

Maritime Academy Charter School

Celebrates

A central banner with a yellow background and red borders. The top and bottom borders feature a repeating pattern of red, yellow, and blue teardrop shapes. The text "HISPANIC" is in large red serif font, "Heritage Month" is in blue serif font, and "September 15 - October 15" is in red sans-serif font.

HISPANIC
Heritage Month
September 15 - October 15

This year's **theme - Hispanics: Be Proud of Your Past, Embrace the Future -** invites **Hispanics** to embrace their backgrounds, to be proud of who they are and where they came from.

September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the commemoration because it is the anniversary of independence of five **Hispanic** countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, who all declared independence in 1821.

Demographics

As of July 1, 2018, the Hispanic population of the United States was **59.9 million** people, making people of Hispanic origin the nation's largest ethnic or racial minority (18.3% of the total U.S. population).

- The United States has the 2nd largest population of Hispanic people in the world, second only Mexico.
- 3.9% were of Mexican background, 9.5% Puerto Rican, 3.8% Salvadoran, 3.7% Cuban, 3.2% Dominicano, and 2.4% Guatemalan.
- Ten states have over 1 million Hispanic residents: Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York & Texas.
- 1.2 million Hispanics are Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- 3.3 million businesses in the U.S. were Hispanic-owned (in 2012).



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH TIMELINE

1777 -- Fighting for Freedom

The Spanish governor of Louisiana, Bernardo de Gálvez, joins General George Washington's fight against British soldiers and helps win independence.

1845 - Texas Becomes a U.S. State

Texas joins the Union as the 28th state — Mexico had controlled the territory until 1836 when Texas won its independence.

1945 - Brothers in Arms

Over 300,000 Latinos enlist in the American military and fight in World War II.

1960s - Call for Recognition

The push to recognize the Latinx community gains momentum when the civil rights movement is at its peak.

June, 1968 - Hispanic Heritage Week

California Congressman George E. Brown introduces Hispanic Heritage Week.

1988 - Month Established

Hispanic Heritage Week is first observed under President Lyndon B. Johnson but it is Ronald Reagan who extends it to a month-long celebration.

July 1, 2019- Largest Minority

The Hispanic population of the United States totals 60.6 million people, making it the largest ethnic minority.

2020 - Highlighting Hispanic Employees

The U.S. Department of State highlights biographies of outstanding Hispanic employees who support diplomatic efforts around the world.

Hispanic Americans in Congress

<https://history.house.gov/Exhibitions-and-Publications/HAIC/Hispanic-Americans-in-Congress/>

Government

[Joseph Marion Hernández](#), a Delegate from the Florida Territory, became the first Hispanic American to serve in Congress. Born in Florida while it was still a Spanish colony, Hernández became an American citizen when Florida became an American territory in 1822. Elected as a Delegate to the [17th Congress](#) (1821–1823), he served for less than one year in the House. Hernández made no floor speeches, but submitted numerous memorials and motions on behalf of the inhabitants of the Florida Territory. After leaving the House, Hernández enjoyed a long career in the Florida territorial legislature and in the military. Before settling in Cuba, Hernández made one unsuccessful attempt to secure a seat in the United States Senate in 1845. Several other Hispanic delegates served in the U.S. House before [Romualdo Pacheco](#) of California became the first Hispanic American to serve as full-fledged U.S. Representative, when he won election to the [45th Congress](#) (1877–1879).



Government

José Antonio Romualdo Pacheco (October 31, 1831 – January 23, 1899) was a [California](#) statesman and diplomat. He is best known as the only [Hispanic](#) to serve as [Governor of California](#) since statehood and as the first Latino to represent a state in the [U.S. Congress](#).^[1] Pacheco was elected and appointed to various state, federal, and diplomatic offices throughout his more than thirty-year career, including serving as a [California State Treasurer](#), [California State Senator](#), and three terms in the [U.S. House of Representatives](#).



Government

On November 8, 1973, **Maurice Ferré** is elected Mayor of Miami, Florida. In addition to becoming the first Puerto Rican to lead a major city in the mainland United States and the first Hispanic Mayor of Miami, Ferré is credited from transforming Miami from a tourist town into an international city.

