



Mercy High School San Francisco

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A College Preparatory High School for Young Women

**Mercy High School, San Francisco
Laredo Immersion Program
May 29-June 3, 2011
Laredo, Texas**

APPLICATION: Due February 4, 2011

I. Personal Information

Name: _____ Homeroom: _____

Home Address: _____

Parent or guardian name: _____

Parent or guardian signature: _____

Home phone: _____ Parent cell phone: _____

II. Faculty/Staff Signatures: Obtain the signatures of two faculty or staff members (ex. teachers, counselors, admissions, main office, etc.) who **highly recommend** your participation in this program.

1. _____
Signature Title/Position

2. _____
Signature Title/Position

III. Questions: Please type your responses to these questions on a separate piece of paper. Staple that paper to this application form.

1. Why are you interested in participating in this immersion program? What do you hope to learn or gain from this experience?
2. How do you plan to share what you have learned with the Mercy-SF community upon our return to school in August?
3. What is the greatest strength you bring to a group when working together on something?
4. Describe a challenging or difficult experience you have had and how you overcame whatever obstacles it presented.

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IV. Interview: please use this blank space to indicate **second semester** free periods or lunch periods when you are available for an interview:

*See Dr. Cutarelli (Campus Ministry Office) or Ms. Schroeder (Room 313) with any questions!
Return this completed application to Dr. Cutarelli or Ms. Schroeder by **Friday, February 4, 2011.***

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INFORMATION



What is an immersion experience?

- An opportunity to “immerse” yourself in a place and culture different from your own.
- A chance to engage in hands-on learning about immigration and border issues, affordable primary health care, the environment, human trafficking, and the needs and concerns of women and children.
- A way to earn up to **35 community service hours** and get great ideas for your senior culminating project!

What will we do in Laredo?

- Meet local people on both sides of the US-Mexico border
- Engage in direct service to assist people in need
- Learn about immigration, human trafficking, and health care
- Partner with the Sisters of Mercy in their efforts to stand in solidarity with the poor and suffering

How much does it cost?

- Total cost per student: approximately **\$520-\$700**
 - *(final cost to be determined no later than February 11)*
- Includes:
 - Round-trip airfare from the Bay area to Laredo, Texas
 - 5 nights accommodation (3-4 students per room) at the La Quinta Inn in Laredo, Texas
 - All meals except for those *en route* at the airport
 - All supplies
 - Ground transportation (van)
 - Supervision of two Mercy High School faculty/staff and Sisters of Mercy on-site in Laredo



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Sisters of Mercy health clinic in Laredo



Fences and lights along the US-Mexico Border

TIMELINE

December, 2010: Applications available

January 4, 2011 during Choice:

Informational meeting for interested students. Meet current Mercy students and alumnae who have been to Laredo as past participants in this program.

February 4, 2011: Application Due

February 11, 2011: Students notified of acceptance.

February 18, 2011: \$350 deposit due

March and April (specific dates to be announced):

Informational Meeting with Parents/Guardians; additional student meetings to prepare for this experience.

April 8, 2011 Full payment due

May 29, 2011: Departure!



Sr. Rosemary and Sofia in Laredo



Getting ready for a service project!

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