



# Annual Report

---

## 2025



QUEEN SOFÍA  
Spanish Institute





# Our Mission

The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute, is a nonprofit corporation founded in 1954 to stimulate Americans' interest in the art, culture, customs, language, literature and history of the Spanish speaking world.

The Institute strives to promote, among the Spanish-speaking peoples of the world, knowledge and understanding of ideals, culture and customs of the people of the United States, to the end that ties of friendship may be formed, mutual understanding promoted, and bonds of peace strengthened.

# 2025 Key Figures

Here are a few of the key metrics that show the breadth of our work and some of our proudest achievements throughout 2025.

Prizes, Awards, & Grants Given  
by the QSSI

20

Partners of the QSSI

36

Cultural areas featured  
in 2025 programming

10

Total Attendees to In-  
Person Programs

2,500+

Cities with In-  
Person Events

7

Number of  
Events and  
Programs

50+

Views on viral  
QSSI video

2.4  
million

Subscribers  
across digital  
channels

18,000+

Grants, Contributions, & Honorary  
Recognitions Received from Other  
Organizations

22

Mentions in the Press  
U.S. & International  
(print, digital, radio, & TV)

227

% of Annual Expenses Dedicated to  
Programming

87.4%

# Table of Contents

Our Mission	<b>i</b>	2025 Key Figures	<b>ii</b>
Letters from Leadership	<b>2</b>	America&Spain250	<b>6</b>
2025 In Review	<b>13</b>	History <i>2025 Programs</i>	<b>19</b>
Education <i>2025 Programs</i>	<b>37</b>	Performing Arts <i>2025 Programs</i>	<b>44</b>
Fine Arts <i>2025 Programs</i>	<b>48</b>	Film <i>2025 Programs</i>	<b>49</b>
Literature <i>2025 Programs</i>	<b>51</b>	Jr. Committee <i>2025 Programs</i>	<b>55</b>
Partners	<b>57</b>	Sponsors & Donors	<b>60</b>
Press	<b>62</b>	About the Institute	<b>68</b>

# Letter from the Chair of the Board

Dear Friend,

In 2025, the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute continued to advance its cultural mission with renewed purpose through the America&Spain250 initiative, which highlights 250 years of the shared history and cultural exchange between the United States, Spain, and the Spanish-speaking world.

By increasing awareness of Spain's role in the founding and development of the United States, the QSSI seeks to deepen public understanding of a history that remains too often overlooked.

Celebrating this common history is at the core of the QSSI's mission, and spreading this cultural knowledge deepens our mutual understanding, a goal so vital in today's challenging world.

The QSSI is especially grateful for the enduring commitment of Her Majesty Queen Sofía, whose dedication to philanthropy and causes such as medical research, environmental protection, music, animal welfare or food banks, among many others, continues to inspire our efforts and bring the QSSI mission to life.

With the support of the Board, committees, and community, the QSSI has laid the groundwork for 2026 and beyond. With every program, the QSSI actively aspires to make a positive and lasting impact on the audiences we reach, an impact that is deserving of your patronage.

**Best Regards,**



**Pilar Lladó Arburúa**

Chair of the Board of  
Directors of the QSSI





# Letter from the President & CEO

Dear Friend,

2025 was a crucial year for the QSSI as the Institute hosted and collaborated on keystone programs and events as a prelude to the 2026 celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence of the United States.

The programs and activities carried forward by the QSSI in 2025 reached larger audiences than ever before and their impact was truly significant by bringing the decisive yet largely unrecognized contributions of the Spanish and indigenous ancestors of today's Hispanic communities to the American Revolution to the national conversation.

Through its America&Spain250 initiative, generously supported by the Fundación Reina Sofía, the QSSI has organized high profile events in collaboration with storied institutions such as the Daughters

of the American Revolution, the Fundación Ramón Areces, the Juan Sebastián de Elcano, and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, among others.

Through the America&Spain250 Grassroots Outreach Project, the QSSI continued to reach out to and collaborate with numerous local cultural and historical organizations across the country, thus broadening the knowledge of all who contributed to the creation of this great experiment called the United States. The QSSI is also proud to design and develop programs and activities of the utmost quality which are always supported by rigorous academic research and are impactful to the communities they reach.

The QSSI continued its commitment to other cultural areas all the while. In education, the QSSI launched a scholarship for a four-year Humanities undergraduate program in collaboration with Madrid's prestigious IE University. In literary translation, the QSSI awarded its 8th prestigious QSSI Translation Prize and launched the inaugural Literary Translation Fellowship, a \$20,000 prize in collaboration with Penguin Random House. In film, the QSSI supported a screening of the Academy Award shortlisted animated short "The Quinta's Ghost," among other areas.

All these programs have the QSSI mission at their core, namely, to stimulate interest in the history and culture of Spain and Spanish-speaking countries and to showcase its contributions to the history and culture of the U.S. I wish to extend my deep gratitude to all collaborators, partners, colleagues and audiences who have shared our mission and our values and supported these efforts over the past year.

**With Warm Regards,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Begonia Santos". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

**M. Begonia Santos**  
President & CEO  
Queen Sofía Spanish Institute



# America&Spain250

## Initiative for the Celebration of Spain's Relationship with the United States, 1776 – 2026

The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute launched the Initiative for the Celebration of Spain's Relationship with the United States, 1776 – 2026, America&Spain250, to celebrate the 250 years of the shared past, present, and continued friendship between the United States, Spain, and the Spanish-speaking world.

The Initiative aims to increase public awareness of the crucial contributions of Spain to the American Revolution and celebrate their importance over the course of 250 years of Spain's shared history with the United States. The Initiative also seeks to enrich the understanding of the complex, changing, yet enduring tripartite relationship between Spain, Spanish-speaking America and the United States.

Leading up to 2026, the QSSI has led the development of cultural programs alongside historians, cultural leaders, and other experts in the field.

Thus far, the QSSI officially launched the initiative in Madrid at the Fundación Ramón Areces, with the First America&Spain250 Symposium. Since then, in 2025 the Institute organized the II America&Spain250 symposium. Both events were presided over by Her Majesty Queen Sofía.

The QSSI is also currently developing educational resources and a Grassroots Outreach Project to involve local organizations from around the US in the celebration and by inviting them to join in the initiative through related activities to be held throughout the coming years.

# Objectives

**1** Increase public awareness of the contributions of Spain to the history and development of United States.

**2** Celebrate 250 years of shared history in different fields: science, medicine, agriculture and technology along with language, literature, arts and religion.

**3** Facilitate the recognition of Spain and the Spanish-speaking world in the celebrations of America250.

**4** Promote awareness amongst Hispanic and Latino communities, descendants of Spanish Americans, of their foundational role in the history of the United States.

## Pillars of the Initiative

The types of projects underpinning America&Spain250

### Signature Events

Drive visibility of the initiative through high-profile, memorable events that inspire and engage partner institutions and the communities they serve

### Grassroots Outreach Project

Achieve nationwide impact by forging new connections with local organizations across the United States and showcasing Spanish contributions to the American Revolution in that specific area

### Educational Programming & Resources

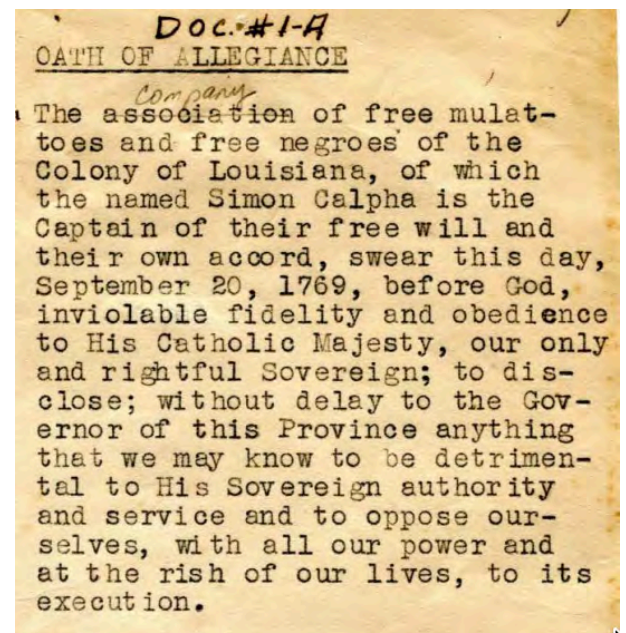
Empower educators and students with rigorously researched tools: teacher workshops, lesson plans, and digital resources all about Spain's support of the American Revolution

# At the Core of the Initiative

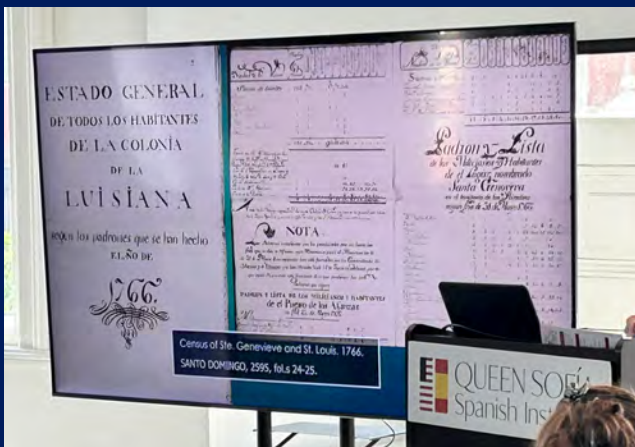
## Advancing Historical Knowledge Through Primary Sources

One of the most important successes of initiative lies in the advancement of both academic and public knowledge around Spain's role in the history of the United States. This work is all grounded in primary sources, many of which have long remained underutilized or inaccessible outside specialized scholarship.

The initiative places a spotlight on primary sources with archival materials held in Spanish and U.S. institutions, as well as increasingly available digital collections. The materials support a more complete historical understanding of Spanish history in the Americas during the 18<sup>th</sup> century.