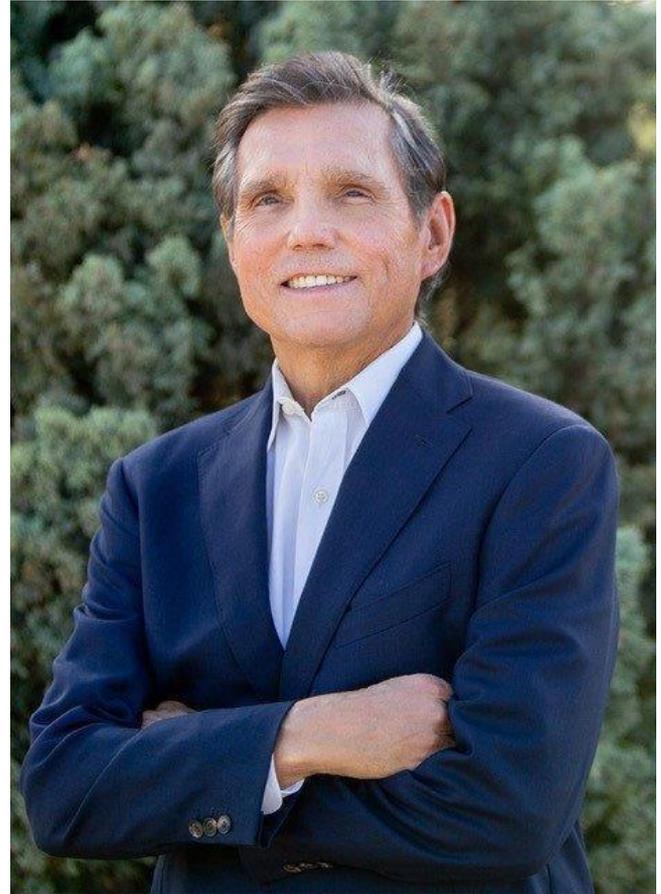
The Ferré Family was one of the wealthiest in Puerto Rico, and Ferré's relatives included prominent politicians, novelists, and industrialists. Ferré served briefly in the Florida House of Representatives before being elected Mayor in 1973. Mayor



Maurice A. Ferré of Miami in November 1983, after winning a sixth two-year term in a runoff election. Miami's first Hispanic mayor, he served from 1973 to 1985.

Government

That campaign slogan, echoing the John Lennon song “Imagine,” helped **Federico Peña** to win election as the first Hispanic mayor of Denver in 1983. The Peña campaign appealed to Latino, Black and women voters who felt shut out of the city’s political establishment, even as his proficiency in economic policy appealed to the business community.



Government

Henry Gabriel Cisneros (born June 11, 1947) is an American politician and businessman. He served as the [mayor](#) of [San Antonio, Texas](#), from 1981 to 1989, the second [Latino](#) mayor of a major American city and the city's first since 1842 (when [Juan Seguín](#) was forced out of office). Cisneros served as the 10th [Secretary of Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#) in the administration of [President Bill Clinton](#) from 1993 to 1997. As HUD Secretary, Cisneros was credited with initiating the revitalization of many public housing developments and with formulating policies that contributed to achieving the nation's highest ever rate of home ownership. In his role as the President's chief representative to the cities, Cisneros personally worked in more than two hundred cities spread over all fifty states Prior to his [Cabinet](#) position, Cisneros served four terms as the mayor of his hometown of San Antonio. As mayor, Cisneros worked to rebuild the city's economic base, recruited convention business, attracted high tech industries, increased the level of tourism, and worked to bring more jobs to San Antonio. Before his tenure as mayor, Cisneros was elected to three two-year terms on the city council, on which he served from 1975 to 1981.



Latino CEOs commanding organizations in the Fortune 500 industries, the nonprofit world and beyond.

Joseph Molina became the Molina Healthcare CEO after his father and company founder's death in 1996. In 2005, he was named by Time magazine as one of the [25 most influential Hispanics in America](#). Dr. Molina earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from California State University, Long Beach and a doctor of medicine degree at the University of Southern California.



