

# Monica Aguilar V.



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## WORK EXPERIENCE

### Communitarian Labour

- 2025.** · Coordinator of the community project "Neighbours of the Machangara River". City Museums Foundation.
  - Fotofilia workshop process for "Sonrisas de Vida" Foundation in the Museum of Interactive Science.
  - Machangara River clean-up "Mingas" coordinator.
- 2023.** Fotofilia workshop and photobook design for FONAG's Quito Water Keepers.
- 2022.** Fotofilia workshop for CEPAM Women. Quito, EC.

### Curator, Pedagogue & Cultural Manager

#### RIVER SYMBOLS WORKSHOP & EXHIBITION

**2024 - 2025.** Creation, management, and development of the workshop "Symbols of the River" for children 2024. Curatorial concept, curatorship, exhibition, and graphic design for the collective exhibition SYMBOLS OF THE RIVER 2024-2025 at the Interactive Science Museum. Logistics and graphic design for the activities parallel to the exhibition.

#### VERTI/ENTES: THE RIVERS OF QUITO EXPO

**2024.** Curatorial concept, curatorship, exhibition design proposal, and graphic design for the collective exhibition Verti/Entes: The Rivers of Quito 2024 at the PUCE Cultural Center. Logistics, cultural management, and graphic design for the activities parallel to the exhibition.

#### SAMAYUIO CHILDREN'S ART WORKSHOP & EXPO

**2023 - 2024.** Creation, management, and development of a visual and sound pedagogy workshop for children aged 6 to 12 years from the city and their peers from the Chocó Andino. The result was visual and sound works created by the participants. Curatorship, exhibition design, and installation at Cumandá Urban Park.

### Cultural Project Manager

#### CONEQTALAB CULTURAL PROJECT

**2024.** Design, alignment and execution support of cultural projects in designated territories: Carapungo and Chocó Andino. Technical, logistical, and administrative support during the pre-production, production, and post-production stages of the projects. Review and finalization of reports. Assistance in project evaluation and sustainability planning.

## VISUAL ARTIST & PEDAGOGUE

I am a visual artist and educator focused on restoring humanity's emotional, mental, and spiritual connection with nature. Through visual arts, community engagement, and strategic storytelling, I create experiences that foster ecological awareness, cultural reconnection, and social well-being.

My work blends ecological purposes with creative innovation to generate meaningful, interdisciplinary dialogue and transformative public impact.

## EDUCATION

### PRIVATE UNIVERSITY OF LOJA, UTPL

**2025 - 2029.** Bachelor's degree in Psychology

### UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA

**JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 2022**

Postgraduate degree in Visual Pedagogy and Image Therapy. FOTOFILIA Project. Application of artistic photography techniques for the development and well-being of the self. Humanistic perspective. Visual educational methods.

### NODE CENTER, BERLÍN

**APRIL 2019 - MARCH 2021**

Diploma in Contemporary Artistic Photography. SAMAYUIO, THE SPIRIT OF THE QUITO RIVER Project. Development and promotion of artistic photographic projects.

### METROPOLITAN INSTITUTE OF DESIGN

**AUG. 2001 - FEBRUARY 2005**

Technology in Photographic Design. QUITO WITHOUT SHADOW Project. Training in graphic design based on the possibilities of photographic techniques. Website, communication and branding skills. Project development and visual communication.

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## RECOGNITIONS & GRANTS

### LUCIE AWARDS SUPPORT CATEGORY WINNER

2025. Photo Educator of the Year

### CO-CREATION GRANT WINNER

2025. "The Machangara River's Neighbours" project, to expand the river caring community in Quito's downtown. The City Museums Foundation. Quito, Ecuador.

### UNAM ACADEMIC PUBLICATION

#### SAMAYUIO, THE SPIRIT OF QUITO'S RIVER

2024. Academic research publication: Samayui, Spirit of Quito's River, in the Water Network of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, UNAM. Impluvium #25, pg. 38.

### OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

#### #BY QUITO: SAMAYUIO

2022 - 2023. Official Selection and residency to one of the 10 best cultural projects in Quito. Travesías, Camaleones, and SurEs programs for creative industries. Promoted and selected by OEI Ecuador, Secretaría de Cultura de Quito, and Tránsit Projectes. Barcelona, Spain.

#### IPA AWARDS: SAMAYUIO

2022. Official selection, Analog / Film, Fine Art category of the IPA Lucie Foundation Awards, USA.

#### FOTOSEPTIEMBRE: SAMAYUIO

2022. Official selection: digital Exhibitions category, Mexico International Photography Festival, Fotoseptiembre 2022. Centro de la Imagen.

### PRODUCTION GRANTS WINNER

#### SAMAYUIO, THE SPIRIT OF QUITO'S RIVER

2020. Augmented Reality Map. Winner of the publishing grant. FONAG (Quito Water Protection Fund). Quito, Ecuador.

2020. Digital Photographic Portfolio. Winner of the production grant by IFCI (Institute for the Promotion of Creativity and Innovation). Culture Ministry of Ecuador. Quito, Ecuador.

## PRESS

**America Vive** interview about *Fotofilia* Therapeutic Photography. February 2024. Quito - EC.

**RTVE Play Radio** interview about *Samayui*. April 2023. Madrid - Spain.

*Fotofilia* article publication in **Del Revés** Therapeutic Photography Magazine. April 2023. Barcelona - Spain.

*Samayui* publication in the best cultural projects of Quito dossier, 2023. Tránsit Projectes. April 2023. Barcelona - Spain.

Interviews and articles held in Spanish: <https://saokma.com/en/about/press/>

## EXHIBITIONS

### FOTOFILIA 2025.

Sara Palacios Gallery, Quito, due to the LUCIE AWARD PHOTO EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR.

### VERTI/ENTES: QUITO'S RIVERS, 2024.

#### SAMAYUIO, THE SPIRIT OF QUITO'S RIVER

Cultural Center of the Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador, Quito.

### TRAVELLING EXHIBITION 2023 - 2024

#### SAMAYUIO, THE SPIRIT OF QUITO'S RIVER

Official selection, part of the international photography festival of Mexico, Fotoseptiembre 2022. Touring through the zonal administrations of the Municipality of Quito.

### SOLO EXHIBITION 2021

#### SAMAYUIO, THE SPIRIT OF QUITO'S RIVER

Sara Palacios Gallery, Quito.