Primary sources are incorporated into educational materials for K-12 students and disseminated through symposia, public lectures, booths, and teacher workshops.





# America&Spain250

## Impact Across the U.S. and Beyond



Massachusetts

New York

Pennsylvania

Maryland

Washington, D.C.

Virginia

Alabama

Louisiana

Florida

Madrid

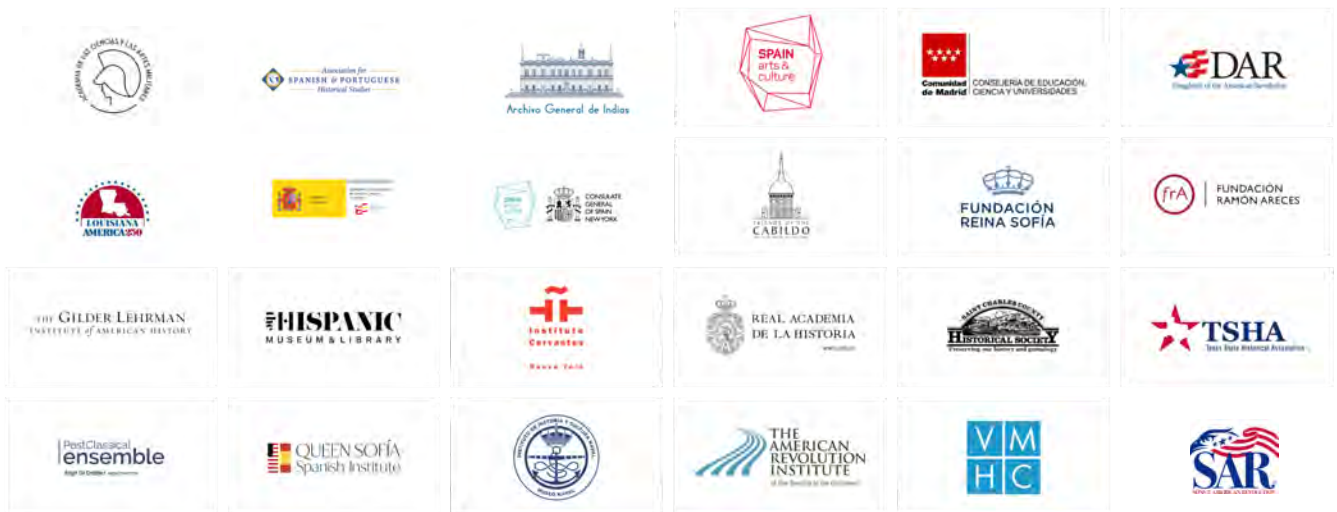


Online

# Collaborators

The participants in the America&Spain250 initiative include organizations and academics from the U.S, and Spain.

## Organizations



## Academic Advisors

Professors and researchers from the following universities and institutions, among others, have participated in America&Spain250 events and have contributed to the academic rigor of the initiative’s work in the Academic Advisory Committee.

- City University of New York
- Columbia University
- Dartmouth College
- George Mason University
- IE University
- Indiana University Bloomington
- Johns Hopkins University
- New York University
- St. Augustine Historical Society
- Stanford University
- Tulane University
- University of California, Davis
- University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
- University of Florida
- University of Houston
- University of Maine
- University of Minnesota
- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- University of Notre Dame
- Vanderbilt University

DE CALDERON  
WITH MUSIC ON THE BALLET  
"El Greco"

id, where she resides, Fina de  
gan writing and publishing  
ung age. She has been mar  
ench and Spanish writers  
o have played an important  
velopment of her writing  
Fina de Calderón has composed  
lets, among them "El Greco",  
nes from the artist's life. Miss  
Lectured extensively in Europe

PUBLIC SECTOR/MUJER Y SOCIEDAD.  
Moderator: Barbara Probst Simon, Novel-  
ist. Participants: Cristina Alberdi Alonso,  
Lawyer; Soledad Becerril Bustamente, for-  
mer Minister of Culture; Soledad Alvarez  
Coto, Journalist; Pilar Brabo Castells, Con-  
gresswoman; Victoria Camps, Professor of  
Philosophy; Cristina Vizcaino Auger, Editor.  
3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. - Round Table Discus-  
sion: "WOMEN AND THE ARTS/MUJER  
Y CULTURA." Moderator: Gloria F. Wald-  
man, Professor of Spanish Literature. Partic-  
ipants: Soledad Becerril Bustamente, Poet;  
Pilar Miró, Film Director; Soledad Alvarez  
Coto, Novelist; Barbara Probst Simon, Editor.

Thursday, December 9, 1982 at 6:00 p.m.  
Sala Carlos IV  
Admission free.  
LECTURE  
**MANUEL AZCARATE**  
"The Collapse of the  
Communist Party in Spain"  
Mr. Azcarate was a member of the Comité  
Central of the Spanish communist party and  
the party's spokesman for international

# 2025 In Review

*Highlights at the Institute*

THE SPANISH INSTITUTE, INC.  
22 East 60th Street, New York

*Presents*

## CONCERT

by

CARLOS MONTOYA

MISSION TICKET

*for*

ISH INSTITUTE, INC.

*Illustrated Lecture*

BRA PALACE IN GRANADA"

*by*

ALTER W. S. COOK

ctor, Institute of Fine Arts,  
w York University

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1956  
8:45 P.M.

*Comments*

N PLAZA THEATRE

8:45 P.M.

Central Park South

Tuesday, March 31, 1964



THE SPA

684 P

## CALENDAR OF EV

Wednesday, May 29th  
through  
Saturday, June 28th  
Mon. through Sat.  
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

RECENT PAINTING  
On view at the Ha

Paco Blanco was born in Madrid in 1941 and grew up in Baro  
settled in New York and since then has been working on illus  
primarily to painting.

Monday, June 2nd  
6:00 p.m.  
Admission: Free

EXCMO SR DR D

24 April - 30 May, 1987

Monday, June 2nd  
Tuesday, June 3rd

The Spanish Classes will  
\*For further informatio

Tuesday, June 3rd  
8:00 p.m.  
Admission:  
Members: \$2  
Non-members: \$4

"Edward Tatnall Canby  
listener want?" The New

Wednesday, June 11th  
6:00 p.m.  
Admission:  
Members: \$1  
Non-members: \$2

Spanish Institute, Inc.  
684 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10

# Her Majesty Queen Sofía

## Patronage of the QSSI in 2025

In 2025, Her Majesty Queen Sofía presided over five events with the QSSI during visits to Washington, D.C. and New York City.



### SYMPOSIUM WELCOME RECEPTION

*Residence of the Ambassador of Spain to the U.S.*  
September 2025

### MEETING OF QSSI BOARD MEMBERS

*DAR Headquarters*  
September 2025



### II AMERICA&SPAIN250 SYMPOSIUM

*DAR Constitution Hall*  
September 2025



### AMERICA&SPAIN250 PLAQUE INAUGURATION

*St. Peter's Church*  
November 2025



### A COMMEMORATION OF DIEGO DE GARDOQUI

*Instituto Cervantes New York*  
November 2025



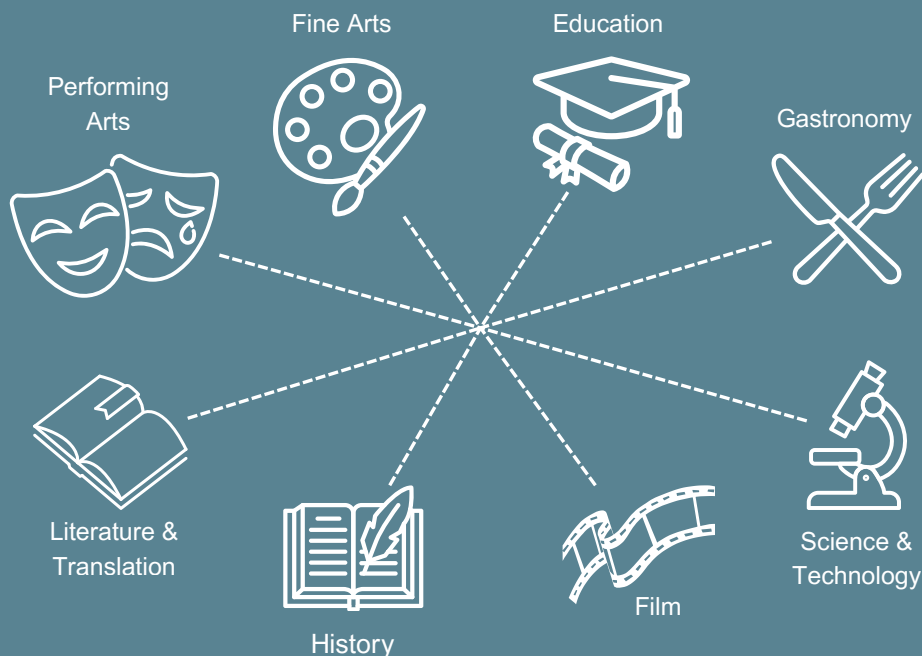
# Programs Across the Globe

In 2025, the QSSI held events across the U.S., Spain, and online.



# Programs Across Cultural Areas

The following are the core areas of focus for the QSSI. In 2025, the QSSI also included fashion and music among cultural areas highlighted in programs.



# Receiving Recognition in 2025

In 2025, the QSSI was honored to receive the DAR President General's Medallion.

At the Daughters of the American Revolution 134<sup>th</sup> Continental Congress on June 25, 2025, DAR President General Pamela Rouse Wright presented the DAR President General's Medallion to the Queen Sofia Spanish Institute "in recognition of their work preserving Spain's contributions to the American Revolution" to a crowd of thousands of DAR members.



