



Diversity Equity Inclusion
Forsyth County Schools

National Hispanic Heritage Month Resources and Social Media Highlights*

September 15 – October 15, 2020

Overview

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. The celebration begins in the middle rather than the beginning of September because it coincides with national independence days in several Latin American countries such as Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18.

The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover 30 days starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402.

“Hispanic” heritage includes a diverse range of cultures, nationalities, histories, and identities. Hispanics have been part of the American story for 500 years, starting with the Spanish conquistadors. Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nevada, and California were part of Mexico before 1848.

Hispanic, Latino, Latina, or Latinx?

While Hispanic and Latino are used interchangeably by many—Hispanic is a term used to describe someone of Spanish-speaking origin (language), while Latino, Latina, and Latinx are used to describe a person of Latin American origin (geography)—the celebration, according to the official description, recognizes those whose roots are from a country that speaks Spanish as the primary language. A person from the Latin American country of Brazil may consider themselves Latino but not Hispanic since Brazilians speak Portuguese and not Spanish.

Latino (male) and Latina (female) includes people from all Latin countries, though with a gendered subtext. Latinx, pronounced “Lah-teen-ex”, is gender-neutral. This may or may not include people who trace their roots to Portuguese-speaking Brazil. Do not confuse Latino/a/x with Latin American, which are people living in a Latin American country.

Ask all students (or their families) how they identify themselves. Some may want something not as broad as Hispanic, Latino, Latina, or Latinx and would prefer Cuban American, Mexican American, Puerto Rican (Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens by birth, whether they were born on the island or the mainland), and so on. Some prefer American Latino to signify they were born, raised, or educated here in the U.S.

2020-21 School Year

Forsyth County Schools (FCS) is excited to partner with the Hispanic Business Alliance, a committee of the Forsyth County Chamber, to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month with the 2020 "What Hispanic Heritage and Culture Means to Me" Art Contest for grades 4-5. Learn more at www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/dei. Future partnership plans with the Hispanic Business Alliance include expanding the art contest to all elementary grades, adding an essay contest for middle school students, and offering a Hispanic Student Leadership Scholarship for graduating seniors.

Resources

- Hispanic Heritage Month: <https://hispanicheritagemonth.gov> and <https://hispanicheritagemonth.gov/for-teachers>
- National Archives: <https://www.archives.gov/news/topics/hispanic-heritage-month>
- National Endowment for the Humanities: <https://edsitement.neh.gov/teachers-guides/hispanic-heritage-and-history-united-states>
- National Park Service: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/npscelebrates/hispanic-heritage-month.htm>
- Smithsonian: <https://www.si.edu/events/heritagemonth>
- GPB: <https://www.gpb.org/blogs/education-matters/2020/09/09/hispanic-heritage-month-resources-for-teachers-parents-kids>
- PBS: <https://www.pbs.org/latino-americans/en/>
- National Museum of American History: <https://americanhistory.si.edu/topics/latino-history>
- Scholastic: <https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/teaching-tools/book-lists/24-books-to-celebrate-hispanic-heritage-month.html>
- ADL: <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/tools-and-strategies/national-hispanic-heritage-month-ideas-for-teachers>
- Teaching Tolerance: <https://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources/tolerance-lessons/latino-civil-rights-timeline-1903-to-2006>
- Florida Hispanic Heritage: <http://floridahispanicheritage.com/facts>
- Pew Research Center: <https://www.pewresearch.org/hispanic>
- Michigan State Bias Busters: <https://news.jrn.msu.edu/culturalcompetence/race/hispanics>
- Nearpod: <https://go.nearpod.com/webmail/461712/1020998779/80599bebf1006b53ddbff95435f31c5bd09a37a914af64e3f51101edca5f8ef9>

Social Media Posts/Noteworthy Historical Figures:

Week 1: (Sept. 15-18)

1. From Sept 15-Oct 15 FCS is observing National #HispanicHeritageMonth by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of Americans whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. Learn more at www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/dei #FCSDEI
2. FCS is excited to partner with the Hispanic Business Alliance, a committee of the Forsyth County Chamber, to celebrate National #HispanicHeritageMonth with the 2020 "What Hispanic Heritage and Culture Means to Me" Art Contest for grades 4-5. Learn more at www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/dei #FCSDEI
3. Our 1st National #HispanicHeritageMonth spotlight is **Dr. Ellen Ochoa**, the 1st Latina astronaut in space and the 1st Latina director of NASA's Johnson Space Center. Learn more <https://ellenchoa.space/biography> #FCSDEI #ForsythScience
4. Golfer **Nancy Lopez** won 48 LPGA Tour events during her LPGA career, including three major championships. Learn more at <http://www.worldgolfhalloffame.org/nancy-lopez> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSDEI #ForsythAthletics

Week 2: (Sept 20-24, Fall Break)

