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ISABELLA & FERDINAND ACADEMIA DE ESPAÑOL ENTERS INTO STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP  
WITH LEADING DC PUBLIC SCHOOL HORACE MANN ELEMENTARY

The innovative Spanish language academy Isabella & Ferdinand Academia de Español ([www.isabellaandferdinand.org](http://www.isabellaandferdinand.org)) has entered into a long-term partnership with Horace Mann Elementary School in NW Washington, DC. Under the partnership, starting in January 2019, Isabella & Ferdinand will be now headquartered at Horace Mann and provide Spanish and cultural learning classes to its students as well as to children from other area schools there.

“We are truly thrilled about this exciting new step for Isabella & Ferdinand,” said co-founder, Pilar Frank O’Leary. “For years we have been searching for the right academic ‘home’ where we could bring our curriculum as a Spanish language-in-residence program while still serving our larger community of dedicated parents and students.” Co-founder Alexandra Migoya added, “Horace Mann’s amazing reputation as a public academic institution in our nation’s capital speaks for itself. As we enter into the next decade of educating students in the Spanish language, we are honored to have this opportunity to grow and expand our offering at this great school.”

Horace Mann Principal Elizabeth Whisnant said, “Horace Mann is committed to offering students in its community the very best in language acquisition. For a decade, Isabella & Ferdinand has demonstrated its expertise in teaching children Spanish in a culturally sensitive and relevant way, and we are delighted to be welcoming them into our community. ”

In addition to the classes at Horace Mann, Isabella & Ferdinand will also continue to provide private tutoring and a limited number of classes to students in grades PK-8 at other schools, community centers and venues, including its core classes at Washington Global Charter School, and a summer program at St. Patrick’s Episcopal Day School. Isabella & Ferdinand will also continue to license its curriculum and teaching training methods to schools and centers in DC and in other states.

Isabella & Ferdinand is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit program founded 10 years ago in Washington, DC by Pilar Frank O’Leary and Alexandra Migoya, two Georgetown Law school graduates with degrees in linguistics and Spanish literature. The program teaches Spanish to children in the context of the art, literature and music of Latin America and Spain through a unique, immersion CultureCentric™ curriculum which uses the linguistic standards of the Instituto Cervantes in Madrid. Isabella & Ferdinand’s curriculum has been taught at leading independent and public schools and enrichment programs across the Washington DC area, Virginia and Miami.

As part of this new partnership, Mayra Abasto will serve as Isabella & Ferdinand’s newly appointed Executive Director and lead the teaching team at Horace Mann as well as at the Washington Global Public Charter School. Fran Revert, Isabella & Ferdinand’s long time teacher and Executive Director for

10 years, will continue pursuing his professional music and production career in addition to teaching AP Spanish at St. Andrews Episcopal School in Potomac, MD. Mr. Revert will continue as a member of Isabella & Ferdinand’s Advisory Board as well as teach certain Saturday classes.

Isabella & Ferdinand Board President Jessica Springsteen said, “Isabella & Ferdinand’s teaching methods immerse children in the world of Spanish in way that gives them an added advantage in their linguistic and cultural competencies. We are delighted about the partnership with Horace Mann and to bring this unique and high caliber approach to a larger community of students.”

A full schedule of Spanish classes will be published before the end of December 2018. For more information and press inquiries, please send an email to [info@isabellaandferdinand.org](mailto:info@isabellaandferdinand.org)

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