“I wanted to formally thank you...for visiting our part of the United States to help further enlighten us as to the very significant contributions of Spain”

– Attendee of a QSSI event in 2025

## QSSI Awarded at Virgen del Carmen Prizes

### Diploma of Honor for Merit from the Institute of Spanish Naval History and Culture

On July 16, 2025, the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute was awarded with a Honorary Diploma at the Virgen del Carmen Award Ceremony presented by the Institute of Naval History and Culture of Spain and the Spanish Navy. The diploma was bestowed “for earned merit” in 2025, and it was received on behalf of the Institute by Amb. Gonzalo Quintero Saravia, member of the Cultural Committee of the QSSI in the field of History.

## The QSSI had its first ever viral video.

With over 2.3 million views, this video from the *II America&Spain250* Symposium gave substantial visibility to the initiative.



In it, DAR member Jane Henderson Bronner thanked H. M. Queen Sofía for Her Majesty's presence and for the manumission her ancestor, who was liberated from slavery by Bernardo de Gálvez.

# Visibility & Impact in 2025

The QSSI had more press mentions in 2025 than any year in the past decade.

The Institute's projects and *America&Spain250* initiative received national recognition and continue to gain visibility.

## The QSSI was featured in the New York Times.

Begonia Santos, Amb. Gonzalo Quintero Saravia, and Prof. Larrie Ferreiro were interviewed for an article about the *America&Spain250* initiative.

### The New York Times

NEW YORK TODAY

#### Sure, France Helped the Colonists. So Did Spain.

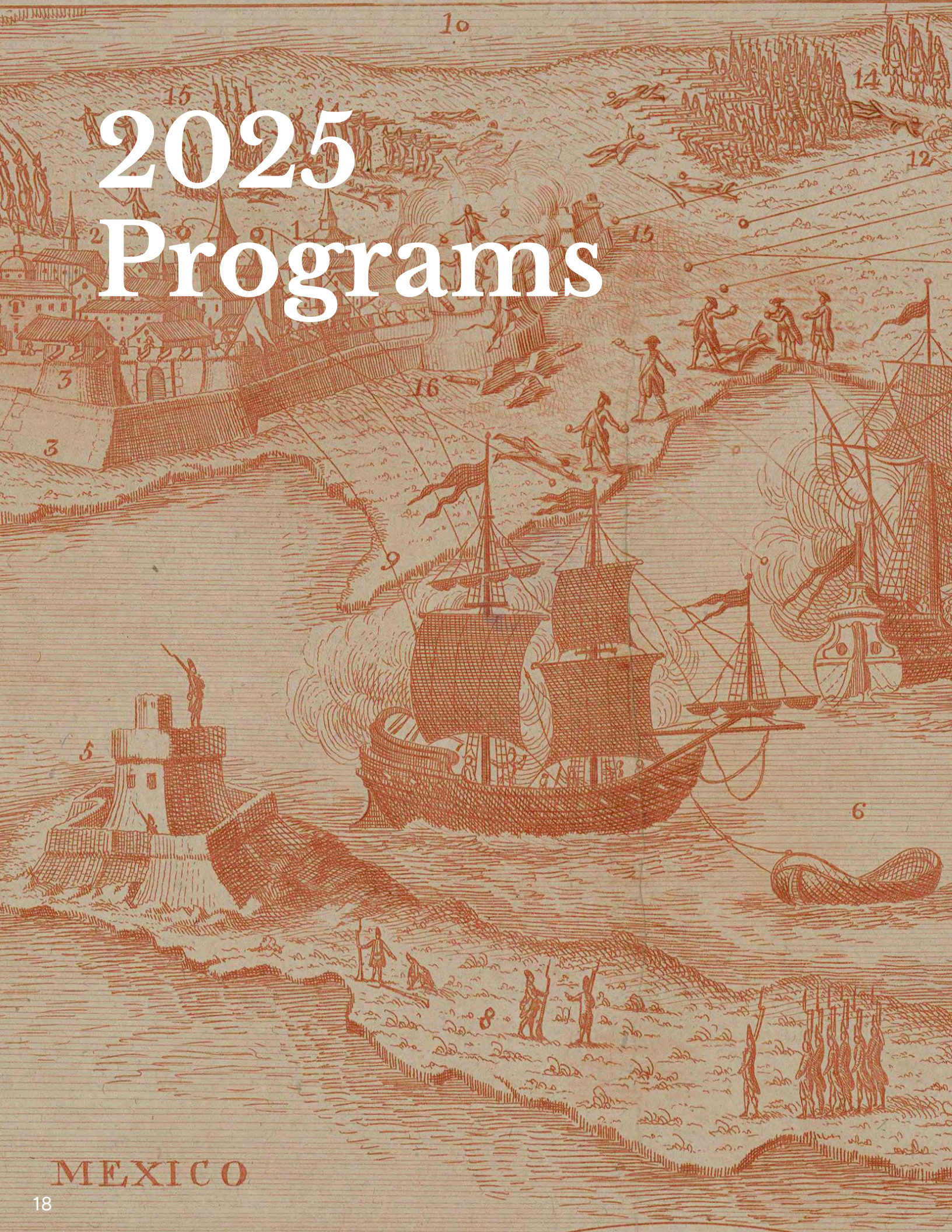
The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute looks at the role of Spain in aiding the rebellion against Britain during the American Revolution.

By JAMES BARRON



"The people who fought alongside Bernardo de Gálvez and those troops – these were the ancestors of today's Hispanics and Latinos,' Santos said, 'and we feel they should be included in the narrative of the United States. But the mythology of the birthplace of the United States is centered on the East Coast, not the Gulf Coast.'"

# 2025 Programs



MEXICO

# History

In its programming and activities, the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute places particular emphasis on promoting the history of Spain and the Spanish-speaking world in the United States.





# Presentation: Spanish Contribution to the American Revolution

Juan Sebastián de Elcano, Pier 88, New York City  
June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Aboard the Juan Sebastián de Elcano Spanish Navy Training Ship, the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute in collaboration with the Premio de Historia Órdenes Españolas hosted an unforgettable evening that highlighted Spain's pivotal role in the American Revolution.

The program featured distinguished historians who provided insights into Spain's significant contributions during this critical period in American history: "Juan Sebastián Elcano: The Man and His Voyage," presented by Dr. Carla Rahn Phillips, "The Spanish Navy: A Key Partner of the United States in Its Founding," presented by Prof. Larrie Ferreiro, and "The Martyr Cannot Be Dishonored: Spanish Prisoners in British Prison-Ships in New York During the American Revolution," presented by Amb. Gonzalo Quintero.

An event  
aboard the  
Spanish  
Navy's most  
iconic  
vessel, the  
Juan  
Sebastián  
de Elcano

Additionally, the QSSI, in collaboration with the DAR, represented by Lynn Forney Young, proudly announced the II America&Spain250 Symposium. To close the program, H.R.H. Prince Pedro de Borbón-Dos Sicilias y Orléans announced José Antonio Escudero as the winner of the VII Edition of the Premio Historia Órdenes Españolas. The Premio de Historia Órdenes Españolas is awarded annually to a distinguished historian whose work has made an outstanding contribution to the study and dissemination of Spanish history.



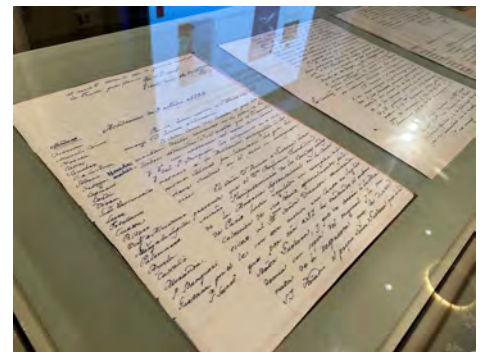


## Spain, Benjamin Franklin, the Founding Fathers, and the War for American Independence

American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, PA  
September 17, 2025

As part of the America&Spain250 initiative, the QSSI and the American Philosophical Society with support from the Consulate of Spain in New York presented a roundtable discussion with Dr. Gabriel Paquette, Amb. Gonzalo Quintero Saravia, and Dr. Thomas E. Chávez, moderated by Dr. Richard Kagan (APS 2011). Presenters spoke about the partnership between Spain and the emerging United States during the revolutionary era; the Spanish contributions to the war for American Independence, and the relationship between Benjamin Franklin and Spain. The discussion was followed by a Q&A with the audience.

From Left to Right: Amb. Gonzalo Quintero Saravia, Dr. Gabriel Paquette, Dr. Richard L. Kagan, Dr. Thomas E. Chávez



The QSSI gifted the APS a facsimile of Spain's Royal Academy of History's (RAH) "Book of Records" documenting Benjamin Franklin's incorporation as a corresponding member into the RAH.

la Junta que firmo  
En el V. Sanct.

Francisco Javier de Huerta

Señores.

Academia de 9 de Julio de 1784.

- Dirección
- Murillo: Comar.
- Huertas.
- Casiri.
- Sanchez.
- O. de la Roca.
- Salas. Mondas
- Ordaz. exaltes.
- Casneri.
- Cordi.
- Vicoa.
- Señ. Vancocela
- Lopez.
- Tosellano.
- Cuesta
- Piñero.
- Duf. de Almodovar.
- Margala Lapilla.
- Palomares.
- Ryala.
- Castello.
- Alvarado.
- P. Berquosi.
- Señor. por el  
V. Sanct.

Por no haber asistido el Sr. Flores me  
encargo V. J. hiciera a Secretario.

El señor Casiri dio cuenta a que las  
monedas Praves asistidas en su poder se ha  
llaman ordenadas. Yo acuerdo que el Sr. Murillo  
y yo con asistencia del mismo Sr. Casiri  
y del Sr. Berquosi las coligamos en el me  
netario a la Academia, entregando a los  
mismos señores por Secretario las que he  
riere sueltas en el caso su interpreta  
ción.

