

 **AYCH**

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YOUTH

AND

PARTNERS

EDITION '23

INTRODUCTION

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Head of Municipal Division INVEST Santo Tirso

The European Project Atlantic Youth Creative Hubs (AYCH) – Extension and Capitalisation, financed by Call 3 of Interreg Atlantic Area, to be developed until July 2023, aims to capitalize and disseminate the successful methodologies developed in the previous AYCH (Call 2, implemented from October 2017 to May 2021), but also to implement new pilots in the area of Entrepreneurship and Youth Employability, throughout the Atlantic Area in the Cultural and Creative Sector.

Santo Tirso Municipality, as a Lead Partner, is very proud to talk about the European AYCH partnership, and about their developed international networking, which through a network of hubs encourages the sharing of knowledge, experiences and resources and stimulates the development of youth creativity.

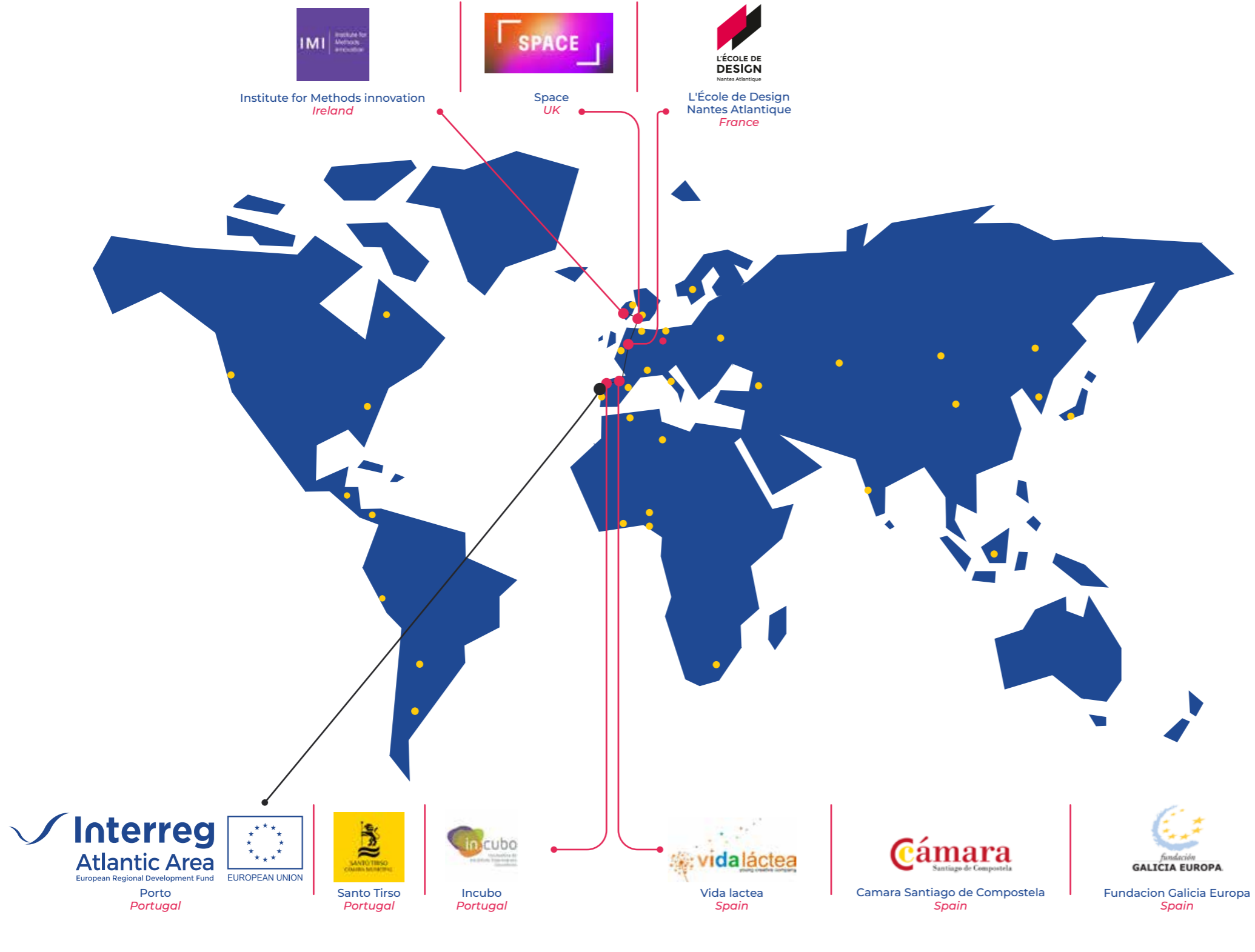
During different events, the AYCH partnership brought together young people, partners, specialists, mentors, stakeholders and jury members from 5 countries on the Atlantic Area, mobilizing and involving participants from Portugal, France, Spain, United Kingdom and Ireland for an intense creative processes around subjects considered strategic for the Atlantic Area via “Sustainable Development Goals”.

