

## History

The Association of Choirs and Dances "Jovellanos" is constituted in Cultural Association in 1976 like continuation of the Group of "Choirs and Dances of Gijón", created in 1953, having between its aims the study, promotion, exhibition and the diffusion of Asturian folklore. It has participated in a lot of Festivals, as much by the national geography as international, between which it is possible to emphasize Puerto Rico (1976, 1988), Dominican Republic (1976), Italy (1977, 1999), France (1978, 1981, 2001, 2005), Mexico (1978, 2003), Portugal (1979, 1982), Country of Wales (1980), Poland (1981, 1994), Sweden (1983), Russia (1984), Brazil (1987), Egypt (1990), the United States (1992), Switzerland (1993), Germany (1996) and Turkey (2001). Also it has conquered important prizes in different international festivals, being First Prize and Prize to the best international set in the Festival of Llangollen (Country of Wales, 1980), Second and First Prize (1981 and 1994 respectively) (Gold Axe and Silver) in the Festival of Zakopane (Poland) in different or First Prize in the International from Cantonigrós (Catalonia). Account in its salary with the "Urogallo de Bronce" granted by the Asturian Center of Madrid like prize to its trajectory and defense of folclore Asturian. In 2006 and the month of December, the City council of Gijón in a Special plenary session granted the Silver medal to him from the City to this Association by its inapreciable good for making by folclore of the Region and take the name of the city everywhere during the sixty years of its foundation in the city of Gijón.

On 29th of December of 2.006, the Council of Gijón decided to give the Silver medal of the City to our Association in consideration in the long run task of diffusion of the dances which they have done the folklore of our town projecting it on diverse and distant places, also they have known the name of Gijón and the name of the universal illustrated one, which they shine like symbol.

Under the production of the Jovellanos Theater they have participated in the different representation of zarzuelas: "La Pícara Molinera" (1997, 1999), "Xuanón" (1998, 2001) or "El Gaiteru de Gijón" (2004), as well as in the traditional recreation of "esfoyazas", collaborating with the City council of Gijón in the International Folklore Festival of Gijón, that is celebrated every year in completes week of July. Since 1998, and through the lessons of the popular gaitero and tamborilero Pepe Blanco account with a group of gaitas, formed at the moment by about 20 children, who gratuitously receive classes of gaita and drum with the impulse of this Grouping. This Association is integrated by 45 components of both sexes, having had a great patrimony in its clothes, since it has 10 different suits that they represent the different tendencies and styles folkloric from the different zones from the Principality of Asturias. Account with than 40 dances more compiled with which it tries to contribute to maintain the wealth of folclore Asturian in his diverse facets. This Grouping is member of CIOFF (Consejo Internacional de Organizaciones de Festivales de Folclore), FACYDE (Federación de Asociaciones de Coros y Danzas de España) and FAFA (Federación de Agrupaciones de Folklore Asturiano). In March of year 2000, they were the people in charge of the organization of IV the Congress of F.A.C.Y.D.E., managing to reunite to 75 congressmen and where interesting subjects struggled on the folklore and diverse the Festivales that organizes the Federation at National level and the International. Most of the assistants they are directors of festivales groups and. The group, like host, programmed diverse activities during the 10 days that the Congress lasted like: visits by the city of Gijón and the environs and one have supper-die in recognizing To injure of the city, where the dances and dances of the region appeared, very being congratulated by all the assistants and the President of FACYDE.