El señor D.º Ramon de Sotomayor hizo  
prevenir que el D.º Benjamin Franklin  
suñdo Plenipotenciario de los Estados unidos  
de la America Septentrional en la Corte  
de Paris havia regalado una exemplar de  
colección de sus obras, especialmente polí  
ticas, al Sr. Señor Director adquiriendo  
le con este motivo una carta en Ingles  
que por un de S. J. ha traducido el mismo  
señor Sotomayor, y que se trae a la Aca  
demia con copia del original y la mi  
nuta de la respuesta que le diere  
S. J. Mandó el propio Sr. Sotomayor que

# II America&Spain250 Symposium Spain and the Birth of American Democracy

DAR Constitution Hall, Washington, D.C.  
September 19th and 20th, 2025



Presided over by Her Majesty Queen Sofia, this history symposium about Spain's contributions to the American Revolution was held September 19-20, 2025, in DAR Constitution Hall. Symposium attendees heard from top experts in the field of Spanish and American History at this free event, the second symposium organized as part of the America&Spain250 initiative.

For two days, distinguished U.S. and Spanish scholars presented their views on the historical relations between the two countries. Through lectures and discussions, scholars analyzed aspects ranging from the context of Spain and the U.S. in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Spain's initial support to the American Revolution, Spain at war, and Spain-U.S. relations after the war.



The opening night included words from partner organizations, the QSSI, the FRA, and the DAR in addition to H.E. Ángeles Moreno Bau, Ambassador of Spain to the United States. Dr. Richard L. Kagan provided the keynote lecture “The Erasure of Spain from the United States’ History.”

Speakers during the symposium included the following historians, professors, and experts: Gonzalo M. Quintero Saravia, Gabriel B. Paquette, Manuel Lucena Giraldo, Elisa Vargas Vargas, Thomas E. Chávez, Hugo O’Donnell y Duque de Estrada, Duke of Tetuán, Larrie D. Ferreiro, Iván Jaksic, Kathleen DuVal, and Jane Landers. Bela Valldecabres, President & CEO of the Spanish Royal Mint, also presented new coins minted to commemorate the 250th anniversary.



**Throughout the lectures, 16 organizations, including the Museum of the American Revolution, PBS, and Mount Vernon, shared resources on their 250th celebrations and programming.**

# America&Spain250 Plaque Unveiling

St. Peter's Church, New York City  
November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025



Her Majesty Queen Sofía presided over a historic tribute in Lower Manhattan and unveiled a commemorative plaque dedicated to Diego de Gardoqui, the first ambassador of Spain to the United States and an essential figure during Spain's support for American independence. The plaque is located at St. Peter's Church on Barclay Street, the site where Gardoqui laid the cornerstone in 1785, and marks the origins of what would become the first Catholic parish in New York. The ceremony not only celebrated this 240-year milestone but also coincided with the anniversaries of both Gardoqui's birth and his death, adding to the symbolic significance of the tribute.

*“Today, we also wish to remember all those who, so long ago, contributed through their donations to the construction of the church—among them the New Yorkers and Hispanics of that era, Bishop Lizana of Mexico, and King Charles III.”*

– M. Begonia Santos, President & CEO, QSSI



The initiative was conceived and promoted by Iberdrola as part of “Unveiling Memories,” a broader project dedicated to recovering and sharing the often-overlooked contributions of Spain and Hispanic communities to the formation of the United States. The QSSI partnered in developing the New York tribute as part of its America&Spain250 initiative. The event gathered members of the QSSI Board, representatives of the Archdiocese of New York, members of the International Circle of the Reina Sofía School of Music, and members of the Spanish diplomatic corps.





## A Commemoration of Diego de Gardoqui

Instituto Cervantes, New York City  
November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Following the plaque unveiling, Her Majesty Queen Sofía presided over a full-capacity public program titled “Diego de Gardoqui: Spain in 18th-Century New York” held at Instituto Cervantes New York. Historians Elisa Vargas Vargas, PhD, and José Manuel Guerrero Acosta, curator of Unveiling Memories, offered an in-depth look at Gardoqui’s life, diplomatic work, and enduring legacy within Spain–U.S. relations. The program concluded with a special performance by a string quintet from the Reina Sofía School of Music of Luigi Boccherini’s “La musica notturna delle strade di Madrid,” a piece that added a distinctly Spanish touch to the commemoration.



**Dr. Elisa Vargas Vargas**  
presenting her latest research  
on Diego de Gardoqui, the first  
Spanish minister to the U.S.



# Grassroots Outreach Project

*The QSSI forges connections with local organizations across the United States & Spain.*



## Research Grant

Feb 2025 | Washington, D.C.

Spanish historian Jonathan Jacob Bar Shuali received the Short-Term Research Fellowship to work in the Society of Cincinnati's American Revolution Institute collections. The QSSI sponsored his candidacy and provided a travel stipend for his research.

## Institutional Visits in New York & D.C.

Feb 2025 | New York and D.C.

Begonia Santos held a week of QSSI institutional visits in Washington, D.C., and New York with Admiral Torres Piñeyro and Captain Maté of the Institute of Naval History and Culture.



## “Presencia española y legado cultural en Estados Unidos”

Feb 2025 | Casa de América

For the launch of the latest issue of “Tribuna Norteamericana” in which Begonia Santos, President & CEO of QSSI, contributed an article on the Institute, Casa de América and the Instituto Franklin-UAH, in collaboration with the Fundación Consejo España – EE. UU., organized a roundtable discussion titled “Spanish Presence and Cultural Legacy in the United States.” Participants included Amb. Eduardo Garrigues, Dr. Larrie D. Ferreiro, and Amb. Gonzalo Quintero Saravia.



# America&Spain250 Presentation to Texas250

Feb 2025 | Online

Begonia Santos presented the America&Spain250 initiative to the Texas250 commission during one of their monthly meetings to plan Texas250 events in 2025 and beyond.



## Fricciones irresueltas.

### Imágenes de España y de los Estados Unidos desde 1776

Feb 2025 | Fundación Ramón Areces

As part of the America&Spain250 initiative, Professors Richard L. Kagan and Manuel Lucena Giraldo, moderated by Gonzalo M. Quintero Saravia, presented on the respective images that each country has held of the other since 1776. These visions are intimately linked not only to their evolution as nations and to the development of their bilateral relations, but are also deeply rooted in the collective imaginaries of each specific era. This event was organized by the Fundación Ramón Areces in collaboration with the QSSI.

## Convening of States

March 2025 | Williamsburg, VA

The QSSI joined for the VA250 Convening of States "A Common Cause to All" in preparation of 2026, the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of US independence with a booth during the educational fair and participation throughout the conference.





## The Louisiana Territory and its Inhabitants Through the Documents of the Archivo General de Indias

May 10, 2025 | St. Charles, Missouri

The QSSI and the St. Charles County Historical Society presented a special program where archivist Antonio Sánchez de Mora explored the history of the influence of Spain in the Louisiana Territory, specifically Fernando de Leyba and the St. Louis area, through the documents he located in the Archivo General de Indias of Seville, Spain.

## America&Spain250 Plenary Session

June 6, 2025 | University of Maryland

The America&Spain250 initiative was featured in a plenary session at the 54th Annual Conference of the Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies (ASPHS).



## DAR: Sparkle in Service

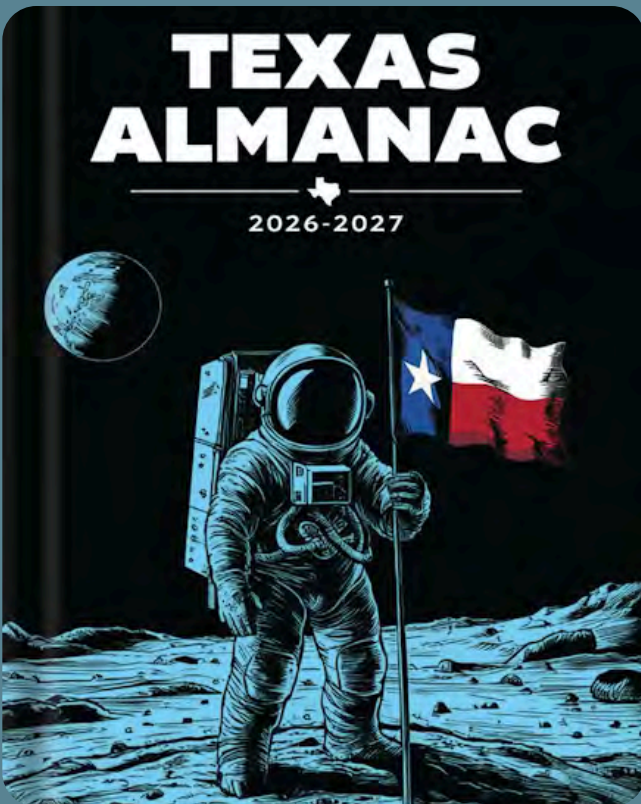
June 27, 2025 | Washington, D.C.

The QSSI was invited to have a booth at the DAR's annual Sparkle in Service night as part of the 134<sup>th</sup> Continental Congress to present the America&Spain250 initiative and educational resources that DAR members could bring to their chapters.

# Prison Ship Martyrs Memorial

Nov 22, 2025 | Prison Ship Martyrs Monument, Brooklyn, NY

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution hosted a commemorative ceremony at the Prison Ship Martyrs Monument in Fort Greene Park, Brooklyn. The event included participation by President General Michael Elston of the SAR, Aaron Ahlstrom the Executive Director of National League of POW/MIA Families, the Consul for Cultural Affairs of Spain in NY Pedro Calvo-Sotelo, the DAR, Myriam Gil the Deputy Consul of France in NY, and Isabel Rivero, from the QSSI.



## Texas Almanac

2025 | In print

The QSSI partnered with the Texas State Historical Association to produce a special feature article on Spanish Texas and its role and impact on the American Revolution for the 2026 Texas Almanac. The article, "Spanish Texas & the American Revolution" was written by Robert T.C. Goodwin, PhD, at University College London, and is available in print and in digital versions of "Texas Almanac 2026-2027," which is the official State Book of Texas. Now in its 73rd edition, the almanac is published annually by Texas State Historical Association Press.