Oscar Munoz was appointed as United Continental Holdings CEO in September of 2015. Since then he has undergone heart transplant surgery. On March 14, 2016 he returned as the full-time President and Chief Executive Officer of United Airlines. Munoz is focused on improving the morale of the company and strengthening labor relations. He has made significant strides to resolve complaints of customers and employees after the the merge of United and Continental. Munoz's efforts have been successful since in a recent [Chicago Tribune article](#), the president of the union that represents United's flight dispatchers said "It is finally a decent place to work...I haven't seen it this optimistic in a long time." Before United, Munoz served as president and CFO at CSX Corporation and worked in senior financial and strategic capacities at AT&T, Coca-Cola and PepsiCo. Munoz received his BS in Business Administration from the University of Southern California in 1982 and an MBA from Pepperdine University in 1986.



Senators Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio

The two senators share a lot in common: both have parents that emigrated from Cuba, made names for themselves in the Senate after being elected in 2010, and are now contenders for the Republican presidential nomination.

Before arriving in the Senate, Cruz clerked for Chief Justice William Rehnquist and was the Solicitor General of Texas, while Rubio was the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives. As two of the three Hispanic Americans in the Senate—the other being Robert Menendez of New Jersey—Cruz and Rubio bring to light the role of Hispanic Americans in national politics.





REPRESENTATIVE
LUCILLE ROYBAL-
ALLARD
CALIFORNIA
DEMOCRAT
REPRESENTATIVE



REPRESENTATIVE
JESUS GARCIA
ILLINOIS
DEMOCRAT
REPRESENTATIVE



REPRESENTATIVE
JIMMY GOMEZ
CALIFORNIA
DEMOCRAT
REPRESENTATIVE



REPRESENTATIVE
VICENTE
GONZALEZ
TEXAS DEMOCRAT
REPRESENTATIVE



REPRESENTATIVE
LINDA SANCHEZ
CALIFORNIA
DEMOCRAT
REPRESENTATIVE

U.S.



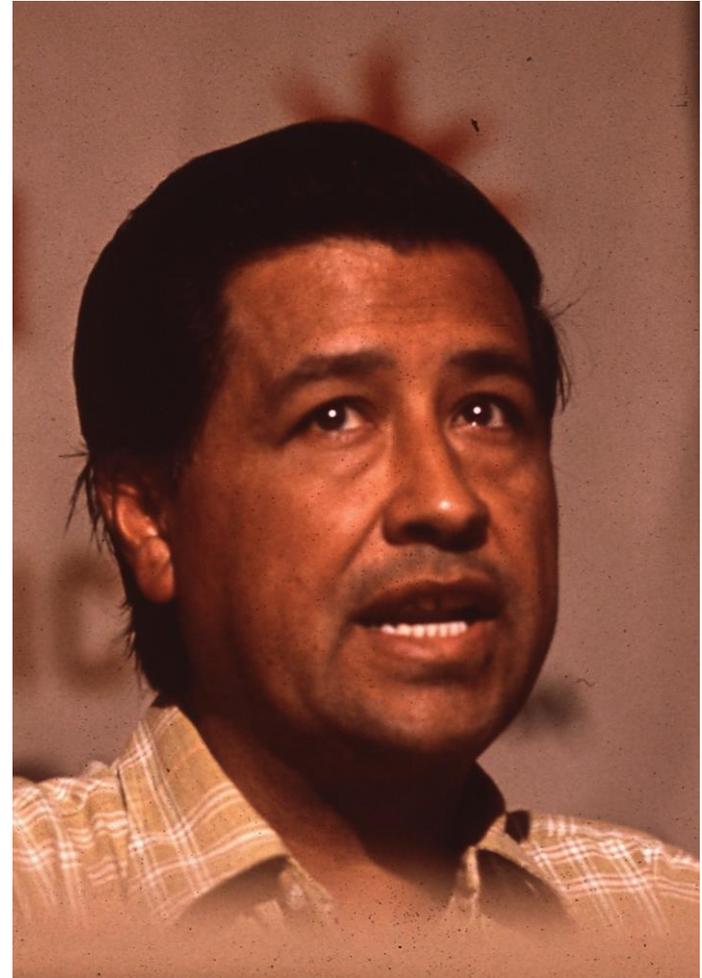
<https://latinamericanpost.com/26806-latin-america-4-women-who-sweep-in-politics>

