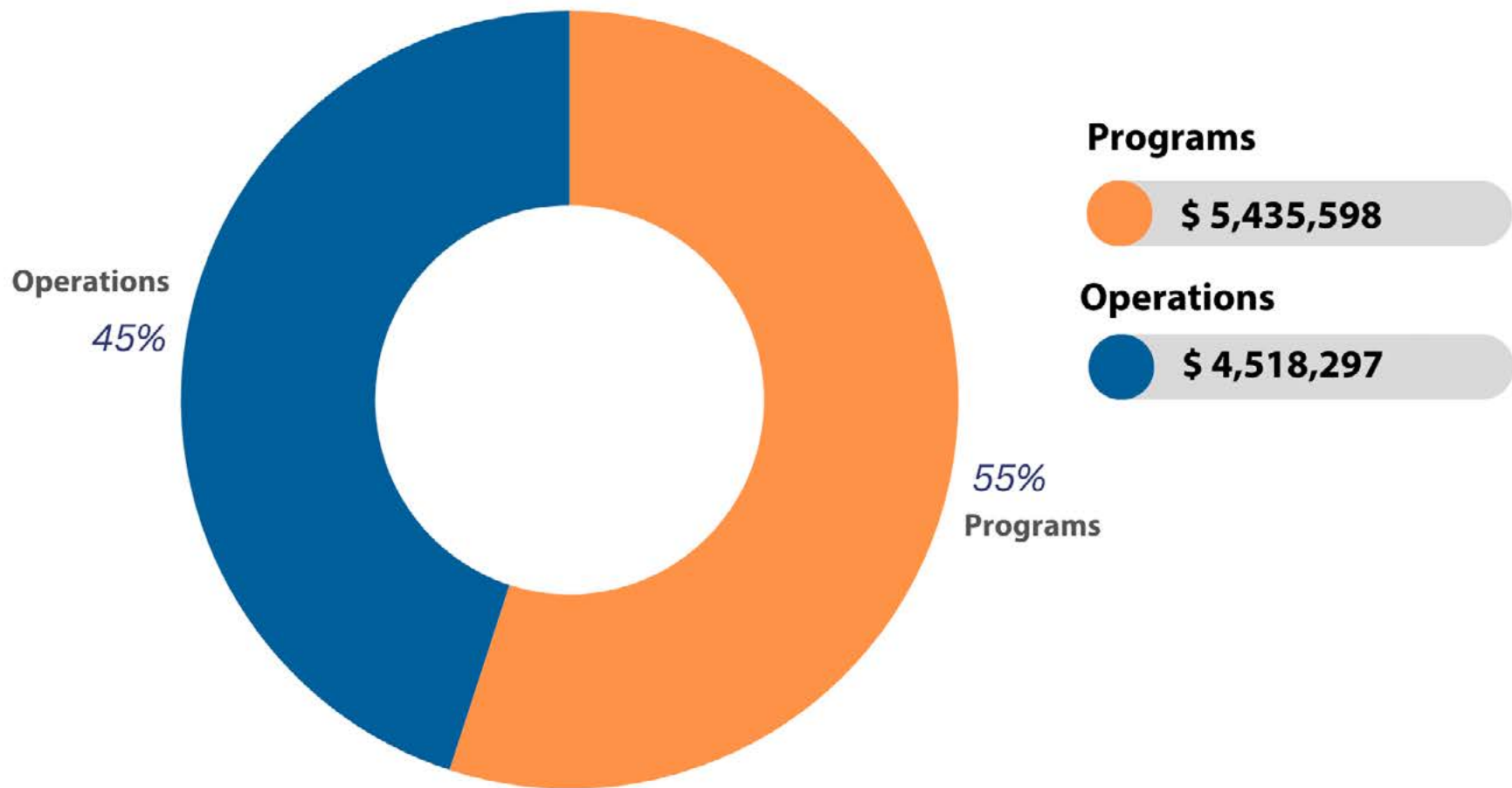
Income 2024

\$12,837,440 mexican pesos

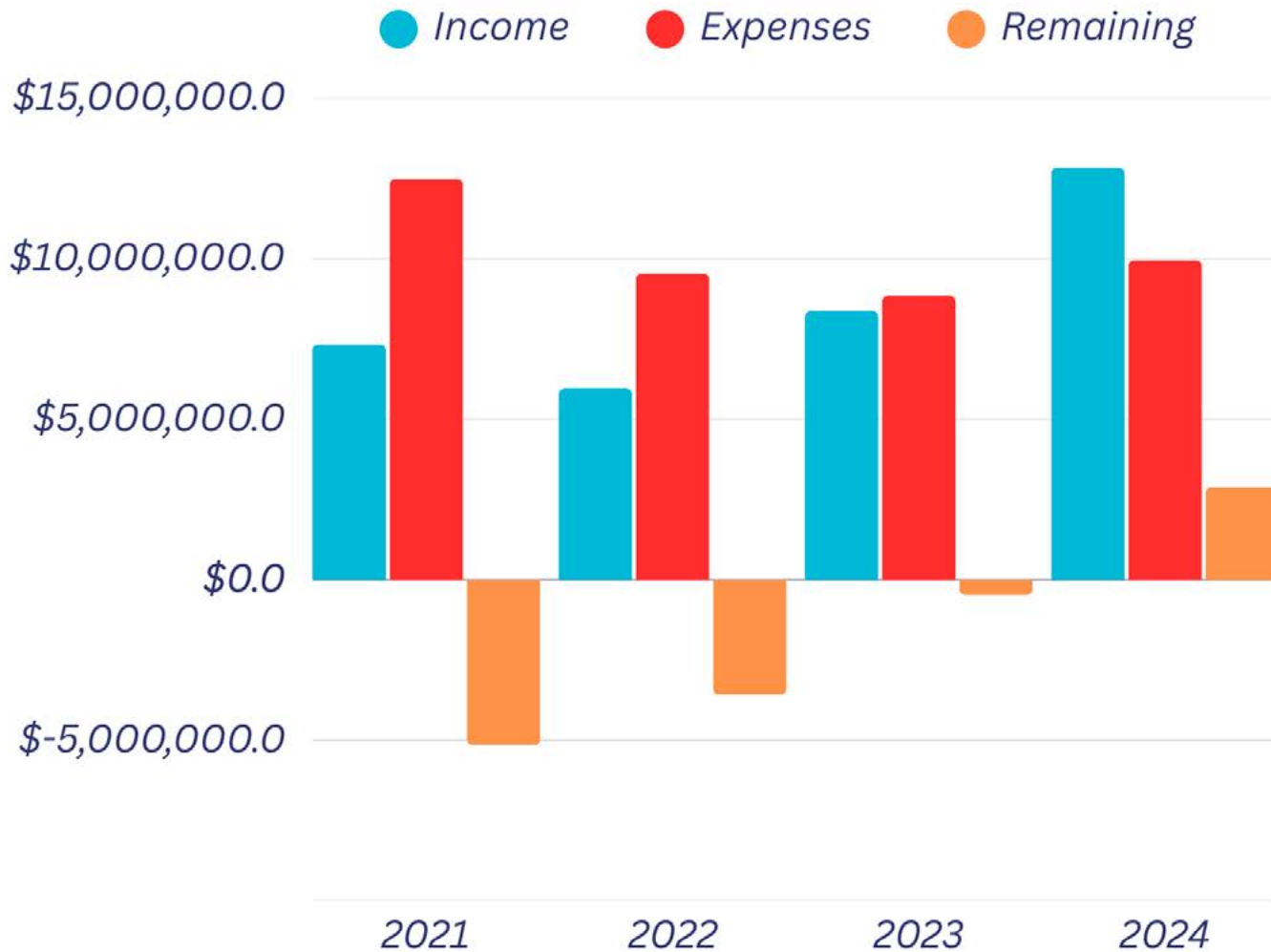


Expenses 2024

\$9,953,895 mexican pesos



Incomes and expenses evolution between 2021 and 2024 in mexican pesos



OUR TEAM

STAFF

Marie Moébius, Executive Director

Mauricio Alanis, Administrative and Operational Assistant Director

Dennise Martínez, Bookstore Coordinator

Mauricio Becerra, Tours Coordinator

Ángel Soria, Administrative Coordinator

Irineo Muñoz, Maintenance Coordinator

Juana Manzano, Maintenance Assistant

Narciso Cabrera, Maintenance Assistant

Martín Díaz, Prefect

Leticia Rodríguez, Human Resources Manager

Azahar Hernández, Reading Promotion Program Manager

Joel Ramírez, Receptionist

Anael Olvera, Liaison Coordinator

Alondra Vázquez, Classes and Workshops Program Manager

Karina Álvarez, Cultural Events Program Manager

Miriam Barrios, Cultural Events Administration Coordinator

Iván García, Cultural Events Logistics Assistant

Ruth Olvera, Scholarships Program Manager

Daniel Herrera, ICTs Manager

Sandra Torres, Fundraising Manager

Ariadna Salazar, Communications Manager

Lizeth Velázquez, Graphic Designer



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Debra Broussard

President

Federico Vidargas

Member at Large

Carmen Rioja

Vice President

JoAnn Canales

Member at Large

Kathryn Graham

Secretary

Jennifer Posner

Member at Large

Carlos Arce

Treasurer

Jan Gunn

Member at Large

ASOCIADOS