# Spanish Fashion in the Age of Velázquez

Auditorium of the Galería de las Colecciones Reales, Madrid, Spain  
April 22, 2025

Amanda Wunder, (PhD in History from Princeton University), presented the research that culminated in her book, "Spanish Fashion in the Age of Velázquez: A Tailor at the Court of Philip IV" at the Galería de las Colecciones Reales in Madrid. The lecture explored the life and work of Mateo Aguado, a tailor at the Spanish court and creator of iconic designs that shaped fashion during the Spanish Golden Age.

Dr. Wunder's work received the 2025 Phyllis Goodhart Gordan Prize for the best book in Renaissance studies, awarded by The Renaissance Society of America, the largest international organization dedicated to the critical study of the world of 1300–1700.



Fashion designer Lorenzo Caprile led a roundtable afterwards with Pilar Benito García, Amalia Descalzo Lorenzo, Benito Navarrete Prieto, and Amanda Wunder. This event was held as the annual QSSI in Madrid event and was in collaboration with NYU KJCC Madrid.

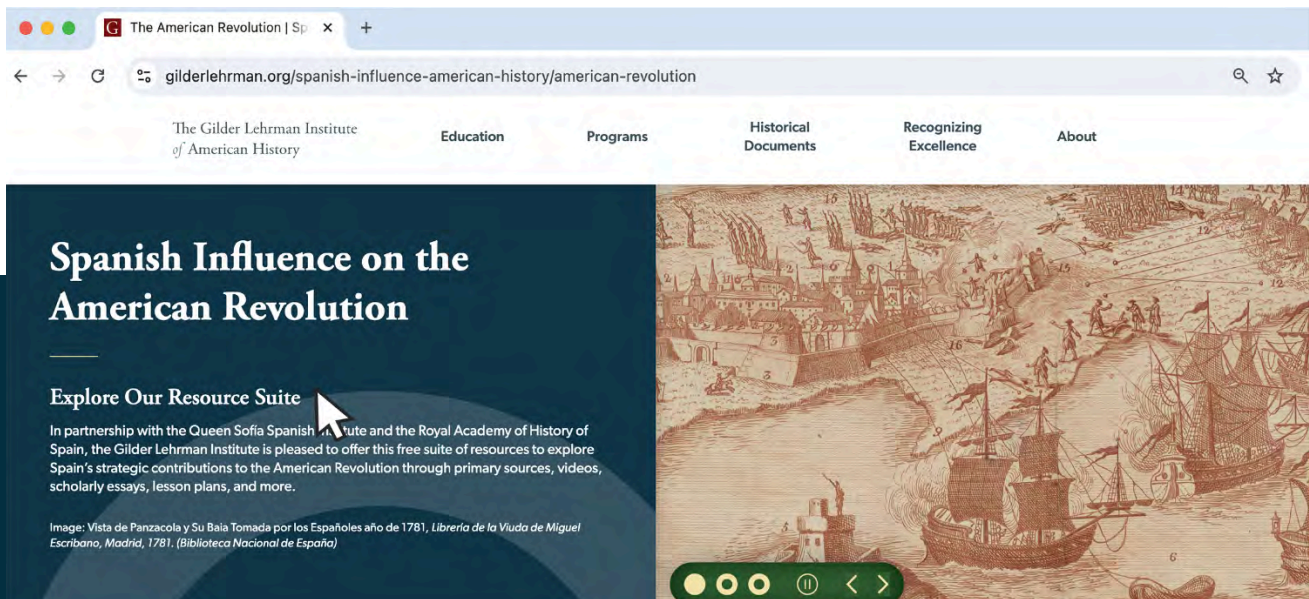


From Left to Right: Benito Navarrete Prieto, Amanda Wunder, Pilar Benito García, Lorenzo Caprile, Begonia Santos, Amalia Descalzo Lorenzo



# Education

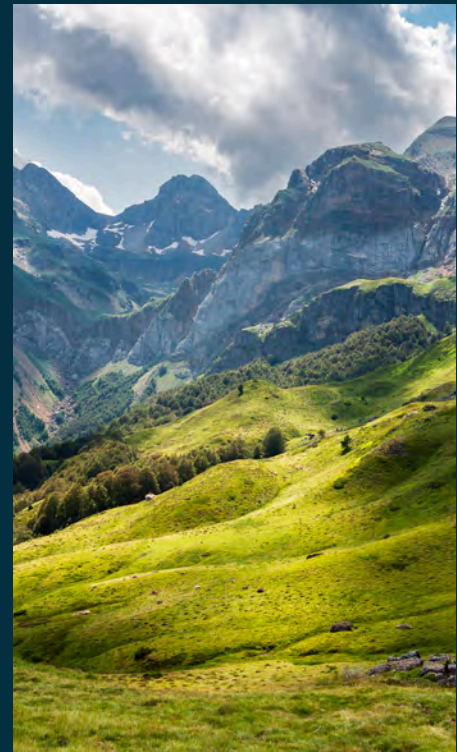
The Spanish Influence on American History educational platform created by the QSSI, the Royal Academy of History, and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History is utilized by and its resources are distributed through various events, workshops, and contests for students, educators, and the general public.



## USA Quizstory Podcast Awards

Launched December 2025

The QSSI and the GLI launched a contest where US-based high school students submitted a podcast on the Spanish contribution to the American Revolution for a spot in the Summer 2026 Camino de Santiago Program, a ten-day cultural and historical trip across northern Spain. This award was made possible thanks to sponsorship of CIS University, the International Studies Foundation, and Iberdrola.

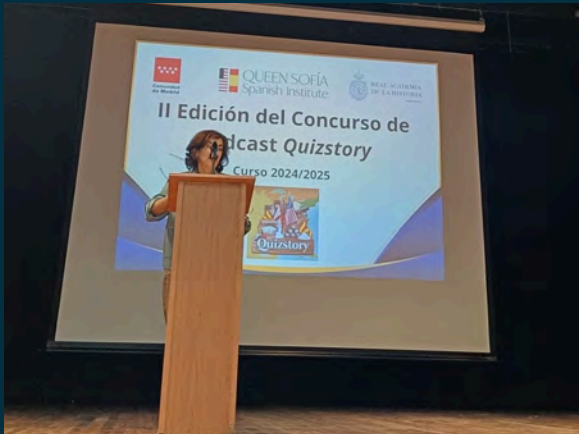




# Quizstory Podcast Awards Madrid

IES San Isidro Madrid, Spain  
June 12, 2025

For the second consecutive year, the Community of Madrid, the Royal Academy of History, and the QSSI brought together over a hundred Secondary Education students to the ceremony of the Quizstory Podcast Awards based on the app Quizstory: Spanish Friendship. This year participants not only used the educational app Quizstory: Spanish Friendship, but also had access to the new educational platform Spanish Influence on American History. Participation doubled this year to 42 teams, and students created diverse podcasts in English and Spanish to highlight key figures such as Bernardo de Gálvez, Fernando de Leyba, John Jay, Diego de Gardoqui, and Oliver Pollock, among others.



---

**42**  
TEAMS PARTICIPATED  
DOUBLED PARTICIPATION FROM  
PREVIOUS YEAR



## Teacher Workshops and Platform Presentations

After launching the “Spanish Influence on American History” platform at the end of 2024, the QSSI developed a series of presentations and teacher workshops to engage teachers with the resources.

### Platform Presentation

Instituto Superior Madrileño de Innovación Educativa  
April 24, 2025

For the first time in Spain, the QSSI presented the “Spanish Influence on American History” platform in collaboration with the Dirección General de Bilingüismo de la Consejería de Educación, Ciencia y Universidades of the Comunidad de Madrid.

**Amb. Gonzalo Quintero presenting on Spanish Louisiana**



**Carmen Iglesias, Director of the Royal Academy of History, spoke at the presentation for Madrid’s teachers.**



**Map depicting attendee location**

Teacher Workshop  
**America&Spain250 Didactic  
 and Digital Resources**

Online  
 April 26, 2025

This workshop was organized by Spain’s Education Office for the United States and Canada in collaboration with the QSSI. Teachers Ángel Brea and Blanca Lalanda explored educational tools that enrich historical knowledge and promote interactive teaching in the classroom.

Number of  
 participants

**503**

Workshop  
 rating from  
 attendees

**9.58**

Teacher Workshop  
**Discovering Spain’s Role in  
 the American Revolution**

Online  
 July 31, 2026

This professional development session, organized by the Louisiana Department of Education in collaboration with the QSSI, offered educators practical strategies and materials to enrich historical understanding and promote engaging learning in the classroom. The workshop explored topics such as the contributions of Bernardo de Gálvez, the Gulf Coast campaign, the Battle of Pensacola, and Spain’s influence in colonial Louisiana, themes that are directly mentioned in Louisiana’s Grade 3 and Grade 6 social studies standards in addition to High School United States History.

# RevEd Conference Workshop

Williamsburg, VA  
October 24, 2025

The QSSI presented the America&Spain250 Initiative as well as the Spanish Influence on American History platform as part of the “Revolutionary Educators” Conference at the Omohundro Institute at the College of William & Mary to a crowd of history educators in the public sector and non-profit organizations.

