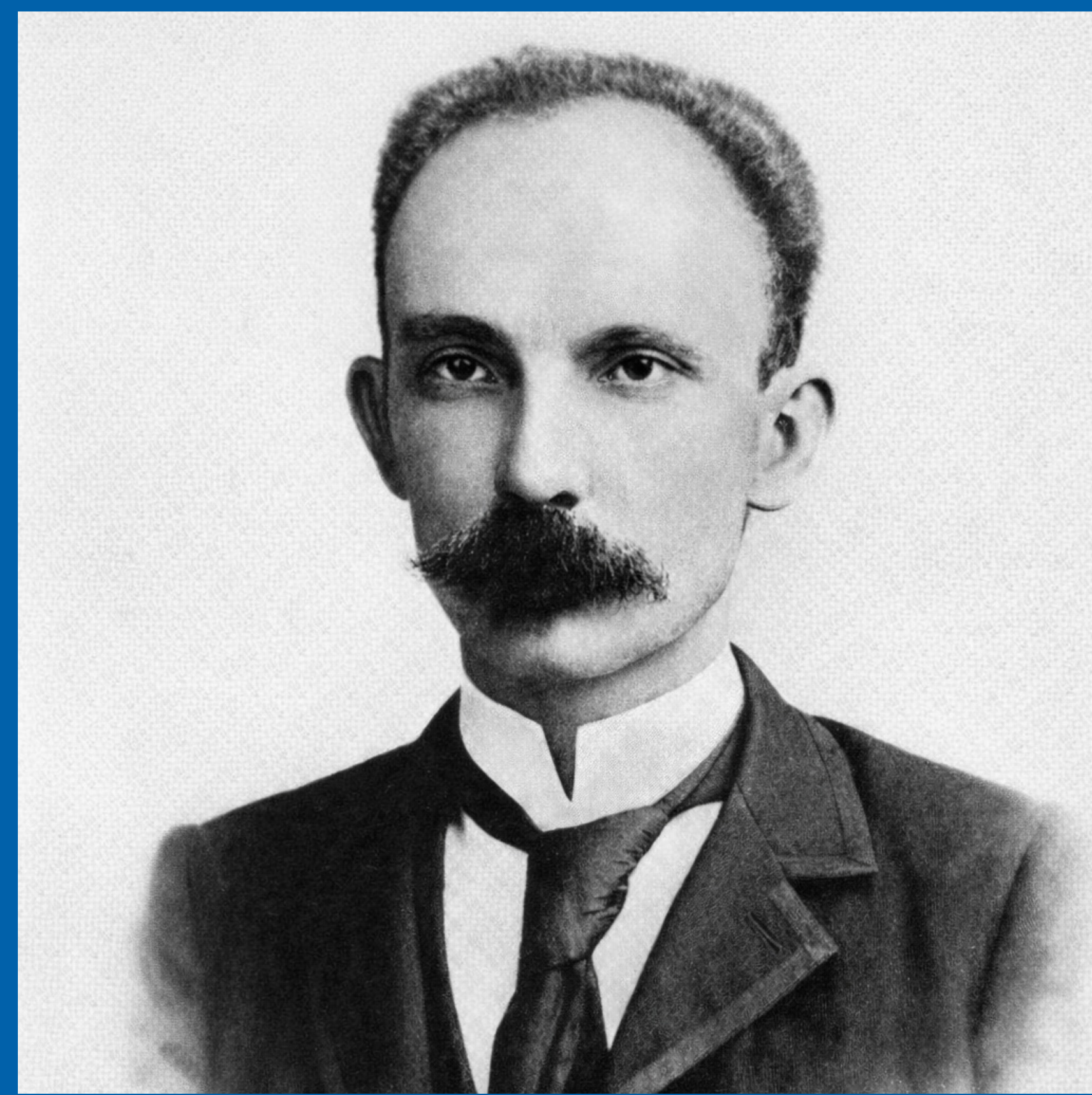


# José Martí

**CUBAN INTELLECTUAL, WRITER, AND ADVOCATE FOR FREEDOM**



## **BACKGROUND**

Born on January 28, 1853, in Havana, Cuba, José Martí grew up during a time of political unrest under Spanish colonial rule. From a young age, he expressed strong views on freedom and justice, which led to his imprisonment and exile. Martí spent much of his life abroad, including many years in New York City, where he became deeply engaged with both Latin American and United States society. His experiences shaped his vision of independence, identity, and democracy.

## **CAREER**

Martí built a distinguished career as a writer, journalist, and political leader, using his voice to advocate for Cuban independence and unity across Latin America. While living in the United States, he wrote extensively about American society, politics, and culture, gaining insight into its strengths and challenges. He played a central role in organizing the Cuban independence movement, helping unite exiled communities and leading efforts that ultimately contributed to the fight for liberation.

## **IMPACT**

José Martí's work had a lasting impact on both the United States and Latin America, offering a vision of democracy rooted in justice, unity, and human dignity. He admired the ideals of freedom in the United States while also recognizing the challenges of inequality and expansionism, providing a thoughtful and balanced perspective on the nation's role in the world. His ideas continue to influence discussions of identity, citizenship, and independence, establishing him as a lasting voice in both American and Latino history.

**THE JOSEPH A. UNANUE LATINO INSTITUTE**

*Celebrating 250 Years*  
**OF LATINO IMPACT ON AMERICAN HISTORY**