Orlando Araque Pérez

Blu Blueitt

Graciela Cruz López

William Pierson Graham

Melissa Hirsch

Wendy Hsu

Susan Page

Jessica Patterson

Jean Paul Peretz

Marco Provencio

Robert Arthur Remak

Alicia Rodríguez

Sergio Rodríguez de Anda

Laura Rodríguez Torres

Cornelia Ulrich

Ali Zerriffi

Ben Zion Ptashnik

VOLUNTEERS

Leobardo Aboytes Morales
Nancy Anchors
Jane Aptaker
Shannon Asseiro
Tony Asseiro
John Auld
Ann Barden
Catherine Bari
Fernande Beland
Jill Bennett
Denis Bergeron
Sandra Bird
Frank Branham
Tim Brockington
Amy Butler
Lourdes Carlin
Becki Carney
Susanne Carter
Suzette Carter
Clarence Carter
Diana Cervantes
Gilbert Chaine
John Chapman
Debra Ann Chiles
Nathalie Clease
Tom Connor
Katia Dallalpour
Lyne Daroff
Neal Davis

Sandy Davis
Serge Declama
Penny Delaney
Daisy Migdalia Díaz Martínez
Tedi Dickinson
Chris Durboraw
Eva Echenberg
Carole & Mike Edwards
Lilly Eineder
Kathleen Ellsworth
Vanessa Eve Mekarski
Ana Paula Faisal Blanco
James Foster
Brigitte Fowler
Tom Fowler
Pat Frey
Diane Funston
Laura Garza García
Dalia Gon
Bobbie Gordon
Bill Graham
Chef Gaby Green
Dan Guenther
Marcos Guz
David & Carol Halperin
Tom Hammer
Marlys Hann
Melanie Harper
María Piedad Hernández

Andy Hicke
José Luis Higuera
Clare Howell
Wendy Hsu
Flavia Juárez Rangel
Jane Kendall
Harvey King
Rebecca King
Wendy King
Bonita Kolb
Mireille Lafrance
Nancy Laughton
Otis Lee
Barbara Leight
Michael Lewis
David Lippman
Leslie Lum
Erika Lynn
Elaine MacDonald
Pat Macleod
Tobin Malone
Jeff Marks