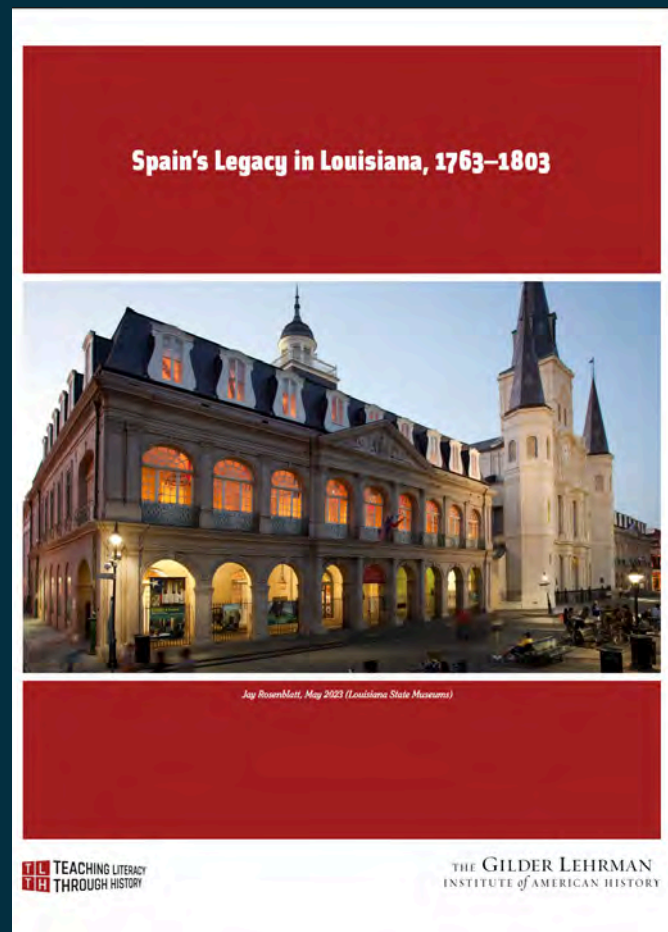


The QSSI distributed copies of the presentations from the I America&Spain250 symposium at events throughout 2025.

# Spain's Legacy in Louisiana 1763-1803

Online  
August 2025

The QSSI launched a new lesson plan on the “Spanish Influence on the American Revolution” page with support from Iberdrola, the Fundación Ramón Areces and Fundación Consejo España-EE.UU. The five lessons in this unit explore Spanish influence on the demography, social relations, and culture of New Orleans between 1763 and 1803. Students will read and examine official proclamations, a census population map, portraits, correspondence, architectural images, a folk song, and an oath of allegiance.



# Queen Sofía Spanish Institute - IE Foundation Scholarship for Bachelor in Humanities

IE University, Madrid, Spain  
Launched October 2025



IE School of Humanities, through IE Foundation, in collaboration with the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute, announced the creation of the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute – IE Foundation Scholarship for Bachelor in Humanities. The initiative supports U.S. students and residents who are passionate about exploring the cultural and historical connections between Spain, the Spanish-speaking world, and the United States. The scholarship, launched on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of U.S. independence, will be available for the 2026–2027 academic year.

# Conferencia MBA España

Hispanic Society of America Museum &  
Library and Columbia Business School  
March 28-30, 2025

The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute was a proud sponsor and organizer of the conference and opening event of the 16th edition of Conferencia MBA España held at the Columbia Business School. Conferencia MBA España is a two-day event of lectures and networking events where Spanish leaders in business shared their experiences and perspectives with Spanish MBA students attending top American universities. The opening ceremony was held in the stunning Sorolla room of the Hispanic Society Museum & Library. QSSI also invited speakers including Nacho Torras to participate in the conference where he gave the closing keynote address.

# 100+

**MBA STUDENTS ATTENDED**

Speakers participated in panels and keynote addresses during the conference.



# Performing Arts

The QSSI actively supports Hispanic theater and music in the United States.



## Talía Awards

*“Best Contemporary Hispanic Performing Arts Production in New York”*

Teatro Fernán Gómez, Madrid, Spain  
May 12, 2025

The Academy of Performing Arts of Spain (AAEE) gave the the Talía Award for “The Best Hispanic Performing Arts Production in New York” to *Vidas Rotas* produced by Corezón and Repertorio Español. The award ceremony took place in the Teatro Fernán Gómez in Madrid, where Pablo Andrade and Jessi Hernández from Corezón received the ward in the company of nominees and the performing arts community.

Pablo Andrade and Jessi Hernández dedicated the prize to their “mom and to all the Venezuelan mothers and fathers that had to say goodbye to their children in this terrible tragedy that we have been going through.” This year, for the third time, the QSSI supported the AAEE and organized the Selection Committee comprised of journalists, professors, and performing arts practitioners.

# Connecting Stages

## *Talía Awards Ceremony in New York*

The Public Theater, NYC

September 9, 2025

For the second consecutive year, the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute and the Academy of Performing Arts of Spain joined forces to host the celebration of the Talía Awards in New York. This event seeks to recognize the nominees and winners in the Awards' international categories, as well as to create a space for gathering and dialogue with the city's Latin theater community. Speakers included John Leguizamo; Begonia Santos, QSSI; Pedro Calvo Sotelo, Consul for Cultural Affairs of Spain in New York; Cayetana Guillén Cuervo, President of the Academy of Performing Arts of Spain; Luis A. Miranda Jr., Chair of The Public Theater; Manuel Morán, Director of Teatro SEA; Luis Salgado, Director and Choreographer, Founder of R.Evolución Latina and CEO of Salgado Productions; and Rosalba Rolón, Director of PRTT/Pregones.







## *Inconsolable*

NYU School of Law, NYC  
April 6, 2025

Spanish philosopher, writer, and essayist Javier Gomá Lanzón presents his first play, *Inconsolable*, a monologue in Spanish exploring the protagonist's first forty days of mourning following the death of his father. The QSSI was a promotional partner of this event that was organized with the Consulate of Spain in New York among others.

# Teatro Real in New York

Carnegie Hall, NYC  
June 5, 2025

The QSSI served as a promotional partner for the return of the Teatro Real (Royal Opera of Madrid) to Carnegie Hall for the third time. The “A Musical Fantasy from Spain” program featured the Violin Concerto in D Major by Korngold, a composer who fled the Nazis and succeeded in Hollywood. Highlights included Spanish violinist María Dueñas and the American debut of the Spanish soprano Saïoa Hernández, who performed arias from Spanish zarzuelas and operas by Serrano, Penella, along with Falla’s *La vida breve*.

# Fine Arts

The QSSI strives to give visibility to Spanish and Hispanic art and artists.

## Spanish Style: Fashion Illuminated, 1550-1700

### Support for Exhibition

Hispanic Society of America, New York, NY |  
November 6, 2025 – March 22, 2026

The QSSI supported the exhibit “Spanish Style: Fashion Illuminated, 1550-1700” curated by Amanda Wunder, PhD, which was on view at the Hispanic Society of America Museum November 6, 2025 – March 22, 2026. Set in the Hispanic Society’s ornate Renaissance courtyard, this exhibition tells the story of this remarkable era of fashion history through the museum’s rich collections, including royal portraits, sumptuous textiles and jewelry, life-size sculptures, and vibrantly illuminated manuscripts.

Begonia Santos, President & CEO of the QSSI spoke at the opening of the exhibition, and the QSSI organized several guided tours of the exhibition led by Dr. Wunder while the exhibition was on view.



# Film

The QSSI aims to promote Spanish and Spanish-language films as part of its mission.



## *The Quinta's Ghost*

### Film Screening

NeueHouse, NYC

June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025

the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute hosted a special screening of "The Quinta's Ghost," a Spanish short film selected for the 2025 Tribeca Film Festival, at NeueHouse. After the screening, New York Times journalist Sarah Maslin Nir interviewed director James A. Castillo Murphy and Maria Minuesa Sicilia, Goya Research Fellow. The evening concluded with a lively flamenco-jazz performance by Franz Hackl & Friends: Ricardo Gareau, Tim Ries, and dancer Cristina Candela.





# Literature

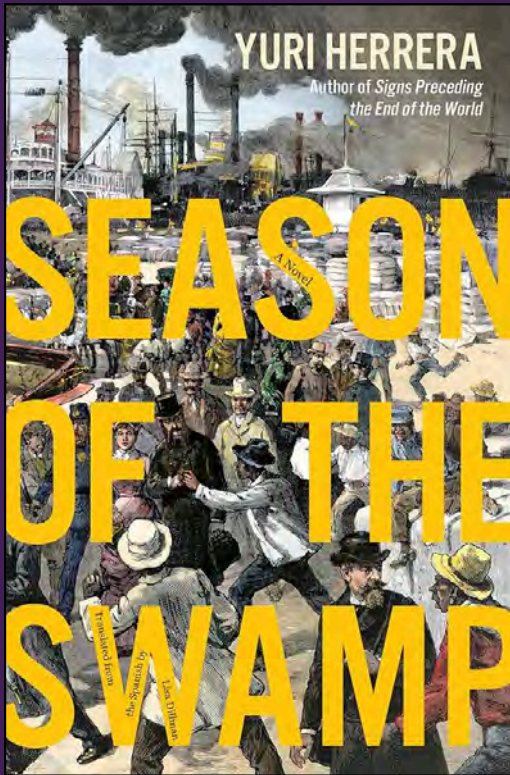
The QSSI supports Spanish-language literature, and literature in translation to English, which serves as a bridge between cultures, countries, and languages.



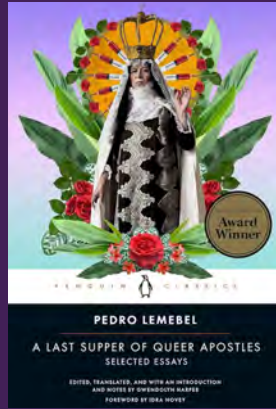
## 2025 Translation Prize

NYU Espacio de Culturas, NYC  
November 20, 2025

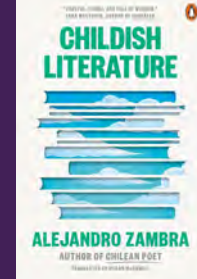
With the aim of elevating awareness and engendering appreciation of Spanish-language literature in the United States, this \$10,000 prize was created by the Cultural Committee and Board of Directors of the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute to honor the best English-language translation of a literary work written in Spanish. Formerly a triennial prize, it is now awarded yearly. The Reading Committee for the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute Translation Prize consists of a minimum of three members with expertise in Spanish and/or Latin American literature, translation, culture, and/or language.