We want to share this experience and so invite you to enjoy this Magazine, so that you can become aware of our AYCH vision and educational values, and our different partners who engage with young people to explore and develop new ideas in new creative processes of co-creation and co-experimentation.



All participants and partners of the International Creative Jam that took place at L'École de design Nantes Atlantique, France, 10,11,12 May 2023

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LEAD & FOUNDING PARTNER

SANTO TIRSO
PORTUGAL

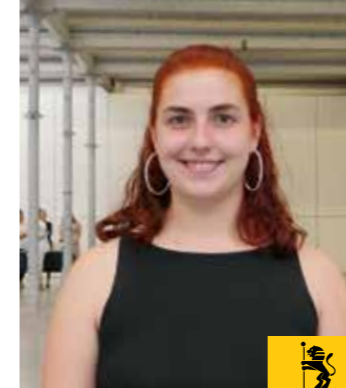


“ Santo Tirso Municipality is a public entity that makes up the administrative organization of the State, **INVEST Santo Tirso Municipal Division (DMIST)**, positioned as **INVEST Santo Tirso**, is responsible for executing the **AYCH – Atlantic Youth Creative Hubs project**.

Santo Tirso Municipality, was an active partner in the implementation process of the AYCH project within the scope of **Call2, of Interreg Atlantic Area**. The successes and testimonies evidenced by our young people and entrepreneurs, contributed to the approval of the current project - **AYCH: Extension and Capitalization** (Call 3 of the Interreg Atlantic Area). We are currently the **Lead Partner** for this project, managing and monitoring the physical and financial execution of the project, as well as coordinating the activities of the 8 partners

Santo Tirso Municipality, through **INVEST Santo Tirso**, has been participating in all activities of the project, which is composed by 5 groups of actions-coordination and management, communication, capitalization, connection and new pilots. In addition to the Lead Partner activities, we are developing a very structuring activity that represents a **New AYCH Pilot** which is the **Innovation Missions Program for Young People**. We also carried out an **AYCH Tour** at the VI Exhibition of Education and Training while also actively participated in the **International Creative Jam in Nantes**.

YOUTH PARTICIPANT



BRUNA ALMEIDA

21, Portugal.

What do you do ?

I work as an orthodontic appliance technician, I studied Languages and Humanities. Then I pursued a fashion design course, and now I'm learning a pattern making and sewing.

What do you like to do?

In my free time, I enjoy going for walks with my dog and spending time with my friends, family, and my partner. I also love drawing and upcycling transformations on my clothing.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

I wake up full of energy and go to work. In the afternoon, I dedicate my time to sewing and preparing my clothing brand for launch, after dinner I usually grab a coffee with friends.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

I am participated in the “Youth Innovation Missions Program” at Fábrica Santo Thyrso Hub. And I have attended webinars, workshops, and thematic laboratories, and in each session of this project, I feel that I have learned a lot and made my project even more special and sustainable. The International Creative Jam in Nantes, was also a very interesting experience. It allowed me to enhance my English skills, interact with young people from other countries, and explore a new city. It is an enriching experience because it provides us with the opportunity to work on our entrepreneurial skills in a project dedicated to addressing societal challenges present worldwide.

What are your aspirations in life?

What I really want to do in life is to manage a clothing brand, which I have already started taking the first steps towards, as it has always been my dream. Additionally, I want to specialize more and more in every aspect of the fashion industry to deepen my skills as a designer and brand manager.



