

Contact: Gabriela Mistral Foundation, Inc. mistralnobel45@yahoo.com

NEW YORK, September 9th, 2021—To commemorate the 70th anniversary of Gabriela Mistral's Chile's National Prize in Literature—awarded to her in August 1951—*CorreosChile* and *Correos de España* will honor this important milestone with a Special Joint Commemorative Postage Stamp that will simultaneously go into circulation on September 9th, 2021. The *Gabriela Mistral Foundation, Inc.* is honored to have collaborated in this project, and grateful to the Philately Departments of *CorreosChile* and Spain for having extended to us, the invitation to collaborate in this initiative. The image on the stamp being issued by *CorreosChile*, is a watercolor artwork by US artist **Nestor del Prado.** Mr. del Prado created this work in 2012, and at that time, he generously assigned the rights of the artwork to the <u>Gabriela Mistral Foundation, Inc.</u>

Gloria Garafulich-Grabois, president of the Gabriela Mistral remarks: "During Gabriela's lifetime, letters were the main form of communication—and, Gabriela Mistral was indeed a great letter-writer. As her epistolary archives show, throughout her life and from different corners of the world, she corresponded with her family, former students, friends and the great intellectuals of her time. For centuries, letter writing was the only efficient form of communication, most unfortunately, as technology and fast communications improve, the art of letter writing has greatly decreased. We must be grateful of the fact that Mistral was a prolific letter writer, as it is by reading her letters that we get to know not only Gabriela, but Lucila—the woman from Elqui—, her world as she writes about in her letters. Her letters, are now treasures—and we should always treasure them as such. This welldeserved recognition of Gabriela Mistral, also highlights the strong bond between Chile and Spain, a project with one goal: to honor a most outstanding woman—whose life, work and thought—are as relevant today as they were during her lifetime. We also hope that this new stamp can serve as an incentive for children to learn more about Gabriela Mistral, and also as an introduction to the world of philately—a way of travelling the world, of learning about the cultures of faraway lands. We also hope that this new stamp will encourage them to start writing letters—as a letter at first is a form of communication, but in time it becomes a treasure "our treasure." We express our deep gratitude to everyone who made this possible, and most specially we thank: Ms. Ljubica Günther and Mr. Mauricio Navarro of Correos de Chile and Ms. Antonia Palacios of Correos de España. Throughout the process they demonstrated great professionalism and expertise in the Philatelic area."

As of September 9th the stamps will be available for purchase as Santiago's Plaza de Armas branch, and online at <u>filatelia@correos.cl</u>, and, as of September 13th, it will be available in the Regions at branches that have a Philatelic Office.

The Gabriela Mistral Foundation, Inc. was founded in 2007, and is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization incorporated in the State of New York. To learn more about the mission and the work of the Gabriela Mistral Foundation, Inc., we invite you to visit: www.gabrielamistralfoundation.org

###