



The Gabriela Mistral Foundation, Inc., Elqui Valley Foundation, the Embassy of Chile in the UK, St. Catherine's College @ Oxford University and Kings College London announce

**Gabriela Mistral,**

**--celebrating the life and work of the first Latin American Nobel Prize Winner**

and the book launch of a Special Bilingual Edition in Commemoration edition

**From Chile to the World: 70 years of Gabriela Mistral's Nobel Prize**

**De Chile al Mundo: 70 años del Premio Nobel de Gabriela Mistral**

**PRESS CONTACT**

[info@gabrielamistralfoundation.org](mailto:info@gabrielamistralfoundation.org)

**NEW YORK, October 1, 2015** -- The celebratory event of the 70<sup>th</sup>. Anniversary of Gabriela Mistral Nobel's prize centers on the life and work of Latin Americas's first Nobel laureate as a poet, humanitarian and best-known Latin American intellectual of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The programme will include the exhibition of a short video presentation, poetry readings and an academic discussion with: Marjorie Agosin (Wellesley College), Catherine Boyle (King's College London), Jo Crow (Bristol), Karen Benavente (University of Glasgow) and Gloria Garafulich-Grabois (Gabriela Mistral Foundation, Inc. [US]).

In 1945 Gabriela Mistral became the first Latin American --and to this date the only Latin American woman-writer to obtain the Nobel Prize in Literature "for her lyric poetry which, inspired by powerful emotions, has made her name a symbol of the idealistic aspirations of the entire Latin American world." Mistral's legacy is not just her poetry. Her prose is as powerful as her verse; she was a noted educator--although she did not complete her formal education; a humanitarian --concerned with the rights of children, women, indigenous people and those in need; her vision of Latin America and education were considered ahead of her time. Mistral's writings are as relevant now as they were in her own time.

The event will also include the presentation of a special -side-by-side- bilingual edition in commemoration and celebration of this important Mistralian milestone for Chile, the Americas and the world. The book, "**From Chile to the World: 70 years of Mistral's Nobel Prize**" - "**De Chile al Mundo: 70 años del Premio Nobel de Mistral,**" edited by Marjorie Agosin and Gloria Garafulich-Grabois, includes 480 pages of biographical and archival information; poems; prose; special contributions; photographs and references. The book, a non-profit publication to benefit the projects and programmes of the Gabriela Mistral Foundation celebrates and highlights Mistral's literary humanitarian work as well as the impact her writings and her thought had and continues to have in the world. This project has been possible with the generous support of the Elqui Valley Foundation.

The events presented by the Embassy of Chile to the UK, the Gabriela Mistral Foundation, the Elqui Valley Foundation, St. Catherine's College @ Oxford University and the University of London, will be on:

**Tuesday, November 3, 2015**

St. Catherine's College, Oxford University

**Thursday, November 5, 2015**

King's College London

For more information contact: [info@gabrielamistralfoundation.org](mailto:info@gabrielamistralfoundation.org)

**Gabriela Mistral Foundation**

100 Park Avenue, Suite 1600, New York, NY 10016 -- 212 984 0632 -- [www.gabrielamistralfoundation.org](http://www.gabrielamistralfoundation.org) --

[info@gabrielamistralfoundation.org](mailto:info@gabrielamistralfoundation.org)



## **ABOUT GABRIELA MISTRAL**

**Lucila Godoy Alcayaga**, known to the world as Gabriela Mistral was born 1889 in the city of Vicuña. She was a self-taught educator, poet, diplomat and humanitarian. The central theme of her poems are about death and sorrow, children and her beloved Chile. She wrote extensively on behalf of the rights of children, education, women and native people. In 1945, she was the recipient of the Nobel Prize in Literature, the first Latin American to be recognized with this award and to date the only Latin American woman who holds this honor. She played an important role in the educational systems of Chile and Mexico, was active in cultural committees of the League of Nations, and was Consul of Chile in New York, Naples, Madrid, Petropolis and Lisbon. She held honorary degrees from Columbia University (NY), Mills College, 1947 (Oakland, CA), and from the Universities of Florence, and Guatemala and was an honorary member of various cultural societies in Chile as well as in the United States, Spain, and Cuba. She taught Spanish literature in the United States at Barnard College of Columbia University, Middlebury College, Vassar College, and at the University of Puerto Rico. Mistral died in 1957 in the City of New York while serving as Consul of Chile. Her writings and her work left an important mark in Chile, Latin America and the world and they are as important now as they were more than 70 years ago.

## **ABOUT THE**

### **Gabriela Mistral Foundation**

Founded in the City of New York in 2007, the Gabriela Mistral Foundation carries on the legacy of Gabriela Mistral, particularly her love and care of the children and the aged of her native country, Chile. For this purpose, the Foundation awards monetary grants to qualifying institutions that make an impact on the quality of life and/or education of Chilean children and the aged. The Gabriela Mistral Foundation also promotes the life, thought and work of Gabriela Mistral by holding special programmes and events in Chile and in the United States. The Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization incorporated in the State of New York. For more information, please visit: [www.gabrielamistralfoundation.org](http://www.gabrielamistralfoundation.org)

### **Elqui Valley Foundation**

Named after the breathtaking Elqui Valley of Chile, the beloved first home of Gabriela Mistral, this private foundation is dedicated to providing opportunities through the funding of scholarships and supporting community projects. In addition, the foundation has provided substantial disaster relief aid in Chile and in other parts of the world. Since its inception in 1999, the Elqui Valley Foundation has centered its mission on providing the empowering gift of education and in this manner it honors the legacy of Gabriela Mistral.

-- END OF RELEASE --



CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF  
GABRIELA MISTRAL'S  
NOBEL PRIZE IN LITERATURE

### ***Gabriela Mistral Foundation***

100 Park Avenue, Suite 1600, New York, NY 10016 -- 212 984 0632 -- [www.gabrielamistralfoundation.org](http://www.gabrielamistralfoundation.org) --  
[info@gabrielamistralfoundation.org](mailto:info@gabrielamistralfoundation.org)