



# MARTÍ SPANISH ACADEMY

## IMMERSION EXPERIENCE

A project of Positive Impact Consulting, LLC

### **Application**

Thank you for applying to the Martí Spanish Academy, a full-immersion Spanish language and culture experience. Martí is designed to be an invigorating and motivating academy that emphasizes oral communication to improve Spanish fluency. Thus, it is extremely important to understand that once at the academy, only Spanish is spoken, and full participation is required. *(If a student insists on speaking in English, speaking in a language besides Spanish, or not participating fully, the student will be sent home without a refund and at the parents' expense.)*

Martí Spanish Academy is fun, but it is also a challenge at first. Martí helps you synthesize the grammar and vocabulary you already know, while enabling you to add complexity and depth to your language skills. To accomplish these goals, we have an advanced grammar/ vocabulary lesson daily. Our philosophy, however, is to use hands-on techniques and to integrate Spanish into everyday activities so that improving your fluency is natural and fun. If you follow what we teach you and put all of your effort into each activity, you should see a dramatic difference after 10 days, and an even bigger difference after 20 days. For students who wish to stay for both sessions, our program is specially designed so that each session has its own unique themes and activities.

We strongly recommend that you visit our web site at [www.MartiSpanishAcademy.com](http://www.MartiSpanishAcademy.com) to find out what a typical day is like and especially to read the section titled "One Student's Story." It is a true story about the journey of one Martí student, written by him as his final project at the academy. It chronicles the acclimation process at Martí as he moves from self-doubt to forgetting that he is even speaking in another language. We have found that this is the typical experience that most Martí students go through.

### **Who is eligible?**

Students in grades 9-12, including graduating seniors, are eligible:

1. Students must have maintained a minimum of a "C" in Spanish for the previous year and must currently have at least a "C." (Certainly, the higher your grades, the better chance you have of being accepted.) Acceptance also depends on your responses in Part II and your teacher recommendation in Part III.
2. You must have completed Spanish 3 by June 2010.

### **Application process:**

There are three types of admissions—early, regular, and late.

Candidates who meet the selection criteria will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Space is limited; therefore, we highly recommend that you apply early. Filling out an application does not guarantee acceptance into MSA.

**EXTENDED! Early admission applications** (including your official high school transcript and teacher recommendation) must be postmarked by December 15, 2009. Candidates will be notified of their acceptance no later than December 30, 2009.

*Candidates who apply for early admission, are accepted, and send in their non-refundable deposit of \$400 (for 10 days) or \$800 (for 20 days) postmarked by January 15, 2010, will receive a \$100 discount off their final payment. Please be advised that if you are accepted for early admission, we can only guarantee your spot when we receive your deposit.*

**Regular admission applications** (including your official high school transcript and teacher recommendation) must be postmarked by February 15, 2010. Candidates will be notified of their acceptance no later than March 1, 2010.

**Late applications** are those postmarked after February 15, 2010. If the candidate is accepted and decides to attend, there is a late charge of \$100 added to the normal tuition.

### **Checklist of items to send in:**

- ✓ Application (Parts I-II). Please print or type out all parts of the application completely. Part II must be filled out in Spanish.
- ✓ Your teacher's recommendation (Part III) should be sent separately by your teacher.
- ✓ Official high school transcript that includes all years of Spanish study

### **Please send your application and official transcript to:**

Jacqueline Gottstein, Director  
Martí Spanish Academy  
PO Box 2524  
Roanoke, VA 24010

*(You will receive a confirmation e-mail upon the receipt of your application.)*

### **Tuition for 2010:**

1. 10-day session = \$1345 (Session 1: July 5 - July 14 OR Session 2: July 15 - July 24)
2. 20-day session = \$2555 (Get a day for free!) (**July 5 - July 24**)

If you wish, you can earn up to two semesters of transferable, sophomore-level college credit while at MSA. There is no additional classwork, just simply register for the class through Virginia Western Community College and pay their separate tuition fee. We will detail how to do this as the academy date approaches. Tuition for college credit is paid separately through Virginia Western Community College. See page 4.

### **What does my tuition cover?**

1. 10- or 20-day stay at our retreat center in Lynchburg, Virginia
2. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks
3. All instruction and materials (books, art supplies, etc.)
4. All evening entertainment
5. All linens
6. Free access to laundry machines
7. Housekeeping

### **Payment options:**

If you are accepted, a non-refundable deposit of \$400 (for a 10-day session) or \$800 (for the 20-day session) must be postmarked by January 15 for early admission applicants and by April 1 for regular admission applicants. This deposit guarantees you a place at MSA.