1. Michelle Bachelet
2. Epsy Campbell
3. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
4. María Fernanda Espinosa

Sonia Maria Sotomayor born June 25, 1954 is an [associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States](#). She was [nominated](#) by President [Barack Obama](#) on May 26, 2009 and has served since August 8, 2009. She is the third woman to hold the position. Sotomayor is the first [woman of color](#), first Hispanic, and first Latina member of the Court.



Cesar Chavez (March 31, 1927 – April 23, 1993) was an American [labor leader](#) and [civil rights](#) activist. Along with [Dolores Huerta](#), he co-founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA), which later merged with the [Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee](#) (AWOC) to become the [United Farm Workers](#) (UFW) [labor union](#). Ideologically, his world-view combined [leftist politics](#) with [Roman Catholic](#) social teachings.



Ronald James Rábago is a retired [United States Coast Guard rear admiral](#) who in 2006 became the first person of [Hispanic American](#) descent to be promoted to [flag rank](#) in the [United States Coast Guard](#). He retired as the assistant commandant for engineering and logistics and the United States Coast Guard's chief engineer in 2014.



Hispanics in the United States Coast Guard

Hispanics in the United States Coast Guard can trace their tradition of service to the early 19th century, when they initially performed duties at light house stations as keepers and assistant keepers in its predecessor services (the United States Revenue Cutter Service and the United States Life-Saving Service). Hispanic is an ethnic term employed to categorize any citizen or resident of the United States, of any racial background, of any country, and of any religion, who has at least one ancestor from the people of Spain or is of non-Hispanic origin, but has an ancestor from Mexico,

Joseph B. Aviles Sr. (February 3, 1897 – February 22, 1990), served in the [U.S. Navy](#) and later in the [U.S. Coast Guard](#). On September 28, 1925, Aviles became the first [Hispanic](#) Chief Petty Officer in the [United States Coast Guard](#). During World War II he received a war-time promotion to Chief Warrant Officer, becoming the first Hispanic to reach that level as well.



Hispanics in the Marine Corps

<https://marineparents.com/marinecorps/hispanics-in-usmc.asp>

[President of Maritime College State University of New York](#) - RADM Michael Alfultis, USMS, Ph.D. writes, *“The contributions of Hispanics at Maritime continue to add to the vitality of the College. Assistant Professor of Naval Science, and a U.S. Navy Submarine Officer within our ROTC Unit, Lieutenant Leonardo Benavides is among the faculty members who are part of the rich mosaic that makes our campus community special. A Maritime College alumnus who completed his undergraduate electrical engineering degree in 2013, LT Benavides served as a submarine officer and was stationed overseas including Hawaii, Japan and Guam. He came back to Maritime College and now trains future midshipmen in becoming naval officers in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps. Each day he is in the classroom, LT Benavides demonstrates his dedication to the U.S. Navy, mariners and the maritime industry. Student Marco Rosado, a first class cadet in the Marine Transportation program, a native of Puerto Rico who lives on the island, thrives inside and out of the classroom. He learned of Maritime College through a recruitment event in Ponce, P.R. Since his first year at the College, he has been a member of the Cross Country team and is currently president of the Puerto Rican Student Association. While he misses his family in Puerto Rico, we are pleased to have him as part of our Maritime family.”*

