

# Spain, Barcelona / Apropa Cultura (Closer to culture)

AUDI  
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## Summary of project intent

Apropa Cultura (Closer to Culture) is a socio-educative program of social inclusion through culture coordinated by the L'Auditori of Barcelona.

Apropa Cultura is a socio-educative program of social inclusion through culture prepared specially for social centers and associations who work with people in risk of social exclusion.

### DIFFICULTIES MET

- ▶ Cultural institutions are sometimes not prepared for changes, but cultural workers are
- ▶ Social workers have the need to understand better how to use cultural institutions

*“For our group, this programme is like opening a big window. It’s wonderful, for us it would not be possible to access those performances without you. Thanks a lot for this opportunity.”*

### RESULTS

- ▶ 40 cultural institutions of all over Catalonia are part of Apropa Cultura
- ▶ A total of 1.194 social centers who work with people in risk of social exclusion has registered
- ▶ Has given access to culture to 58.000 people in risk of social exclusion (since 2007), about 13.000 in the year 2013

#### Apropa Cultura activity is divided into four main lines:

- ▶ Attending music, theatre, dance and circus performances: The theatres, auditoriums and festivals offer tickets to their regular performances at greatly reduced prices. It is constituted as a single window for booking cultural performances for the social sector, a leisure resource that simplifies the work of social workers when choosing, selecting and booking performances and preparing the outing
- ▶ Visit exhibitions in museums and cultural centres: The museums and cultural centres associated with Apropa Cultura offer free visits, guided tours, and workshops to different groups at very accessible prices
- ▶ Participative activities for specific groups: Apropa Cultura coordinates participative activities designed exclusively for groups in a fragile situation and at risk of social exclusion in different theatres and auditoriums. These activities may be occasional or prolonged throughout the season of the facilities
- ▶ Training in the performing arts and music for social workers: Apropa Cultura has a commitment with education to favour the presence of the arts in the everyday life of people and groups. Each season it organises courses in the performing arts, music, plastic and visual arts. Educa amb l'art (Educate with Art) targeted at social workers, therapists, integrators, coordinators, technicians, monitors and carers without any specific knowledge in the performing arts and music

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*"We are very grateful to this programme. Our users are mainly vulnerable immigrants and people in exile, who appreciate a lot the offer. Leisure activities and very dynamic and pedagogic, that help them to be integrated in our society, as well as to have a wonderful time and disconnect from their hard everyday reality."*

*(social worker)*

## LEARNINGS

- ▶ It is an experience to involve people at risk of social exclusion by enabling them to attend performances or visit museums in a public and interesting environment
- ▶ Working with this groups gives the cultural sector an insight of what they really are there for
- ▶ To have a single window for booking cultural performances for the social sector is a leisure resource that simplifies the work of social workers

## FUTURE / TIPS

- ▶ Improve the training of social workers as well as the training of cultural workers
- ▶ Increase the number of museums and exhibition centres involved in the programme