FOUNDING PARTNER

VIDA LACTEA
SPAIN



Vida Lactea is a private company that works with the development of Galicia and therefore participates in projects of entrepreneurship with programs that facilitate creativity, mobility and Europe. Lug Open Factory is a flexible space and a comprehensive creativity based project in Galicia, Spain. This centre is based on a communal model of four European countries through the AYCH Project which is a social binder of International creative young experiences.

Vida Lactea has been the founding partner of AYCH since the time of its conception. It is also managing communication ever since. Apart from the activities of communication, Vida Lactea has also been facilitating various events like the AYCH Tours, Aych Local Creative Jams, Youth Missions, Open Labs, Roadmaps as well as International Creative Jams, Playing active role in both the organization and dissemination, Vida Lactea is an ever enthusiastic partner, always up for Innovation, Current Challenges and Young People

YOUTH PARTICIPANT



AMINA

24, Spain.

What do you do ?

I am currently an IVY Volunteer for AYCH at Vida Lactea.

What do you like to do?

My hobbies are drawing, painting, dancing, sewing, learning languages, going to museums or art exhibitions and playing sports with my friends.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

I work 9-5 job in the communication department of Vida Lactea, After work I usually go for walk in the city or spend time with my flatmates on rainy days

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

It has been a constant discovery for me. I truly like the project itself and my tasks here. I got to know new things about the European Atlantic area in general, and more specifically about Galicia and its culture. My overall experience with AYCH has been wonderful so far, thanks to this project I got to find out new professional skills that I didn't know I had, not to mention that I got to participate in so many cool events and initiatives.

What are your aspirations in life?

I am quite a spontaneous person, as I always say, my life is a little bit of a freestyle, so I wouldn't say that I have some very concrete or precise aspirations. I've been involved in European projects and volunteering since I was 16 years old, so it's clear that humanitarianism and values such as solidarity, sustainability, preservation of the environment, non-discrimination and human rights are particularly important for me.

ALEJANDRO

23, Spain

What do you do ?

I am a Physical Education teacher and a surfer

What do you like to do?

I like to Sail, socialize and participate in innovative and educative events or missions.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

An ordinary day of mine looks like something you never planned, an improvised day. I am a "spur-in-the-moment" kind of guy, always on my feet, ready for new adventures everyday.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

It was an enriching event that has helped me to be more confident and helped my public speaking

What are your aspirations in life?

My aspirations in life are to grow as a teacher and show my knowledge to as many people as possible.



FOUNDING PARTNER

SPACE
UK



“Space Youth Services is a youth service charity based in the county of Devon, UK. We work with young people where they are to unlock their potential. That means working with **formal and informal education, in the community, with youth business providers, in person and online, and with volunteer organisations** across the country.

Space Youth Services has been a part of AYCH since its inception. Our first responsibility within AYCH has always been **to the young people we work with, to provide wide ranging and impactful opportunities to explore creativity and entrepreneurship.** We have been keen collaborators in all things AYCH and are excited to pass on our learning to the new partners in the project.

We have participated in all **4 International Creative Jams** and hosted **3 Local Creative Jams**; facilitated **incubations and youth missions** across Devon and online; used our Fab Lab to prototype new ideas; connected with local organisations as part of the **AYCH Tours**; and worked in collaboration with the AYCH partners to deliver a variety of exciting creative projects for the young people of Devon and beyond.

YOUTH PARTICIPANT



CORY RONCHETTI

23, United Kingdom.

What do you do ?

I am a freelance graphics designer.

What do you like to do?

I am a super nerd & sneakerhead. I like Marvel, Movies, Sciences.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

Due to my disability, an ordinary day is different to most people I work for about four hours on graphic design commissions, get out of the house for some inspiration to the park or the beach, and dive into my interests.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

My time with AYCH was a positive one, it got me thinking about a lot of things in a new way, and it helped me see things from a different perspective. My experience has been one of personal/professional growth, and one of collaboration. I worked on business and entrepreneurship to gain knowledge and to think creatively. I created a business model and worked on my business plan to find new clients and build a network and visibility And I also supported another young entrepreneurial group, by creating a logo for their podcast.

What are your aspirations in life?

To have a successful graphic design career. To make positive change. To change the way people think about physical disability...and become a millionaire.