Hispanic Musicians and Singers



<https://www.biography.com/people/groups/hispanic-musicians-and-singers>

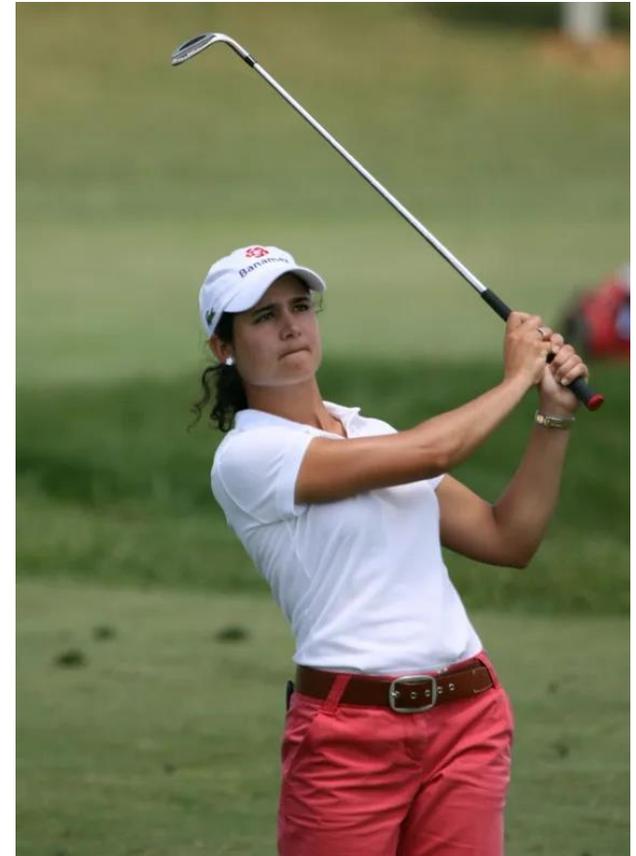
Lin-Manuel Miranda
is an award-winning
actor, performer and
writer known for his
groundbreaking
Broadway musicals 'In
the Heights' and
'Hamilton.'



Hispanics Who Changed The Course Of Sports In The US

Lorena Ochoa

This Mexican professional golf player rose to international fame in the 2000s, when she shattered records to end up as the top-ranked female golfer. She held this position for a total of 158 weeks, which is the LPGA Tour record. These are consecutive weeks we're talking about, which in itself is another LPGA Tour record. She was introduced into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2017.



Jasmine Camacho-Quinn marked Puerto Rico's first Olympic gold medal in athletics in Tokyo 2020.