5. Nominated by President Barack Obama in 2009, Sonia Sotomayor became the first Latina Supreme Court Justice in U.S. history. Learn more at <https://www.biography.com/law-figure/sonia-sotomayor> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSDEI
6. Award-winning chef José Andrés formed World Central Kitchen, a non-profit to end hunger and poverty. His team has served over 25 million meals in more than 400 cities. Learn more at <https://wck.org/> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSDEI
7. A three-day election was held in 1822 in the newly formed Territory of Florida to decide who would serve as the region's first delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives. Joseph Marion Hernández was selected making him the first Hispanic-American member of Congress. <https://history.house.gov/People/Detail/14946?ret=True> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSDEI
8. 6'8" forward **Carmelo Anthony** is of African American and Puerto Rican descent. In addition to his NBA credentials, Anthony was a key member of the 2008, 2012, and 2016 gold-medal-winning Olympic men's basketball teams. Learn more at <https://www.basketball-reference.com/players/a/anthoca01.html> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSDEI #ForsythAthletics
9. **Rita Moreno**, the first Hispanic actress to win a Best Supporting Actress Oscar, is one of the few artists to have won a PEGOT: a Peabody (first Latina honored with this award), an Emmy, a

Grammy, an Oscar, and a Tony. Learn more at <https://www.biography.com/actor/rita-moreno>
#HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSEI #ForsythFineArts

Week 3: (Sept 28-Oct 2)

10. Presidential Medal recipient Freedom **Dolores Huerta** is an American labor leader and civil rights activist who co-founded the United Farm Workers (UFW). Learn more at <https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/dolores-huerta>
#HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSEI

11. Luis Alvarez was a Nobel Prize-winning physicist, probably most famous for the discovery of the iridium layer and his theory that the mass extinction of dinosaurs was caused by an asteroid or comet colliding with Earth. Learn more at <https://www.famousscientists.org/luis-alvarez>
#HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSEI #ForsythScience

12. Richard Cavazos was the first Hispanic-American 4-star General in the U.S. Army. He also was the recipient of two Distinguished Service Crosses and became the first Mexican American to reach the rank of Brigadier General. Learn more at <https://militaryhallof Honor.com/honoree-record.php?id=202> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSEI #ForsythSalute

13. The first Hispanic American selected 1st overall in the NFL Draft was **Jim Plunkett**, quarterback, the New England Patriots 1971. The Super Bowl MVP (XV) was also Stanford's first Heisman after leading them to an 8-3 record and a Rose Bowl berth.
<https://www.nfl.com/players/jim-plunkett/stats/career> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSEI
#ForsythAthletics

14. Did you know award-winning music legend **Carlos Santana's** first instrument was the violin? Learn more about his rock, jazz, blues, and Afro-Cuban rhythms with a Latin sound at <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Carlos-Santana> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSEI
#ForsythFineArts

Week 4: (Oct 5-9)

15. Dr. Lauro Cavazos was the first Hispanic American to be named to a Cabinet position. He served as Secretary of Education under Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush from 1988 to 1990. Learn more at <https://www.edweek.org/ew/issues/secretary-of-education/lauro-f-cavazos.html> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSEI

16. María Elena Salinas is the first Latina to receive an Emmy Award for Lifetime Achievement. The world-renowned broadcast journalist and Peabody Award winner was described as the "Voice of Hispanic America". Learn more at <https://www.womensmediacenter.com/profile/maria-elena-salinas> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSEI

17. Dr. Antonia Coello Novello (1990–1993) was the first woman, first person of color, and first Hispanic to serve as U.S. Surgeon General. Learn more at <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Antonia-Novello> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSDEI #ForsythScience

18. In 1992 Linda Alvarado made history as the first Latino (male or female) owner of a Major League Baseball team, the Colorado Rockies. Learn more at <https://www.womenofthehall.org/inductee/linda-g-alvarado> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSDEI #ForsythAthletics

19. Musician, actor, and producer Desi Arnaz was the first Hispanic American star of a network television show. He and his former wife, Lucille Ball, are credited as the innovators of the syndicated rerun. <https://www.biography.com/actor/desi-arnaz> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSDEI #ForsythFineArts

Week 5: (Oct 12-15)

20. Want to learn more about Hispanic heritage? Check out what the Forsyth County Public Library has to offer for KIDS! Visit <https://www.forsythpl.org/book-lists-for-kids> and look at the One World Book section and the Everyday Diversity lists under picture books and chapter books. #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSDEI #ForsythReads

21. Looking for Hispanic heritage reading for TEENS? Visit the Forsyth County Public Library <https://www.forsythpl.org/book-lists-for-teens> and look at the One World Book section and the Everyday Diversity lists under the middle and high school lists. #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSDEI #ForsythReads

22. Last, but certainly not least, we encourage our FCS staff and parents/guardians to explore Hispanic heritage by visiting the Forsyth County Public Library reading lists at <https://www.forsythpl.org/Adults-Recommended-Reads> #HispanicHeritageMonth #FCSDEI #ForsythReads

23. Don't forget to submit your submission for the 2020 "What Hispanic Heritage and Culture Means to Me" Art Contest for grades 4-5. The deadline is 10/19. Learn more at www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/dei #FCSDEI

*Please note that this is a working list of resources and noteworthy Hispanic Americans. For additions, contact jaracciolo@forsyth.k12.ga.us. Teachers must thoroughly investigate these resources and align them according to Georgia Standards.