

# *José Martí Studies Center offers virtual tours of sites linked to Cuba's National Hero*

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The José Martí Studies Center (CEM) proposes an approach to the life and work of Cuban National Hero José Martí from the comfort of our house, at a time when we are all required to stay at home and practice social distancing in order to stop the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Center's digital library offers readers free access to and download of a broad collection of works by and about the Cuban National Hero, as well as cellphone applications. The collection includes more than 30 titles and a 329-page critical edition of José Martí's Complete Works. It comprises all documents, 41 in total, written by Martí between May 6 and August 31, 1888.

The website of the José Martí Studies Center offers visitors virtual tours of places linked to Martí's life, including his home on Paula Street in Old Havana, the El Abra Farm, located on the Isle of Youth, where he spent nine weeks in exile before his deportation to Spain, and the Fragua Martiana Museum, built on the ruins of the 19th century San Lazaro quarries, where 16 year-old Martí was forced to perform hard labor for his anti-colonial activism.

Also included in the virtual tours is the building that houses the Jose Marti Studies Center itself, the former house of Marti's son José Francisco Martí Zayas-Bazán-- in whose honor he wrote the poetry book entitled "Ismaelillo."

With these actions, the Havana institution dedicated to the promotion of Martí's work, joins the StayHome campaign in Cuba, in times of Covid-19.

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