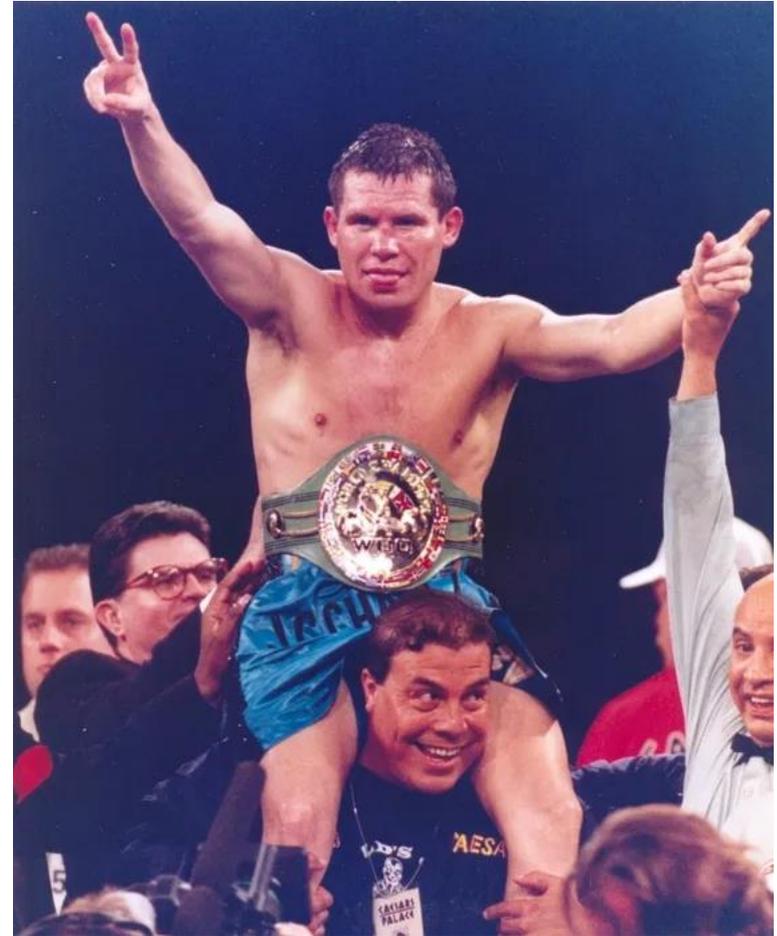


Jesús David "Jesse" Vassallo Anadón (born August 9, 1961) is a former competition swimmer and world record-holder who participated in the [1984 Summer Olympics](#) for the United States. In 1997, he became the first [Puerto Rican](#) to be inducted into the [International Swimming Hall of Fame](#). From 2004 to 2009, he served as the president of the Puerto Rican National Swimming Federation (*Federación Puertorriqueña de Natación*).



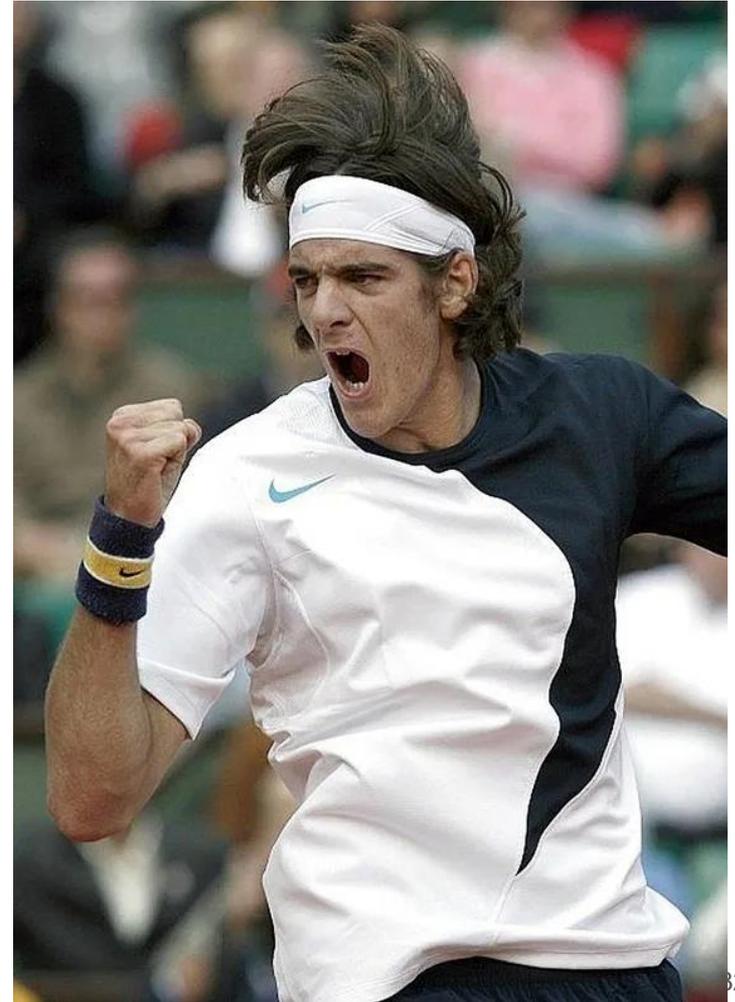
Julio César Chávez

A monster of the boxing world. Chávez is, simply put, one of the best boxers of all time, with multiple World Champion titles across three different weight divisions. He enjoyed 13 consecutive years (87 wins) without a single defeat. Holder of multiple records (including most title fight victories), Chávez was inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 2010. He is the father of Omar Chávez and Julio César Chávez Jr., both very successful boxers in their own right.



Juan Martín Del Potro

Also known as “Delpo,” Juan Martín Del Potro has conquered the world of tennis with several achievements under his belt. In 2009, the Argentine athlete won the US Open in a final against Roger Federer and was the runner-up for the same tournament just this year. Currently, he holds 22 career titles and seems to have a long career ahead still.