2025 Winner



2025 Runner-Up



2025 Shortlist Members

Lisa Dillman received the 2025 Translation Prize for her English translation of *Season of the Swamp* by Mexican author Yuri Herrera, published by Graywolf Press. In this edition, the jury decided to award a runner-up prize to the translator Gwendolyn Harper for her translation of Pedro Lemebel's *A Last Supper of Queer Apostles: Selected Essays*. The members of the jury were the talented translators Samantha Schnee, Heather Cleary, and Charlotte Whittle.

The program featured a conversation with the Translation Prize winner, Lisa Dillman, runner-up Gwendolyn Harper, and jury member Charlotte Whittle, followed by an audience Q&A and a Spanish cocktail reception. The roundtable discussion addressed the new challenges translators face in the age of AI, which underscored the irreplaceable value of human sensibility, creativity, and cultural insight in literary translation.

Books Submitted to the Prize in 2024

**55**

Edition of the Prize

**8<sup>th</sup>**

Amount Awarded

**\$10,000**

# Literary Translation Fellowship

*A New Initiative of the QSSI and Penguin Random House*

November 2024 - November 2025

Ceremony at NYU Espacio de Culturas, NYC  
November 20, 2025

In an effort to continue to broaden the reach of the objectives of the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute Translation Prize, the QSSI launched the Literary Translation Fellowship in 2024 with the support and collaboration of Penguin Random House. The prize aimed to allow unpublished translators and other emerging translators the chance to audition, show their talent, and get the opportunity to pitch their translations to publishers.

The most successful sample translation from Spanish into English, selected by the jury, received the Literary Translation Fellowship, a grant of \$20,000 to translate the entire book. Ten of the sample translations that demonstrate promise, finesse and skill were awarded Honorable Mentions, a smaller grant of \$500 each. The awards were presented at “An Evening of Translation” ceremony.





The Inaugural Literary Translation Fellowship was awarded to Eduardo Aparicio, who will receive \$20,000 to support the full English translation of *Las frases robadas* by José Luis Sastre. Manuel Sansigre, CFO of Penguin Random House, presented the fellowship, remarking: “At Penguin Random House, we believe that translation is one of the most powerful forms of cultural exchange. It opens doors for readers to voices and perspectives that might otherwise remain unheard.”

Ten honorable mentions, each receiving \$500, were also awarded to outstanding submissions: Christopher Dinon, Will Morningstar, Madiha Ansari, Mikayla Parson, Gabriela Rivero, Slava Faybysh, Shaina Brassard, Marialena Carr, Madison Felman-Panagotacos, and Lara Norgaard.

In addition to the financial awards, participation in the Fellowship included a publisher’s forum with U.S. editors, designed to connect emerging translators with leaders in American publishing and to create direct opportunities for dialogue, professional feedback, and potential future publications.



**The QSSI organized two publisher’s forums, one in person and one online, for participating translators to meet publishers who are looking to work with Spanish to English translators.**



# Jr. Committee

The purpose of the Jr. Advisory Committee is to help guide the Institute into the future, broaden its reach, and strengthen its mission among younger generations of Americans and Spanish-speaking young adults. The QSSI Jr. Committee had 10 events and cultural offerings during 2025 reaching over 150 young professionals in NY. A further seven events organized by other individuals and organizations set aside access specially for the committee members and committee friends.

Events included a Noche de Reyes Roscón & Merienda, a private tour of the Whitney in Spanish, tickets to see “La Llamada” at Repertorio Español, and tickets to see the “Buena Vista Social Club” Documentary Screening and Q&A with star and musician Joachim Cooder at the IFC. Members and friends met up at Spanish venues such as Mercado Little Spain for five social networking get togethers throughout the year. Other highlights included a private tour of the MET in Spanish and two trips to Carnegie Hall to see a performance from Teatro Real and one of the Escuela de Música Reina Sofía presided over by H.M. Queen Sofía.



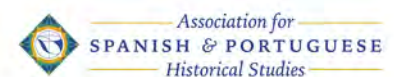


# Our Partners

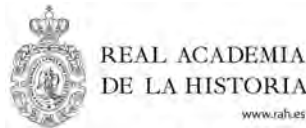
The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute collaborates with a diverse array of institutions to establish exceptional cultural and educational programs of the highest quality. Our partners and collaborators play a pivotal role in extending our mission and reaching our intended audiences. Their involvement is essential to our collective efforts.

Collaborations with esteemed organizations such as the American Philosophical Society, the Royal Academy of History of Spain, the Galería de las Colecciones Reales, the Consulate of Spain in New York, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofía enable the Institute to offer a diverse array of cultural events, community programs, and educational resources. These partnerships enhance the Institute's capacity to reach broader audiences and provide enriched experiences that foster cross-cultural understanding.

Through its programs and partnerships, the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute continues to fulfill its mission of promoting Hispanic cultural appreciation and education in the United States, and the Institute expands its footprint and impact even further. Partners are essential to the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute's mission of promoting the art, culture, language, literature, and history of the Spanish-speaking world in the United States.







# Our Sponsors

The Institute benefits from the generous support of public and private sponsorships, which underwrite and support many of the different cultural programs and educational initiatives organized by the Institute. The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute recognizes the Fundación Reina Sofía for its major transformational support of the America&Spain250 initiative.

Notably, the Institute receives support and builds partnerships with areas of the public sector in Spain through the Consulate General of Spain in New York and Fundación Consejo España-EE.UU. Major private corporate sponsors that supported the Institute in 2025 include the Fundación Ramón Areces, Iberdrola, and Penguin Random House.

The Institute also recognizes and greatly appreciates the contributed services and in-kind donations made by partners and collaborators.



# Individual Donors

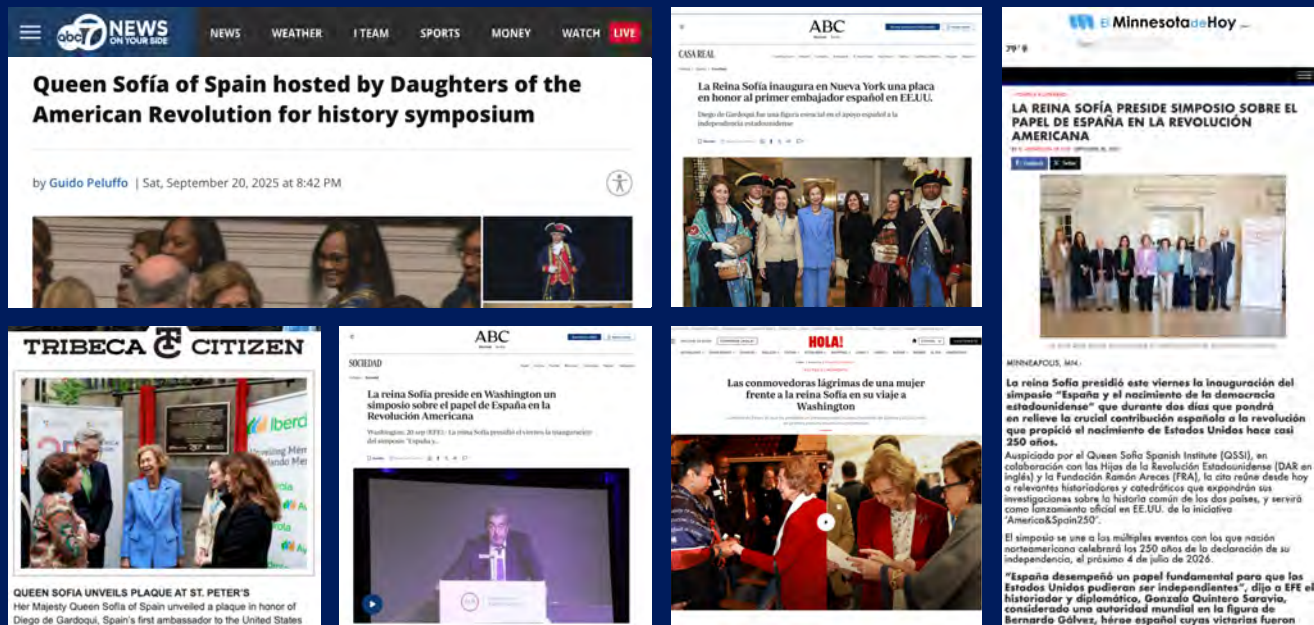
The donations of private individuals support Queen Sofía Spanish Institute programming throughout 2025. Thank you for your generous support of the Institute and its cultural mission.

Juan Luis Acevedo  
Alicia Alcocer Koplowitz  
Carlos Arana  
Hector Arguinzones  
Rosario Gayarre Baldwin  
Quentin Bates  
Alexander Carroll Cabanes  
Blanca Camacho  
Fernando Cardenas Pena  
Michael Chmiel  
María Luisa Cánovas  
David Eslava  
Marisa Falcó de Godó  
Jose Pepe Fanjul  
Guillermo Fesser  
Luis Galli  
Fernando Gazzaniga  
Javier Gonzalez  
Nancy & Henry Kissinger  
Yamira Ledesma  
Pilar Lladó  
Patricia Londoño  
Manuel A Moran

Cynthia Muller  
Ana V Munoz  
Paul Oliver  
Carolina Orloff, Charco Press  
Soraya Padrao  
George Riveron  
Rosalba Rolon  
Gabriela Saker  
Rafael Sanchez  
Maya Solovej, New Directions  
Luis Torres  
Ricardo Torres  
Joan E. Trant  
Miguel Trelles  
Paloma de Vega  
Begoña De Ros Raventós  
Stephen Whitehill

# Press

Of the many mentions in the press in 2025, here is a selection of articles about the QSSI and its programs. The highlight of the year in press was an article “Sure, France Helped the Colonists. So Did Spain.” about the QSSI and its America&Spain250 initiative by James Barron at The New York Times.



# The New York Times

NEW YORK TODAY

## Sure, France Helped the Colonists. So Did Spain.

The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute looks at the role of Spain in aiding the rebellion against Britain during the American Revolution.

