

A portrait of Isabel Allende, a Chilean writer, with short, wavy, reddish-brown hair, wearing a black top and a silver necklace. She is smiling slightly.

Today in History

August 2, 1942

▲ **Isabel Allende, Chilean writer whose novels include *The House of the Spirits*, was born. One of the world's most widely read Spanish language authors, she is 80 today**

1932: The positron, the antimatter counterpart to the electron, was discovered by Carl D. Anderson

1939: Albert Einstein urged the U.S. to begin an atomic weapons project

2002: The Angolan government and UNITA rebels declared an official end to the civil war that began in 1975

2007: Russia planted a flag on the seabed below the North Pole, claiming oil, gas and mineral reserves in the Arctic