

# National Spanish Examinations Junior Travel Award



*Pursuant to its mission, the National Spanish Examination (NSE), a program of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP), is committed to recognizing student achievement and promoting language proficiency in the study of Spanish. To this end, NSE will offer twenty four (24) travel awards to Peru in July 2017.*

## **Travel Award Description**

Each year the Junior Travel Award provides eligible students the opportunity to travel to and experience the culture of a Spanish-speaking country. The award includes round-trip transportation from the student's home airport to Peru, transportation and guided excursions while in Peru, hotel stays, and all meals.

## **Eligibility**

For the 2017 travel award, applicants **MUST**:

- Be a junior in high school during the 2016-2017 academic year
- Have received medal placement by scoring at or above the 75<sup>th</sup>-percentile on the 2016 National Spanish Examination **during** the Spring of 2016 - Level II or above
- Be registered to take the 2017 National Spanish Examination - Level III or above
- Agree to continue studying Spanish during his/her senior year in high school

NOTE: Only ONE student per school may apply. (Teachers at participating schools must select the applicant from their own school.)

## **Responsibilities of Winners**

1. Winners need to be available one day before the scheduled date of departure and one day after the scheduled return in case arrival in the departure city or return from it on those dates is necessary.
2. Upon return from the trip, winners will be required to send to the Coordinator of Travel Awards an account of their experiences along with several digital photographs to be published on the NSE website.

NOTE: If a student cannot travel during the specified time, the trip will be forfeited, and another student will be chosen. The trip may not be postponed to another year. If a student accepts the trip and is ticketed but then does not complete the trip, he/she will be charged \$3,200 for the value of the trip.

## **Dates / Deadlines**

- Application deadline: February 15, 2017
- Notification of winners: April 1, 2017
- Travel to Peru: July 20-28, 2017

## **Application Procedure**

In order for the student to be considered eligible, all of the following application materials must be sent as separate PDF attachments within the same email message to [lmikenas@nationalspanishexam.org](mailto:lmikenas@nationalspanishexam.org). The subject line should read: Junior Travel Applicant – Student’s Name.

1. The **application form**
2. A standard **video clip** (5 minute maximum) in Spanish in which you discuss with your teacher both of the following topics:
  - how you feel the trip will impact your life
  - why you feel the committee should award you the trip given that there are many qualified applicants

Video submission requirements:

- The speech should be spontaneous and conversation in tone.
  - The student should be the dominant speaker.
  - Both the student and the teacher should be visible in the recording.
  - The video should be uploaded to YouTube with permission for anyone with the link to view. Include the link in your application email.
3. One **essay** in Spanish of no more than two double-spaced pages in which you pick ONE of the following topics:
    - Imagine you have just returned from traveling abroad. How do you think you will be remembered? What were the best parts of the trip? What were your challenges?
    - You have just been chosen to have a private conversation with our newly elected president of the United States. What issues facing today’s young Americans will you address? What changes will you request?

NOTE: The teacher should sign the essay stating that it is exclusively student work.

4. High School **transcript**
5. List of **extra-curricular activities**.
6. **Letter of recommendation** from your current Spanish teacher who should comment on your skills in Spanish, your personal and academic motivation, and your ability to get along with others and adapt to unforeseen circumstances.
7. **Letter of recommendation** from someone outside your family who knows you well enough to comment on character.

For inquiries, contact Jamise Kafoure, Director of Junior Travel Awards at [jkafoure@nationalspanishexam.org](mailto:jkafoure@nationalspanishexam.org)

STUDENT INFORMATION					
Student's Name:					
Street Address:					
City:		State:		Zip:	
Telephone:		Is student a United States Citizen?:		yes	no
Student's e-mail address:					
I <u>have also</u> / <u>have not</u> (choose one) applied for the Junior Travel Award through the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica			Student's home airport:		
I am currently enrolled in: (circle one)		Spanish III	Spanish IV	Spanish V	Spanish VI
National Spanish Exam taken last year in 2016		Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5

SCHOOL & TEACHER INFORMATION					
Name of School:					
Street Address:					
City:		State:		Zip:	
Type of School: (circle one)	Public	Private	Independent		
Teacher's name:					
Teacher's e-mail address:					
Teacher's school telephone:		Teacher's home telephone:			

PARENT AUTHORIZATION			
I authorize my son/daughter to travel to Peru as an award winner of the National Spanish Examinations. I agree (1) to provide my son/daughter with the money to pay for lunches and tips and (2) to pay \$3,200 if my son/daughter does not complete the trip. While the students will be adequately supervised once they arrive in the US departure city, I understand that my son/daughter must travel alone from his/her home airport to the US departure city airport where he/she will be greeted by NSE staff at baggage claim.			
Parent's Signature			
Parent's Email		Date	