By JAMES BARRON



Press Mentions of  
QSSI

227

Number of Unique  
Media Outlets  
Covering the QSSI

130

Broadcast Coverage  
About the QSSI

4

Countries Covering  
QSSI Programs

6


**In 2025,  
the QSSI  
had  
significant  
press  
coverage  
in a variety  
of media  
outlets.**

## *El Transatlántico*

The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute maintains a robust online presence through various social media platforms (Instagram, Twitter/X, Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube) and its website, driven by the objective of engaging with diverse global audiences. As an integral part of the QSSI website, "El Transatlántico" is a cultural blog, allowing followers to access a multitude of articles, videos, and various other resources, and thus fostering a meaningful connection with English and Spanish-speaking audiences across the globe.



# About the Institute

 **Juan Orozco** PRESENTS

LA FOLIA Series 1983-1984

Monday, January 30, 1984 at 8:00 p.m. at Alice Tully Hall

## **MONTserrat ALAVEDRA**

Soprano

**MIGUEL ZANETTI**, Piano

**ENRIQUE GARDANO**, Guitar

ROSSINI • MOZART • WOLF  
SEPHARDIC SONGS  
GRANADOS • TOLDRÀ • RODRIGO



*"Most extraordinary of all, however, was Montserrat Alavedra's handling of the soprano's recitatives and arias. She sang the great lament 'Aus Liebe will mein Heiland sterben' fabulously, revealing a sumptuous tone, an elegant phrasing, a powerful dramatic projection, and a spiritual connection with the music that defies adequate description.*

*"After the first few notes of the aria, I scribbled on my program, 'The young Schwarzkopf.' At the end, I crossed that out and wrote, 'The young Alavedra!'"*

*—Frank Corrado, reviewing Bach's "St. Matthew Passion" in The New York Times*

PEPITA SARAZENA

PEPITA SARAZENA and her husband José LUIS RODRÍGUEZ have spent the last 15 years of their lives in the world of Spanish dance. Their programme of Spanish Dances, which they toured Great Britain sponsored for six consecutive years by the Arts Council, has been performed throughout Europe and the Orient. In Spain with their traditional and extremely beautiful costumes, as well as their eighteenth century dances, and choreography set to modern music, by Manuel de Falla, make up a programme of extraordinary interest and beauty.

JUAN MARTÍNEZ

JUAN MARTÍNEZ plays the guitar with the knowledge and feeling of a dancer, which only a dancer can bring out, for Martínez is famous as an instructor in Flamenco dancing. He now teaches and acts as counsellor to many a first class dancer.

BALDWIN PIANO

is reserved. No photographs of the performance.

SPANISH INSTRUMENTS

PATRON

L. R. AKSTON

N. CASTROVIEJO

O. OWEN R. C.

A. IAN D. DAVI

K. WILLIAM B.

RS. CARLTON J.

L. W. ROGERS I.

A. WILLIAM M.

LES V. HICCO

ARD F. HUTTON

U. CARLOS F. L.

DE MOHERNA

L. GEORGE S. M.

IS W. NOYES

M. OLIN

L. C. FRANK R.

REAVES

ED LAROCQUE

ST J. WEATHERHEAD, JR.

# Our Work

The Institute is committed to advancing knowledge and mutual cultural appreciation between the U.S. and Spanish-speaking countries through different initiatives in the fields of history, fine arts, performing arts, gastronomy, language, literature, science, medicine, film, and education.

## The Sophia Award

Named after the Greek word for wisdom “Sophia,” this award is presented to a person or organization that has actively contributed to the international appreciation of Spain and the Americas through a donation of time, expertise, and an innate wisdom in the areas of sciences, arts, or humanities.

In 2018, the Institute inaugurated the Sophia Award for Excellence, a prize honoring the wisdom and humanitarianism of our Patroness of Honor, Her Majesty Queen Sofía.





# Our Patroness

In 2003, Her Majesty Queen Sofía accepted the Board of Directors' unanimous request to rename the Institute in Her Majesty's honor, in recognition of Her Majesty's unwavering support of the mission. Her Majesty Queen Sofía is a devoted patron of the Institute and maintains an active role in promoting Spanish culture in the Americas.

In 2018, the Institute re-dedicated its highest honor, inaugurating the Sophia Award for Excellence, a prize honoring the wisdom and humanitarianism of our Patroness Her Majesty Queen Sofía. Her Majesty has since presented the Sophia Award for Excellence to honorees such as Gustavo Dudamel, Carmen Iglesias, Gloria and Emilio Estefan, and Carlos Slim.

Throughout Her reign, Her Majesty Queen Sofía has focused on charitable works with a special interest in medicine.

Her Majesty is the Executive President of the Fundación Reina Sofía, a charitable and cultural foundation, which promotes and encourages cultural, social aid, research and educational purposes with an Alzheimer's center housing 150 patients and a forensic lab in Madrid. Her Majesty is Honorary President of the Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofía. Her Majesty's patronage of the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute has been instrumental in advancing the Institute's mission, and Her Majesty's steadfast dedication to cultural and charitable causes is an example for all.

# Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute is responsible for setting strategic goals to further the Institute's mission. Directors contribute their time, financial support and professional abilities as needed.

The following pages reflect the members of and the leadership positions held by the Board of Directors of the Institute throughout 2025.



**Pilar Lladó Arburúa**  
CHAIR



**José Pepe Fanjul**  
VICE-CHAIRMAN



**M. Begonia Santos**  
PRESIDENT & CEO



**Joan E. Trant**  
TREASURER



**Patrice Degnan**  
SECRETARY



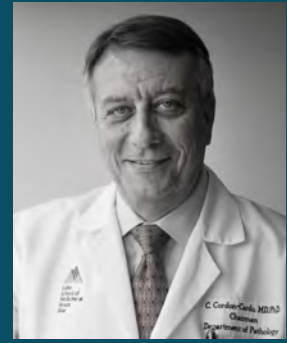
**Alicia Alcocer  
Koplowitz**  
BOARD MEMBER



**David L. Askren**  
FINANCE &  
INVESTMENT  
COMMITTEE CHAIR



**María Luisa  
Cánovas**  
GOVERNANCE &  
NOMINATING  
COMMITTEE CHAIR



**Dr. Carlos  
Cordón-Cardó**  
BOARD MEMBER



**Dixie De Luca**  
SOPHIA AWARD  
COMMITTEE CHAIR



**Begoña de Ros  
Raventós**  
BOARD MEMBER



**Marisa Falcó de  
Godó**  
BOARD MEMBER



**Antonio  
Garrigues Walker**  
BOARD MEMBER



**Dr. Richard  
Kagan**  
CULTURAL ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE & PROGRAM  
COMMITTEE CHAIR



**Nancy Kissinger**  
BOARD MEMBER



**Carmen  
Reviriego**  
BOARD MEMBER



**Isabel Stude  
Lummis**  
BOARD MEMBER

# Committees

## Executive Committee

Pilar Lladó Arburúa, Committee Chair

José Pepe Fanjul

Patrice Degnan

Joan Trant

M. Begonia Santos

Dr. Richard Kagan

Dixie De Luca

## Finance & Investment Committee

David L. Askren, Committee Chair

Joan Trant, Committee Vice-Chair

José Pepe Fanjul

Patrice Degnan

M. Begonia Santos

Gabriel Cooperman

Begoña de Ros Raventós

## Governance & Nominating Committee

María Luisa Cánovas, Committee Chair

Pilar Lladó Arburúa

Joan Trant

Patrice Degnan

M. Begonia Santos

## Program & Development Committee

Dr. Richard Kagan, Committee Chair

M. Begonia Santos

## Sophia Award Committee

Dixie De Luca, Committee Chair

M. Begonia Santos

Carmen Reviriego

Marisa Falcó de Godó

## Chairman's Advisory Council

- Reinaldo Herrera\*
- Gonzalo Ulloa, Esq.

\*in memoriam

The Chairman's Advisory Council is composed of individuals who bring unique knowledge and experience to support the Board of Directors in order to enhance the effectiveness of the leadership in the Institute.

# Cultural Advisory Committee



**José Andrés**

GASTRONOMY



**Cristina Domenech, PhD**

ART EDUCATION



**Chancellor Carmen Fariña**

EDUCATION



**Richard Kagan, PhD**

HISTORY



**Ricardo Llorca**

MUSIC



**Jaime Olmedo, PhD**

HISTORY



**Carmen Posadas**

LITERATURE



**Lucia Regales, PhD**

SCIENCE



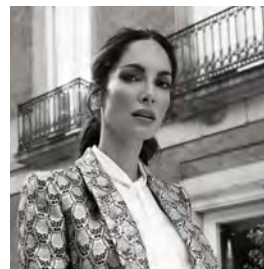
**Carmen Reviriego**

FINE ART



**Laura Rojas-Marcos**

SCIENCE



**Eugenia Silva**

FASHION



**Gonzalo Quintero Saravia, PhD, SJD**

HISTORY

## Junior Advisory Committee

- Carolina Cordón-Bouzán, Chair
- Pedro Magariño Manero, Vice-Chair
- Daniel Cordón-Bouzán, Vice-Chair
- Olivia Muro, Secretary

The Junior Advisory Committee was created to help guide the Institute into the future, broaden its reach, and strengthen its mission among younger generations of Americans and Spanish-speaking young adults.

## 2025 Executive Team

- Begonia Santos, President & CEO
- Peggy Holder-Jones, Director of Finance and Administration
  - Until May 2025
- Susan Vega, Director of Finance and Administration
  - As of May 2025
- Isabel Rivero, Senior Media and Program Development Manager
- Celia Maldonado, Program and Media Associate

---

In 2025, Peggy Holder-Jones transitioned from her 32 year long career (from 1994 to 2025) at the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute to dedicate her life to being a Pastor of the Methodist Church. The Queen Sofía Spanish Institute wishes her all the best in this vocation and profoundly thanks Peggy for her decades of dedication to the Institute.







*445 Park Avenue, 9th Floor  
New York, NY*