

The happy side of multi-visceral transplant at the XXI World Transplant Games

From 13th June to 2nd July, an exhibition at Alcazabilla Street will show pictures of children from the national association NUPA who have received a multiorgan transplant.

Malaga, 13th June 2017. As of today, and until 2nd July, Alcazabilla Street will exhibit 15 pictures to help raise awareness about organ donation and show us the positive side of transplant surgery, featuring children that have received a multi-visceral transplant having a normal life.

Thanks to the Spanish national association NUPA, aimed at helping children in need of a multi organ transplant and their families, photographer Ana Cruz captured the smile of these kids and their families in an attempt to show the other side of transplants: being able to have a normal life.

The organising committee of the XXI World Transplant Games decided to make this exhibition outdoors to give them further visibility. The exhibition will include an additional picture of Pablo Ráez, in recognition for his enormous awareness efforts throughout his life.

After their opening exhibition at La Paz Hospital in Madrid, we can now enjoy this tribute to life and this recognition to families experiencing this situation in Malaga. La Paz Hospital is the only centre in Spain dealing with this type of transplants in children.

The mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre, and two of the families appearing in the pictures attended the opening event, as well as the parents of Pablo Ráez, a symbol for transplant awareness and the guarding of these games, even after he sadly passed away a few months ago.

XXI World Transplant Games

The XXI World Transplant Games, hosted in Malaga and for the first time in Spain, has already broken a record, with 101 Spanish athletes. It is also the second edition with the highest number of registered athletes, accounting for 2,200.

These Games, which will take place from 25th June to 2nd July, will gather people from 52 countries, with the primary objective of raising awareness about the importance of organ donation to save lives.

The opening event of this exhibit was also a perfect occasion to call all citizens to come and see the games and to collaborate to raise awareness.

The XXI edition of the World Transplant Games will start on the 25th June with an opening ceremony at La Malagueta, the local bull ring, at 6.30 p.m. An open and free of charge even for anyone interested in attending, including the parade of nations, music shows and the traditional raising of the flag of the World Transplant Games Federation. There will also be a tribute to the guardian of these Games, Pablo Ruez, with a show titled Being strong.

During the week of the Games, there will be competitions in 17 sports disciplines. Two of them, paddle and kayak, are the new contributions of Malaga as the host city of the event.

Furthermore, up to ten different venues will host the competitions of the several disciplines, such as golf, basketball, athletics, lawn bowling, table tennis, tennis, squash, volleyball, cycling, badminton, bowling, kayak, darts, swimming, paddle, virtual triathlon and urban race. All competitions will be open to the general public so that everyone can enjoy them free of charge.

The World Transplant Games, organised by the City of Malaga and with the support of the regional government of Andalusia and the provincial government of Malaga, is a worldwide event that is held every two years. The importance of such an initiative not only lies in being a place where sport helps to foster integration but also in being an event that wants to raise awareness about organ donation.

This competition has been awarded the *Evento Sostenible* (Sustainable event) badge by the City of Malaga, as an event compliant with sustainability criteria that are planned and tested by the Municipal awareness programme called *¿¡Málaga cómo te quiero!?* (Malaga, I love you!). This badge involves a commitment for organisers, sponsors and participants to adopt strategies and actions to minimise the impact of these events in the city. Waste generation, recycling and use of sustainable means of transport to attend the event (public transport, bicycle or carsharing) are some of the factors being assessed to award this badge.