DEVON T

19, United Kingdom.

What do you do ?

I am a freelance IT and Software developer.

What do you like to do?

I love Fighting computer games both new and retro. Walking and being outdoors. Being creative with Lego.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

I like a good morning walk in my local valley, finding somewhere quiet to read. When I get home I look through my projects and start working on them. In the evening I am either relaxing gaming or volunteering with Space.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

I learnt a lot about business, working as a team, It has helped me with my social anxiety. AYCH and the Youth Participants involved, are all very supportive and inclusive. It's helped me with my studies working in a team and focusing on a project.

What are your aspirations in life?

I am passionate in supporting YP's and using the skills I have to inspire them. I hope to grow my freelance business over the coming years.

FOUNDING PARTNER

L'ÉCOLE DE DESIGN NANTES ATLANTIQUE

FRANCE



L'École de design Nantes Atlantique is a private, non-profit association that trains professionals in creation and innovation through initial and continuing education. A pioneer in addressing the shift in technological, societal and environmental contexts, it has a unique position, considering design as a strategic discipline at the service of a responsible and sustainable world.

L'École de design has been a part of AYCH since its inception. It has played an active role in defining the **support sites and implementing the tools throughout the development of projects**, including their **deployment and replicability, design tools, methodologies and active participation from students** of the school into various activities.

As a design school, we have assisted to different **International Creative Jams** and hosted the recent **International jam**. We have actively hosted **Local Creative Jams** and facilitated **incubations and youth missions** with our students and online; Using the different workshop spaces available, we prototyped distinct tools and methodologies over the years. We have actively participated in **different AYCh Tours as well**.

YOUTH PARTICIPANT



Jia FENG

41, China.

What do you do ?

I am a student in the day at L'École de Design and a coding and prototyping teacher for young kids by evening.

What do you like to do?

I like scuba diving, cooking, gardening, exploring and learning new things, different cultures, means of communication and charity work.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

Morning walk, design school, prototype in labs, go back home teach kids coding, go to my part time job and finally back home.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

It has been very nice important experience, I met different people from different countries, there is this interculturality and sharing of ideas, perspectives and thoughts and also shortcomings in my AYCH experience.

What are your aspirations in life?

My aspiration is to make more people understand and know that young people have the capacity to change the world. I would also like to continue to do my charity work around the subjects of kids and young adults.

Lauryne Houndji



21, Benin

What do you do ?

I am a student currently at L'École de Design Nantes Atlantique, and before I was a student in Digital design at Africa Design School.

What do you like to do?

I like music, singing, dancing, watching movies, painting and drawing.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

My ordinary day starts with school, doing some freelance in digital design and cooking.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

The AYCH Experience has been very good, I got to learn a lot by meeting different people, communicating with them, learning something from them and also contributing from my side. I learnt different design tools and methodology and also participating in AYCH helped me build my confidence.

What are your aspirations in life?

My aspiration in life is to be an African Designer recognised in the world and to share my culture via my work.

NEW PARTNER

IN.CUBO
PORTUGAL



In.Cubo, Incubator of Innovative Business Initiatives was created by **ACIBTM, Association for the Technology-Based Incubation Center**, it has engaged in the **construction, management and operation of In.Cubo** as well as creating conditions for the **development of Business plans** and to host projects of R&D, particularly for technology-based companies that promote and disseminate the innovation within the economic base in their territory coverage.

In.cubo's integration into AYCH has been recent by the hand of S. Tirso Municipal, this allowed us to create a new front of action, **Youth Entrepreneurship**. By which it was possible to apprehend **new tools to act** before a specific but very demanding target and also able to provide to the **young people the contact with the reality of other countries**, exchange experiences with other young entrepreneurs, and the **possibility of exploring various concepts** of relevance in today's times such as **sustainability and circular economy**.

With In.cubo we have facilitated our own Local creative Jam this year and have actively participated with our youth Participants in the international creative jam held in Nantes.

YOUTH PARTICIPANT



NUNO MAGALHÃES

20, Portugal.

What do you do ?

I am a Management course finalist at University Portucalense.

What do you like to do?

