



Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month September 15 – October 15

We commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month to recognize and pay tribute to the generations of Hispanic-Americans who have positively influenced our nation and inspired others to achieve success. It is also a time to celebrate the traditions and history unique to the Hispanic and Latin cultures.

The timing of Hispanic Heritage Month is significant because it coincides with the Independence Day celebrations of several Latin American nations—Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. These nations declared their independence from Spain 200 years ago on September 15, 1821.



To follow are some ways to honor and connect with *la cultura latinidad* throughout the month and all year long.

Attend a Virtual Event

Virtual Pajama Party ~ 9/25 from 8:00pm-9:00pm ET

Geared toward children ages 8-12 and their families, this online event focuses on the themes of fairness, friendship, civil rights, and persisting through adversity. Participants will read and discuss [Sylvia & Aki](#), an inspiring book based on the true story of civil-rights activist Sylvia Mendez. The program will feature Ms. Mendez and the book's author, Winnifred Conkling. Click [here](#) to learn more. The event is free, but pre-registration is requested.

Panel Discussion on Children's and YA Latinx Literature ~ 10/11 @ 6:00pm-7:00pm ET

Join the Hispanic Reading Room at the Library of Congress and Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP) in a virtual celebration of children's and YA Latin American and Latinx literature. Panelists will share their creative processes, discuss where they find inspiration, and how they address difficult themes. Click [here](#) to learn more and add the event to your calendar.

Homegrown: Cambalache ~ 9/29 from 12:30pm-1:00pm ET

Enjoy traditional san jarocho through this online performance by Cambalache, a Chicano-Jarocho group based in East Los Angeles. The program will premiere on Facebook and YouTube and be available for viewing afterwards on these sites. Click [here](#) to learn more and add the event to your calendar.



Connect with History and Culture

The PALABRA Archive

Featuring original audio recordings of 20th and 21st century Luso-Hispanic poets and writers reading from their works, this archive close to 800 recordings, a portion of which are available [here](#) for online streaming.

MOLAA EN CASA

The Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA), based in Long Beach, CA, can be explored from anywhere in the world. Click [here](#) to explore the museum's online exhibitions featuring a wide array of modern and contemporary Latin American and Latino art.

Hispanic Heritage @ history.com

Visit the [History Channel Online](#) to learn more about milestones in Hispanic history; the origins of the terms Latino, Hispanic, Latinx, and Chicano; how Sonia Sotomayor saved baseball; and much more!

Learn How to Latin Dance

Salsanerd

The studio's renowned instructors teach you how to salsa from the comfort and convenience of your mobile device. Whether you're a beginner learning the basics, or need to brush up on your skills, the video library contains over 100 videos, with new lessons released each week. Click [here](#) to learn more about online classes, and if you're in the DC-area, check out the [physical school](#).

Latin Dance Movement

From Salsa to Merengue to Cumbia, Latin Dance Movement offers beginner, intermediate and advanced video tutorials, as well as private Zoom lessons, and live group classes. There's even a tutorial for "How to Look Natural While Latin Dancing." Click [here](#) to explore these offerings.

Watch and Learn

Latino Americans

This 6-part documentary from PBS chronicles the rich and varied experiences of Latinos who have helped shaped America over the last 500+ years. Click [here](#) to view online or download the PBS Video app.

True Colors

Olympic gymnast Laurie Hernandez, astronaut Ellen Ochoa, and actor John Leguizamo are a few of the Latinx trailblazers featured in this [8-part docuseries](#). Each episode takes a closer look at their beginnings, family, friends, struggles and successes. Episodes can



be viewed on Peacock, NBC's free streaming service. While you're there, check out featured Latino programs as well!

Pantaya

This Spanish-language streaming service offers an unmatched collection of films and shows. Download the Pantaya app on your mobile device or visit the [website](#) to learn more.

Other suggestions include [supporting Latina-owned businesses](#), learn how to [perfect authentic dishes](#) from Peru to Costa Rica alongside Latin American chefs, check out **the Billboard Latin Music Awards** on Telemundo, or check out the daily [Google Doodle](#) spotlighting the Latino experience all month long.

We also encourage you to check your local listings and community boards for online and in-person events in your area.

However you choose to commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month, we hope all of your celebrations are safe and meaningful.