Cherie Marra
Manon Mays
Anne McCoher
Deborah McConnell
Rosemary McDowel
Kate Mckorkle
Pat McMackin

VOLUNTEERS

Jane Medina
Stephanie Medlock
Vanessa Mekarski
Barbara Millstein
Frank Monk
Paul Morgante
Damon Morris
Gabriela Nava
Susan O'Neal
Anael Olvera Olarte
Harvey Palmer
Gloria Pardo
Sara Parker
Jack Paulus
Gail Perry
Rocío Puig
Avis Quinlan
Leonora Reyes
Julio Roman
Kenia Selene Rivera García
Gabriel Rodríguez Arenas
Lucia Rodríguez Rangel
Evangelina Romero Bárcena
Linda Rostern
Janet Rouss
Stephen Russell
Patricia Sabolsky
Barbara Salazar Cruz
Claudia Saldana

María Magdalena Sánchez Guillen
Susan Schara
Carol Schiffman
Jeffrey Schwartzberg
Steve Schwartzman
Shannon Shaffer
Kathy Snodgrass
Susana Speidel
Troy Sterner
Mike Stoltz
William Suggs
Julie Tibbs
Sammie Walter
Don Ron Walters
Tracy Wensing
Donald Williams
Wendy Wilson
Diana Winer
Barbara Zook

If you are one of our volunteers, and your name doesn't appear on this list, it might be because you are not registered with our Human Resources coordinator. Please contact: recursoshumanos@labibliotecapublica.org

CONTACT

Biblioteca Pública de San Miguel de Allende AC

Insurgentes #25, Colonia Centro, C.P. 37700,

Guanajuato, México

+52 415 152 0293

United States Adress

220 N. Zapata Hwy. #11

PMB410B

Laredo, Texas

78043-4464

www.labibliotecapublica.org

info@labibliotecapublica.org

Donate to

<https://labibliotecapublica.org/donar/>



Biblioteca Pública SMA



Biblioteca Pública AC



Radioteca