Some of my favourite hobbies are cycling, reading and hang out with friends.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

A normal day in my life is to go to class, read some book, gym and study various subjects, other days I also go to the internship.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

The experience in the AYCH project was extraordinary, providing me with the opportunity to meet people from different countries and exchange ideas and knowledge with them.

This project awakened in me an even greater desire to explore the world, to meet new people and brilliant minds and I realized that the potential of human connections transcends geographical and cultural boundaries.

What are your aspirations in life?

I aspire to have a successful career working in my field of interest and to feel fulfilled.



BEATRIZ PERESTRELO

21, Portugal.

What do you do ?

I am a finalist student of the degree in Management.

What do you like to do?

I like to spend my time listening to music, gym and reading.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

A normal day in my life is going to the university, taking classes, going to the internship to work and finally, at the end of the day, relaxing doing something I like, like watching a series.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

I had a wonderful experience with AYCH, specifically during the creative jam I participated in Nantes, France. It was an incredible opportunity to connect with various individuals and explore different perspectives.

It greatly enhanced my critical thinking skills, as I was exposed to new ideas and ways of thinking, challenged me to critically analyse situations and approach problems from different angles. AYCH significantly boosted my creativity and helped me develop my entrepreneurial mindset.

NEW PARTNER

CAMARA
SPAIN



“ Camara Santiago de Compostella is a chamber of commerce that has been actively participating in the AYCH Journey since January 2023.

The Santiago de Compostela Chamber of Commerce organizes an **incubation service for young entrepreneurs in the creative sector and training of ambassadors**. We work to attract new ambassador partners for the project and offer an incubation program for young entrepreneurs.economy.

In this incubation program **individualized advice** is given to entrepreneurs with different projects that **provide solutions to real challenges**. This program includes specific training to work on the **different points of a business plan**. We also carry out **creative workshops** aimed at transforming the city from different themes. In addition, we have given training sessions on communication aimed at the network of entrepreneurs of the AYCH project, Until now we have hosted and participated in **AYCH Tours, Aych LCJ, ICJ, Workshops, Roadmaps, incubation program and ambassador training**.

YOUTH PARTICIPANT



SARA CASTRO

21, Spain.

What do you do ?

I am an IVY Volunteer, AYCH Project with the Chamber of Santiago de Compostela.

What do you like to do?

I love traveling and getting to know new cultures, to learn new languages, reading books, music and I play the ukelele.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

A normal day in my life is to go to work at Camara, going back home to eat, study and work on my final degree project. I also go meet some friends and go to the gym whenever I can.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

Being an IVY Volunteer in the AYCH project allowed me to see first-hand how a large-scale project is managed, to better understand the purposes of this project and to know the impact that the AYCH project has on young people, this experience has allowed me to gain professional experience at the end of my degree, especially in the management of European projects

What are your aspirations in life?

I have a degree in Economics and my goal is to be able to work in a field related to my studies. I am interested above all in the international arena.



SOFÍA MAQUIEIRA

22, Spain.

What do you do ?

I am currently a music teacher at an international school and a piano teacher at a music school.

What do you like to do?

I love attending talks and conferences related to personal development, education, and psychology be it emotions or behaviour studies, creating music, entrepreneurship..etc.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

During the school year I dedicate my mornings to studying a little piano, going to the gym, creating content for Social Networks and preparing activities for my students, and in the afternoons I teach. Currently I am working on my Vima Care project. I also like spending time with my family and friends.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

My experience at AYCH has been very good, since it has opened a door for me to a place of learning and new fun experiences with people who are also interested in the world of entrepreneurship, something that is not found every day!

What are your aspirations in life?

My goals in life are related to being able to grow up and feel like I made the most of all the opportunities that life gave me, and not have the feeling that I have stopped doing something because of fear

NEW PARTNER

IMI
IRELAND



IMI, Institute for Methods Innovation Ireland is a **Scientific, non-profit educational institute**. Founded in 2017, the Institute for Methods Innovation is a scientific, charitable and non-profit institute that delivers education and research to improve standards and quality of social scientific research, evaluation and innovation evidence for public benefit.

IMI is part of the extension of the AYCH project in 2023. "We are **responsible for expanding project activities to Ireland**, which is part of the Interreg Atlantic Area. We participated in the International Creative Jam in Nantes, France, in May 2023 and are responsible for hosting the AYCH events in Ireland".