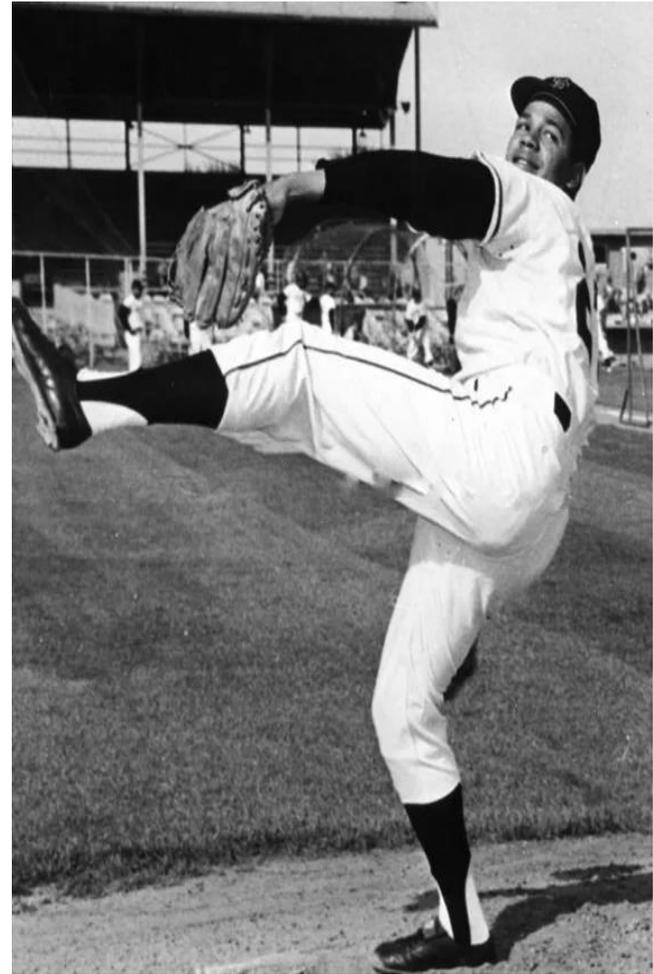
Roberto Clemente

Over the course of 18 seasons, Clemente amazed the baseball major leagues as one of the best right fielders in history. He's the first Latin American player to be inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame, and it's no wonder he was —with 3,000 hits, a batting average of over .300, and a recipient of the Gold Glove Award for twelve consecutive seasons.



Juan Marichal

Marichal was born in a small farming village in the Dominican Republic and fell in love with baseball at a young age. He won more games than any other pitcher in the 1960s and was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1983. He was famous for a very particular high kick when he pitched, where his left leg went almost completely vertical above his head.



Latinas Making Their Mark in the STEM World

The world's “[next Albert Einstein](#)” is a cubana from Chicago – at least that’s how Harvard University describes Sabrina Gonzalez Pasterski. At just 24 years old, the physicist has a résumé that even veterans of her field can’t match. Gonzalez Pasterski, who’s a doctoral student at the ivy league studying high energy physics, started showing signs that she’d break barriers in 2003, back when the then-10-year-old started taking flying lessons. Three years later, she started to build her first kit aircraft. By 2008, it was considered airworthy.

Sabrina Gonzalez Pasterski



Science

Ellen Ochoa

Ochoa was the first [Hispanic woman in space](#), and has logged nearly [1,000 hours](#) in space since her first mission in 1993. She is the co-inventor on three patents for optical inspection systems, was the head of the Intelligent Systems Technology Branch at NASA's Ames Research Center, and is currently the director of the Johnson Space Center in Houston, TX.



Elena Rios serves as President & CEO of the National Hispanic Medical Association, (NHMA), representing Hispanic physicians in the United States. The mission of the organization is to improve the health of Hispanics. Dr. Rios also serves as President of NHMA's National Hispanic Health Foundation affiliated with the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University, to direct educational and research activities. Prior to her current positions, Dr. Rios served as the Advisor for Regional and Minority Women's Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health from November 1994 to October 1998. Dr. Rios earned her BA in Human Biology/Public Administration at Stanford University in 1977, MSPH at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Public Health in 1980, and her MD at the UCLA School of Medicine in 1987.



