

Latest News from Fotokids

Fotokids currently has 105 students between the ages of 9 and 18. In Santiago, we have three groups with a total of 75 students, In Guatemala City, 30 students are divided into three groups.

Highlights

Introduction to Photography

Our Level 1 students learned about the history of photography. To bring this to life, our teachers created an interactive photography museum and a virtual tour, offering students a dynamic way to experience the evolution of photography. The Santiago team spent a month setting up an exhibit showcasing different cameras and the origins of “painting with light.” Each student also built their own pinhole camera—an exciting hands-on experience. I was fortunate to be in Santiago that week, and it was incredible to see the students’ enthusiasm as they experimented with their cameras.

Link to virtual Fotokids museum



- <https://www.artsteps.com/view/678eb7551a61c70e16b4ed1a>





Advanced Learning

Level 3 and Level 6 students worked with two specialized teachers—one for photography and one for design. Using DSLR cameras and Illustrator, they explored cubism-inspired masks, a creative project led by Chonita, the Level 3 instructor. Each student crafted a mask, which was later displayed in their classroom and used for portrait photography sessions.



Workshops with Experts

Our advanced students had the incredible opportunity to take a workshop with José Luis Méndez, a renowned Guatemalan commercial photographer. Not only did he teach valuable techniques, but he also invited select students to work alongside him for hands-on experience.

Innovative Learning

Across all groups, teachers have incorporated games and activities to make learning both engaging and relevant, integrating AI and the latest technology trends into the curriculum. They have implemented artificial intelligence apps to edit images and create sketches, showing students different possibilities and helping them make the most of the tool's technology has to offer.



Out-of-class cultural activities

Our city students took a trip to the Rosas Botrán Gallery, where they had the chance to explore and reflect on a wide range of artwork. These outings are thoughtfully planned by our teachers, who provide students with observation guides and spark discussions through questions and short surveys about what they see and how it makes them feel. Beyond simply viewing art, these experiences open the door to all kinds of creative expression. They help students appreciate professional work, discover different artistic techniques, deepen their cultural understanding, and most importantly — get inspired and stay motivated.



As part of our Mother's Day celebration, our Level 1 students created portraits of their moms — capturing not just their everyday surroundings, but also showing off the techniques they've learned during their first few months of class.



Professional Development & Partnerships



Our staff has been attending professional workshops led by **Picacia**, featuring renowned Guatemalan photographers specializing in product, food, and fashion photography, as well as studio lighting and documentary work. These sessions have not only enhanced their skills but also helped promote Fotokids. A key outcome was connecting with **Sony Guatemala's marketing manager**, who has offered exhibition support, product discounts, and potential collaborations. Other professionals have also offered their studios for student photo sessions and workshops.