

The Focus-Abengoa Foundation celebrates International Book Day with various cultural activities

- Visitors were able to view *Palacio de San Telmo (The Palace of San Telmo)*, along with Cañal Vicente Lleó, professor in Art History.
- In collaboration with Engranajes Culturales, dramatized visits where attendees were able learn about headquarters of the Focus-Abengoa Foundation in a unique way.
- The foundation also hosted a reading of *Don Quixote*.

Sevilla, April 23, 2016.- The Focus-Abengoa Foundation has joined events to celebrate International Book Day by organizing various cultural activities, with the aim of bringing access to culture to the whole community.

For example, a talk by Professor in Art History Vicente Lleó, dedicated to the nineteenth century painting *Palacio de San Telmo (The Palace of San Telmo)*, by cartoonist Alfred Guesdon. The work can be visited until April 29 (from 10 to 14) at the Baroque Library. *See Sevilla*, by the Focus-Abengoa Foundation, opens to the public its Room of Engravings with a selection of its major works. Thus, during the month of May, will run the print *La Giralda engalanada* (1672), by Matías de Arteaga.

Moreover, during the day dedicated to International Book Day, the Focus-Abengoa Foundation, through its educational area Focus Educa and in collaboration with the organization Engranajes Culturales and the Association of Schools of Languages of Andalusia, held a collective reading of various passages of the work *Don Quixote* by Miguel de Cervantes, whose date of death, together with that of other figures of world literature, serves to commemorate International Book Day.

Visitors also had the opportunity to discover the hidden corners of the Hospital de los Venerables and history of the building through dramatized historical tours, starring Bartolomé Esteban Murillo and Marshal Soult, which tells how in the nineteenth century, the work *The Penitent Saint Peter* was plundered and taken to Paris. The work, done by the Sevillian painter for the Hospital de los Venerables, can be visited again today in the Focus-Abengoa Foundation.



The Focus-Abengoa Foundation

The Focus-Abengoa Foundation was created in 1982 as a result of the cultural work begun in 1972 by Abengoa with the publication of the works *Temas Sevillanos* and *Iconografía de Sevilla* (*Themes of Seville* and *Iconography of Seville*). A collection of documents, books and engravings on the Kingdom of Seville and by Sevillian authors was created during the same period. This initial cultural work showed Abengoa's directors the importance of the company's involvement in activities that directly benefit society, beyond the firm's core technology work, which led to the creation of the Seville Cultural Fund Foundation. Following the acquisition of Velázquez's *Santa Rufina* by the Foundation in 2007, the Hospital de los Venerables, a 17th century monument and the headquarters of the Focus-Abengoa Foundation in Seville, has housed the *Diego Velázquez Research Centre*, a leading institution for studying and disseminating the Baroque era and the Sevillian period of this universally renowned artist.

Attention to this crucial moment of the Golden Age is completed with the legacy of Professor Alfonso E. Pérez Sánchez, received by the Foundation in 2011. Consisting of his library, photo library, archive and collection of artworks, its cataloging is enabling to create a library specializing in Baroque art and culture. This entire heritage is spread by Focus Educa, our area of education, by means of which we raise awareness and bring culture closer to society.

<http://focus.abengoa.es/>

For more information:

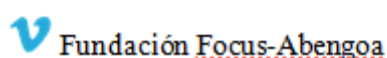
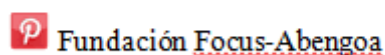
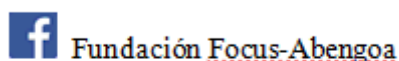
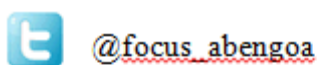
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