

«Carano 4 Children »
non-profit foundation



“Amor omnia vincit”

Annual Report 2021

“Leonardo 4 Children 2021: Climate Action & Gender Equality”

*Philanthropic non-profit initiative engaging children and young people in Europe on
Climate Action & Gender Equality
and to support children in need through art & science.*



Leonardo Carano © 2018

Leonardo 4 Children

“Every child can be a genius”

www.carano4children.org

Executive summary

For children, families and teachers, 2021 was another very challenging year after 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We empathise with children distanced from friends, precluded from attending classes in school and in some cases suffering the loss of relatives.

This gave us renewed energy to pursue our new Leonardo 4 Children awards on Climate Action & Gender Equality as a 3rd edition of the “Leonardo 4 Children” non-profit initiative, with the patronage of the European Commissioner for European Economic and Social Committee, the European Committee of the Regions, and Tuscany Region and the endorsement of the late David Sassoli (President of the European Parliament) and Frans Timmermans (Executive Vice President of the European Commission). We saw an opportunity to give children a chance to engage and develop new creative skills in such a difficult context.

We are glad that the awards and events attracted hundreds of participants across Europe, and were pleased to award 10 winners for the "Fables on Climate Action & Gender Equality", 10 winners for the "Art & Science on Climate Action & Gender Equality" competition. The awards saw the participation of **609 children and teenagers** despite the lockdown. We managed to organise an outstanding award ceremony and concert in Brussels and remotely in a hybrid format on October 1st 2021, with the patronage of the European Parliament and the support of Fondazione CRT. The event saw the participation of several children, teachers and parents, several music talents and was attended by 300 people (the maximum authorized capacity given Covid restrictions). The event included also an interactive workshop with more than 250 participants on the topic of climate action including sessions on carbon in the sky, nature sustainability quiz game, and interactive game on responsible consumption. This brings the total number of Leonardo 4 Children events to 10 since end 2018 when the initiative was launched.

In the preparation of 2022 awards, we decided to extend the “Leonardo 4 Children” initiative for 2022 to also the topic of peace, on top of the climate and gender equality, enable **girls and boys to become the new “Leonardo” of the 21st century by addressing important global issues.**

The resources collected since 2019 - through concerts and books – have been entirely dedicated to providing educational support on the arts and science to children in need, especially orphans, abandoned, sick or refugees in projects selected through a public call: in Jordan (in cooperation with UNICEF), Kenya (in cooperation with Action for Children in Conflict), Ukraine (in cooperation with Charity May), Florence (in cooperation with pediatric hospital Meyer), Kyrgyzstan (in cooperation with Oasis) ,Turin (in cooperation with MUS-E

and the Menuhin Foundation), Ivory Coast (in cooperation with UNICEF) thus creating a solidarity and cultural bond between children and young people of greater and lesser opportunities, especially between European and non-European children, showing that everyone has the potential to create and become "genius".

We are very grateful to the many institutions and bodies that support this initiative, the members of the Advisory Board, the Ambassadors, the Jury members and the children and young people who have taken part in the competitions, as well as their teachers and parents.

1. Governance and organisation

The "Carano 4 Children" foundation was founded in March 2018 as non-profit private foundation registered in Belgium, in memory of Luigi Carano and Erika Ciancaleoni, two married aeronautical engineers working in Alenia Aeronautica, who both died prematurely at the end of 2005. The foundation aims to help children in difficulty, especially orphans or abandoned children, and to help children to develop their potential and their artistic and scientific skills.

In 2021, we promoted our Code of Conduct and child safeguarding policy developed in collaboration with the Keeping Children Safe Coalition (www.keepingchildrensafe.global).

In 2021, the foundation has become **EU Climate Ambassador** as part of the EU Climate Pact launched by the European Commission.

The foundation started a project to develop the **Impact Assessment** framework of the Leonardo 4 Children initiative, in collaboration with the University Institute of European Studies of Turin, EY company and Philippe Cousteau Foundation, supported by Compagnia di San Paolo.

2. Beneficiary projects

In 2021 focus has been given to continue support and monitoring the beneficiary projects identified since 2019:

1. Children's education, building of school's classrooms with recycled plastic and empowering women in Ivory Cost, with partner UNICEF



2. Art, theatre & science for children living in the suburbs of Nairobi, Kenya, with partners "Action for Children in Conflict" (AfCiC) and "Fondazione Pianoterra"



In the context of the pandemic crisis and to mitigate the negative consequences on the poverty, education and family conditions of the children in the suburbs of Nairobi, we are supporting the crowdfunding campaign launched by Action for Children in Conflict:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/raccolta-fondi-per-action-for-children-in-conflict>

3. Art and science for orphans and abandoned children in Ukraine, with partner “Charity May”



Vladislav* and Danilo*, two boys living in the Lyubystok orphanage, were provided with materials for creative art activities. They were able to participate in the art competition along with children from many schools in Europe. This has enabled them to build confidence and self-esteem.

* Not their real names

4. Support to children in hospital via play-therapy, Florence, Italy, with partner “Meyer foundation”



5. Support to children in schools in suburban areas via art and music, in

cooperation with MUS-E Turin, Italy



6. Art and music for children in refugee camps in Jordan (“Makani”), with partner UNICEF



7. Support to orphans and abandoned children and care-leavers in Kyrgyzstan, with partner “Oasis”



Information on the **progress** and the **impact** of these projects is publicly available on the website: <https://carano4children.org/beneficiaries>

3. Leonardo 4 Children initiative

The "Leonardo 4 Children" initiative has been launched by the Carano 4 Children Foundation at the end of 2018, with the support of several partners, with the aim of stimulating the creativity of European children and young people and helping children in need through

educational projects on the arts and science, on the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci (1519-2019) and the 30th anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of the Child (1989-2019). Leonardo da Vinci's can be a great example to stimulate the creativity of children and young people, and specifically his little-known fables can illustrate to young generations the value of knowledge of nature, competence, modesty, respect and solidarity towards others.