The remaining balance is then due in two equal payments by May 1 and June 1. Checks and money orders are accepted and should be made payable to **Positive Impact Consulting, LLC**.

### **Cancellation Policy:**

If a student cancels before May 15, all money will be refunded except for the non-refundable deposit. Cancellations after May 15 cannot be refunded, but we will be happy to apply the full amount (minus the \$400 or \$800 non-refundable deposit) to the student's enrollment in the following year's program. If a student cancels for the following year as well (cancels two years in a row), neither a further extension nor a refund will be given.

If a student leaves the academy for any reason before his or her session(s) is/are over, or does not show up to the academy as scheduled, neither a refund nor extension to a future session will be given..

**Questions?** Contact Jacqueline Gottstein at 540-761-4756 or e-mail [info@MartiSpanishAcademy.com](mailto:info@MartiSpanishAcademy.com)

**Part I - Please fill out in English.**

**Personal information**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
*First Middle Last*

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Apt. City State Zip*

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Current grade level: 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup>

I am currently taking Spanish: 3 4 5 If you are in Spanish 5, is it considered an AP class? Yes No

School Name \_\_\_\_\_ City/County \_\_\_\_\_

Current Spanish Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Extra Curricular Activities \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies \_\_\_\_\_

**I prefer to attend (circle session):**

Session 1: July 5 - July 14      Session 2: July 15 - July 24      Both sessions: July 5 - July 24

*All efforts will be made to accommodate your preference. If your first preference cannot be accommodated, you will be notified by March 30.*

**I plan to apply for transferable college credit:    Yes    No**

College credit is earned through Virginia Western Community College. You must be at least 16 years old to receive college credit, and you must have your principal's permission. If you are home-schooled, your parents must sign the form. Upon your acceptance to MSA, we will send you instructions on how to apply for college credit.

PLEASE NOTE: Generally, public colleges and universities in Virginia accept transferable credit earned through the Virginia Community College System. Some private colleges/universities and public colleges/universities outside of Virginia may also accept transferable college credit. However, in all cases, it is always up to the particular college's or university's discretion as to whether it will accept the credit or not.

**Parent/Guardian Information:**

Parent/Guardian name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Part II - Contesta en español.**

1. ¿Por qué has elegido tomar español en la escuela secundaria?

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2. a.) Explica por qué te consideras un buen candidato para la Academia Martí.

b.) ¿Por qué quisieras asistir a la Academia Martí este verano?

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3. Durante tu estancia en la Academia Martí, te piden que hables solamente en español.

¿Puedes poner todo tu esfuerzo en comunicarte SIEMPRE en español durante la(s) sesión(es) en la(s) que estás allí? Explica tu respuesta.

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## Part III - Teacher recommendation

(To be completed and sent in by your current Spanish teacher)

Applicant name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City/County: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher email: \_\_\_\_\_ School phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Spanish Teacher:

The student above is applying to attend the Martí Spanish Academy Immersion Experience, an intensive, full-immersion Spanish academy for high school students held during the summer ([www.MartiSpanishAcademy.com](http://www.MartiSpanishAcademy.com)). The information you provide will help us decide if the student will benefit from this type of experience, AND if other students will benefit from this student's participation. Please mail this form directly to the Academy at the address listed at the bottom of this page. **The student should not see this form.**

Please rate how often the applicant demonstrates the following characteristics. Write the number in the blank provided.

*0=never 1=seldom 2=sometimes 3=often 4=most of the time*

- |                      |       |                               |       |
|----------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Motivation        | _____ | 5. Enthusiasm                 | _____ |
| 2. Perseverance      | _____ | 6. Willingness to participate | _____ |
| 3. Positive attitude | _____ | 7. Trustworthiness            | _____ |
| 4. Creativity        | _____ | 8. Works well with others     | _____ |

How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?

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Why would you recommend, or – just as importantly – not recommend the student attend a total Spanish-language immersion experience?

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How would you rate the student's attitude when faced with a challenge? Is the student flexible and open-minded?

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**Teachers, return this form to:** Jacqueline Gottstein, Director, Martí Spanish Academy  
PO Box 2524, Roanoke, VA 24010