

Case study

Celebrating local culture in Chile



Our Copper Business in Chile delivers an annual cultural program for the cities of Iquique and Antofagasta, and also includes activities in Santiago, Concepción and Valdivia. The program seeks to contribute to strengthening local identity, understanding and caring for heritage, promoting reading and writing, developing capabilities, and generating debate and ideas. Most of the activities are free-of-charge and take place in community centres, libraries, colleges, schools and other local facilities.

Culture is a central pillar of our social investment approach in Chile, which has enabled the support of many successful projects. Through this investment, we aim to increase the community's access to high-quality cultural activities and to foster cultural decentralisation, principally through innovative projects and activities, most of which are free-of-charge and broad in their coverage.

Our support of key events include a range of science, cultural and arts festivals and events

- The second Antofagasta Science Festival, organised by the Port of Ideas Foundation, took place in April 2015. The 32 activities held in different venues around the city attracted more than 10,000 people.
- The new Isluga textiles Room at the Regional Museum of Iquique, where some 100 pieces of Aymara textile art are displayed, is one of the latest of these collaboration projects. The initiative also included the delivery of a collection of books to Indigenous communities close to Cerro Colorado.

- In 2015, the Santiago a Mil performing arts festival in Antofagasta and Iquique presented 92 plays and shows, which were attended by more than 500,000 people.
- The Zicosur International Theatre Meeting in Antofagasta was attended by over 50,000 people.
- Chile's most popular short story competition, Santiago in 100 Words, launched in 2001. It received over 44,000 entries in 2014.
- The MAVi-Minera Escondida Young Artists Prize, created in 2006, seeks to generate and foster new talent in the visual arts.
- In 2014, columnist and writer Cristián Warnken spoke in-depth to people from different fields and disciplines at the Pensamiento Propio (Own Thinking) conversations.

More than 700,000 people, including spectators and competitors in different initiatives, participated in our annual cultural program in 2014.

Approximately 10 years ago, our Escondida Asset in Chile began a partnership with the Chilean Museum of Pre-Columbian Art in Santiago. The aim was to make Chile's rich Indigenous culture more accessible to the Chilean population. The relationship grew and a concept was developed for an exhibition space, 'Chile before Chile', hosting a collection of important artefacts representing the different cultures of the inhabitants who have lived in Chile for 15,000 years. The project was completed in early 2014, and the upgraded Museum includes a renewal of the previous exhibition galleries and a subterranean construction with a new gallery, deposits and laboratories.