We are pleased that the initiative has received the **Medal of the President of the Republic of Italy**, the support of **UNESCO**, the patronage of the **European Commission**, the **European Parliament**, the **Italian Committee** for the celebration of 500 years since the death of Leonardo da Vinci, the **Regions of Tuscany, Lombardy and Centre Val de Loire**, the **Ambrosiana Library** in Milan, the **Leonardian Museum** of Vinci, the **municipality of Vinci** and the **Royal Museums of Turin**.

The initiative has been promoted by the non-profit foundation "Carano 4 Children", in partnership with **European Schoolnet**, which brings together all the Ministries of Education of the European Member States, the **Philippe Cousteau foundation**, **Europa In Canto**, the **Yehudi Menuhin Foundation**, **MUS-E Italia**, **University Institute of European Studies Turin**, **Cultura Italiae**, **Operamus**, **Teatro Pubblico Pugliese**, **Per il Meglio della Puglia**.

4. "Leonardo 4 Children 2021: Climate Action & Gender Equality" awards

Within the framework of the "Leonardo 4 Children" initiative, the following **competitions** took place in 2021 on a European scale, open to residents of the 27 EU Member States:

1. "Fables on Climate Action & Gender Equality" for 6-12 years old children



The children aged 6-12 across the EU had to interpret the issue of climate change, environmental sustainability and gender equality via an original fable, illustrated with a comic strip.

There were 502 participants from 9 Member States, with 88 original works, and the ten winning fables are published on the website.

Webinars took place with the winners and the certificate was sent and handed over to winners.

2. “Art & Science on Climate Action & Gender Equality” for 13-18 years old teenagers

Children aged 13-18 years, using multidisciplinary and creative skills, had to design an original inspiring work and helps to address the issue of climate change. The work had to integrate 2 themes: an artistic theme (a choice between music, drawing & painting, sculpture, architecture & design, fashion, dance) and a scientific theme (a choice between climate & environment, aeronautics & space, energy, information technology & telecommunications, mechanics & transport, biology). Such work could for example consist of a drawing, a story or a poem, a song, a video, etc.

There were 107 participants from 8 Member States and 2 non Member States, with 41 original works, and the ten winning ones are published on the website.

Webinars took place with the winners and the certificate was sent and handed over to the winners.

Results:

The competitions closed end May 2021 for “Fables on Climate Action & Gender Equality” and “Art & Science on Climate Action & Gender Equality” while “Fables in Music” closed mid-September, with the participation of 609 children and young people from 13 EU countries and 2 non-EU countries with 129 original and creative works addressing Climate Change and Gender Equality. Considering the closure of the majority of schools and the pilot nature of the competitions on Climate, this can be considered an excellent outcome.

The works with the best scoring in each competition received the following awards and recognition:

- “Leonardo 4 Children” award certificate;
- Invitation to the award ceremony
- participation in workshops and artistic or scientific experiences
- publication on website, social media and promotional material;
- exhibition in public places and at events, and publication in “Leonardo 4 Children” book (postponed due to COVID).

5. “Leonardo 4 Children” Events

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, and in full respect of the applicable rules and social distancing, we managed to organise the main event in the form of a concert to promote the works of the winners of the competitions, promote young music talents, and raise funds for children in need through art and science education, in collaboration with several partners. The expenses incurred for the organisation of the concert were covered by the foundation, and we are grateful to the European Parliament for offering the patronage.

- **Concert and Award Ceremony in Brussels and remotely, 1st October 2021**
 - Participants: 300
 - Welcome speeches by Italian Ambassador to Belgium F. Genuardi, Director General for Climate of European Commission M. Petriccione, former President of the European Economic and Social Committee L. Jahier, Secretary General of Fondazione CRT M. Lapucci;
 - Presentation of the Leonardo 4 Children initiative;
 - Announcement of the winners of the competitions for children and young people;
 - Classical music concert with the participation of Young Orchestra in Erba, Ayumi Nabata, Erika Zoi, Carmine Padula, Victoria Nava;
 - Patronage: UNESCO, European Parliament, European Committee of the Regions; European Economic and Social Committee;

- **Webinars to promote the competitions in schools, Feb-Mar 2021**

- **Workshop with children who participated in the competitions, teachers and beneficiary children, and Award ceremony, Brussels (and remotely), 1st October 2021, with the patronage of the European Parliament**
 - Participants: 250
 - Interactive session “The Sky in Me” on carbon levels in your sky, by Anais Tondeur, in cooperation with European Commission Joint Research Center
 - Interactive session on climate and art “Quiz on Climate Action in the Love Labyrinth by Marina Calamai, Florence
 - “Future Skills” workshop on responsible consumption, by Federica Roccisano, Morné Du Toit, EY Ripples initiative

6. “Leonardo 4 Children” Book

The book “Leonardo 4 Children” aims to stimulate the creative potential of children with art and science and raise funds for children in need.

This publication issued in 2021, available on the website at the price of € 15, includes the works of the 2020 and 2021 awards on climate and gender equality. In addition, the “Leonardo 4 Children” book issued in 2019 includes the 12 selected fables of Leonardo da Vinci in English, French and Italian and the works of the winners of the first edition.

During the year 2021, the Foundation distributed approximately 700 books, of which 300 to Leonardo Company SpA.

The net funds raised by the book, which is offered to institutional entities, foundations, private companies, schools, etc are entirely dedicated in favour of children education in art and science in the selected beneficiary projects.