IMI has facilitated **Local Creative Jam Ireland, AYCH incubation programme Ireland, AYCH Ambassador programme and AYCH Tour Ireland.**

YOUTH PARTICIPANT



DYLAN LLOYD

19, United Kingdom.

What do you do ?

I am a student in education.

What do you like to do?

I'm particularly passionate about history, art, gaming, cooking, and even sewing. I find joy in exploring these hobbies whenever I can.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

A typical day for me is a balance between pursuing my hobbies and attending lessons with my in-person tutors. I try to make the most of my time by engaging in activities.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

I had the pleasure of participating in the AYCH's Local Creative Jam, and it was truly a wonderful experience. It allowed me to engage with other individuals who share similar interests and taught me valuable teamwork skills. It was a positive impact on me, significantly boosted my creativity and helped me develop my entrepreneurial mindset.

What are your aspirations in life?

I've always been captivated by history, so becoming a historian would be a dream come true. I also have a deep love for art and would be thrilled to pursue a career in that field.



CATHAL MCFARLAND

20, Ireland.

What do you do ?

I currently study Digital business and innovation at Dublin City University.

What do you like to do?

I enjoy basketball, chess and I have a passion for technology application in business.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

A day in my life varies but I always try to improve and progress in sport, education, entrepreneurship or work.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

My experience with AYCH has been eye opening. AYCH has enabled me to build and apply insights from my current studies and past experiences as an entrepreneur. The program has enhanced my perspective of the world and improved key individual and group thinking skills.

What are your aspirations in life?

I have ambitions to further enhance my perspective in the areas of Business, Finance, Technology and Education going forward.

NEW PARTNER

FUNDACION GALICIA EUROPA

SPAIN, BRUXELLES



“ **Fundación Galicia Europa (FGE)** was established in 1988 for the purpose of setting up a Galician delegation in Brussels and furthering the **rapprochement between Galicia and Europe**. Today it is a **non-profit institution part of the regional public sector** mandated by the Xunta de Galicia to **represent the regional government before the EU organs and institutions**.

The work of the **FGE** is directed towards **two main aims**: better **communication of community action in Galicia and the advocacy for Galician interests** at the European level. FGE is part of the **extension of the AYCH project** in 2023 as a New Partner. And is focussed as a support for the **AYCH Capialisation**.

FGE has participated in the **AYCH Tour in Galicia, Creative Jam in Galicia, The International Creative Jam in Nantes** and hosted the **Final Aych Capitalization summit in Brussels**.

”

YOUTH PARTICIPANT



CARLA GONZÁLEZ BARREIROS

22, Galicia, Spain.

What do you do ?

I have a degree in Political Science and Administration.

What do you like to do?

I have always enjoyed playing sports and it is something I do on a regular basis. I also like singing, dancing and I enjoy travelling a lot and learning languages.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

I usually do university work or courses that I find interesting. I also like to make time for sports and plans with my friends.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

I participated in the Local Creative Jam held in the Chamber of Commerce of Santiago de Compostela, and I am also an ambassador for AYCH. Being part of AYCH has affected me positively; it has given me the opportunity to share ideas, concerns, projects and opinions with other young people with whom I have debated and created prototypes.

What are your aspirations in life?

Today, my aspirations are to continue my education and learn new skills and knowledge in different areas.



GUSTAVO JUAN ÁLVAREZ CASTRO

25, Spain.

What do you do ?

I'm a former European affairs trainee at the Brussels Office of the Representation of Galicia (Fundación Galicia Europa) and I will start the BlueBook internship at the European Commission in October.

What do you like to do?

I enjoy nature, sports, music festivals and backpacking and traveling.

What does an ordinary day in your life look like?

A day in my life is waking up, going to work, doing some sport, to check volunteering associations emails, read, sleep and repeat.

What has been your experience with AYCH? How did it affect you?

My experience with AYCH has been quite interesting. I had the opportunity to host an AYCH event, I was also keen on meeting participants and understanding their creative brainstorming dynamics.

What are your aspirations in life?

My aspiration is to become an EU Ambassador in South East Asia while being close to my family and friends.

My motivation: Being in contact and promoting Galician and EU youth led initiatives.



