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## Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>. This year's Hispanic Heritage Month theme is Unidos, a Spanish word which means "Inclusivity for a Stronger Nation". This month-long acknowledgement honors and recognizes the people, traditions, and cultures that were decimated due to European colonization. Hispanic Heritage Month should serve as a reminder to our community to learn about the history, current challenges, and conditions that indigenous people are facing, to this day, throughout the Americas.

There are many significant dates and historical events within Hispanic Heritage Month. September 15<sup>th</sup> marks the anniversary of independence for the Latin American countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Also, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16<sup>th</sup> and September 18<sup>th</sup>, respectively. In October, El Día de la Raza recognizes and honors the indigenous people who suffered and lost their sovereignty as a result of European exploration and colonization of the "New World."

Acknowledging Hispanic and Latin histories aids in recognizing that many Hispanic and Latin cultural influences bring our nation together. Some of these influences include cuisines, music, arts and entertainment, fashion trends, and language. In addition, it's important to recognize some amazing geoscientists from the Hispanic and Latin/Latinx community, including former Columbia University Earth Institute Agriculture and Food Security Center Director and Millennium Villages project director, [Pedro A. Sanchez](#), Nobel Prize and Medal of Freedom recipient [Mario Molina](#), Nobel Prize recipient [César Milstein](#), Biologist and Environmental Justice advocate [Nicole Hernandez Hammer](#), Senior Director for International Climate at the Center for Progress [Dr. Frances Colón](#) and NASA Astronaut [Dr. Ellen Ochoa](#). These cultural influences and scientific contributions continue to make America stronger.

We encourage our community to celebrate the rich history, culture, and many contributions from our Hispanic and Latin/Latinx communities in order to pursue a greater understanding of their ongoing struggles, and to be active allies to support them in the geosciences and in our local communities. Please continue to read ahead to learn about the importance of understanding the significant use of terms, for some suggestions on how to support the Hispanic and Latin/Latinx communities, and for the list of upcoming events in New York that celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month.

### **Understanding Hispanic and Latin/Latinx terms**

*Hispanic* refers to those who speak Spanish or are the descendants of Spanish speakers. This

includes Spain.

*Latin* refers to people who are descendants of Latin Americans. Latin applies to all people in the American continent who speak Romance languages that come from Latin such as Spanish, Portuguese, and French.

*Latinx* originates from American-born Latinos and Latinas who wanted to be more inclusive as well as gender neutral. Latinx uses the “x” to exchange the male and female endings “o” and “a” that stem from Spanish grammar conventions.

### **Supporting Hispanic and Latin/Latinx communities**

1. Donate to organizations that support Hispanic and Latinx communities:
  - [United We Dream](#)
  - [National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice](#)
  - [The TransLatin@ Coalition \(TLC\)](#)
  - [Green Latinos](#)
  - [UnidosUS](#)
2. Volunteer to be a child advocate.
  - [Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights](#)
3. Support local food vendors and food trucks.
4. Shop at your local mercado.

### **Upcoming New York Hispanic Heritage Month events**

- [Join the New York Yankees](#)
  - **Location:** 1 E 161 St, The Bronx, NY 10451(hat redemption table located on the Field Level (100 Level) next to Gate 2 up to 60 minutes after the originally scheduled first pitch).
  - **Date:** September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>
- [New York Latino Film Festival](#)
  - **Location:** Regal Union Square, 850 Broadway (Corner of 13th Street).
  - **Date:** September 12<sup>th</sup> to September 18<sup>th</sup>
- [YEP-NYC Social Thursday: Hispanic Heritage Month/Back to School](#)
  - **Location:** Santiago’s Beer Garden, 2337 1st Avenue, New York, NY 10035
  - **Date:** September 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 7 p.m.
- [Hispanic Heritage Month Kickoff Party](#)
  - **Location:** Langston Hughes Library, 100-01 Northern Blvd., Corona, NY.
  - **Date:** September 17<sup>th</sup>, from 12 to 4 p.m.
- [Hispanic Heritage Month at Industry City BK](#)

- Hispanic Heritage Month at Industry City DC
  - o **Location:** 220 36<sup>th</sup> Street, Brooklyn, NY.
  - o **Date:** September 17<sup>th</sup>, from 11am to 6 p.m.
- Carnaval de la Cultura Latina
  - o **Location:** 40-27 97th Street, Floor 1, Corona, NY.
  - o **Date:** September 18<sup>th</sup>, from 12 to 6 p.m.
- Hispanic Heritage Celebration at Essex Market
  - o **Location:** Essex Market - Essex Kitchen, 88 Essex Street Mezzanine Level New York, NY.
  - o **Date:** September 24<sup>th</sup>, from 12 to 1:30 p.m.
- Book Discussion: When I was Puerto Rican by Esmeralda Santiago
  - o **Location:** 4201 4th Ave, Brooklyn, NY.
  - o **Date:** September 29<sup>th</sup>, from 6 to 7 p.m.
- Afro-Latinidad: Celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month
  - o **Location:** Casita Maria Center for Arts & Education, 928 Simpson Street, Bronx, NY.
  - o **Date:** October 1<sup>st</sup>, from 12 to 6:30 p.m.
- Hispanic Day Parade
  - o **Location:** Fifth Avenue, New York, NY.
  - o **Date:** October 9<sup>th</sup>, (time TBA).

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