



The Legacy. Spain's Legacy in the United States of America

® Project **E**

We are pleased to introduce our new project, **The Legacy**, which we are launching in the full belief that we will make a difference. We want to create dynamic learning tools towards the goal of increasing curiosity and maintaining a visual impact.

We have registered this new brand, The Legacy, with a logo that gives its name to the project. Spain, or España, can't be understood without its Ñ, just as the United States' history cannot be understood without Spain. In the words of Thomas Jefferson, one of the founding fathers of the nation, "*The history of the United States of America is written in Spanish.*" Jefferson stood out for his unconditional and passionate interest in our language: he shared his passion with his daughters, to whom he read ten pages of Don Quixote every night before going to bed.

Teaching about our ancestors, their feats, and their mistakes is a cornerstone of a country's history. When two nations are linked in that history, the cultural roots are rooted in the land, and their legacy is indestructible.

Thomas Jefferson was one of the men responsible for the famous Declaration of Independence. Years later, he would become the third American president. Thanks to John Quincy Adams' Memoirs, we have evidence that Jefferson perfected his Spanish in Paris while serving as Ambassador. He threw himself into learning with a soldier's discipline and armed himself for combat: three weeks of determination, Don Quixote, and a grammar guide were his weapons. He considered this knowledge fundamental for two important reasons. The first was because Spanish was the language in which the history of his country had been written. The second was because he undoubtedly understood that it would be a crucial complement in future relations with Spain. His determination has made me reflect on these two simple questions:

What books are we willing to read to our children, grandchildren, nephews, and nieces?
What stories do we want to share beyond fiction?

At The Legacy Association, Spanish is our everyday operating language. We are committed to teaching our history with a fair and documented account of what happened. We want the feats of those who preceded us to cease being a secret. They deserve their place away from the dust of the shelves and oblivion.

You may not know that there are over a thousand US mountains, caves, hills, ranges, and rock formations with Spanish names: Sacramento Mountains, Paso Ratón, Dos Cabezas Mountains, El Capitan, La Panza, La Sal, Puente Gil, Sandia, and — one of my favorites — Mogollon Mountain, which reminds me of the enormous amount of work we have left to do to bring respect to our heritage within and beyond our borders.

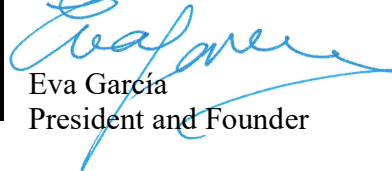
You can't love what you don't know. While it is our institutions' responsibility to advance our history, with that fair and documented account that we at The Legacy encourage you to advocate for incorporation into the educational system, there is another even more important responsibility: that of each of us.

The pride of a country is not a toy. Let us not allow ourselves to play with ours. It is a free and conscious decision by each one of us.



On behalf of all of us at The Legacy, we thank you for the expressions of affection and the impulse to spread the word about our initiatives.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eva Garcia', is written over the printed name and title.

Eva García
President and Founder