Antonia C. Novello

Dr. Novello was the [first woman](#) and the first Hispanic to become Surgeon General of the United States, after serving for 2 decades at the National Institutes of Health. As Surgeon General, she focused on the health of young people, women and minorities, and spoke out against drinking, smoking and drug abuse. After serving in that role, Novello worked as UNICEF's special representative for health and nutrition. She also became a visiting professor of health policy at Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public health, and was the Commissioner of Health for the State of New York.



Laura I. Gomez



Mexicana Laura I. Gomez is one of the leading ladies in tech. At 17, when the formerly undocumented immigrant first obtained a work permit, she took an internship with Hewlett-Packard. Seeing no one like her in the workplace, she instantly wanted out. However, she decided to stay in the field after her mother, who saw a lucrative career for Gomez in tech, encouraged her to stay. Gomez would go on to work as one of the only Latinas at Google and YouTube, and then she became a founding member of Twitter's international team, where she led Twitter en Español.

Nicole Hernandez Hammer

Nicole Hernandez Hammer is a sea-level researcher and environmental justice activist who educates and mobilizes the Latino community to understand and address the ways in which climate change negatively impacts them. The Guatemalan-Cuban advocate speaks from personal experience as well as academic knowledge. When Hernandez Hammer was four years old, she and her family moved from Guatemala to South Florida. There, she learned firsthand about the effect of rising sea levels.



During Hurricane Andrew, when she was 15 years old, her house – much like the homes of other Latino families near coastal shore lines – was destroyed. She felt “[obligated](#)” to learn more about the issue, and went on to study biology and the natural sciences. Hernandez Hammer was the [assistant director](#) of the Florida Center for Environmental Studies at Florida Atlantic University, authoring several papers on sea level rise projections, before moving into advocacy. She served as the Florida field manager for [Moms Clean Air Force](#) and is now a climate science and community advocate at the [Union of Concerned Scientists](#). In 2015, she was former first lady Michelle Obama’s [guest at the State of the Union Address](#).

Brenda Victoria Castillo was named President & CEO National Hispanic Media Coalition in 2019. She champions the policy and practices that bring Latinos online, advocates for U.S. Latino media owners and content creators, and helps to diversify the news and entertainment industry in Hollywood and across the nation. She is also the head of operations for the NHMC and is responsible for its multi-million dollar budget.

She is a multiple award-winning television producer and media production director with decades of senior leadership experience in the private and non-profit sectors, as well as government.



We celebrate our very own Maritime Staff and high school principal!



Jesus Cumba
Support Staff

*2018 Graduate of
Maritime Academy HS
and Community College
of Philadelphia student.*



Lucy Feria
Principal

*Forty plus years of
serving students and
families in urban
schools.*



Teresa Guzman
Support Staff

*Has served MACS for
14 years.*

Law Enforcement



Dr. Minerva Cruz
MACS Board Member

Minerva Cruz, EdD, teaches courses in Strategic Organizational Leadership, Mastering Organizational Effectiveness, Ethics and Leadership, Leadership in a Borderless Economy, Essentials of Business Analysis, Essentials of Business Process Management, Essentials of Commercial Contract Management, Essentials of Government Contract Management, and Education in Villanova University's College of Professional Studies. Outside Villanova's classrooms, Dr. Cruz has instructed police recruits for more than 12 years at the Philadelphia Police Department Academy. Dr. Cruz is a 25-year veteran of the PPD, where she holds the rank of lieutenant. Whether she's instructing college students or police recruits, Dr. Cruz brings with her a collection of skills that includes crisis management, counterterrorism, private investigations, public safety, budgeting, statistical analysis, labor laws, and ethical and behavioral leadership. Dr. Cruz said she entered college with plans to become a physician until an instructor convinced her she was "a natural teacher." She worked as a financial planner before joining the PPD as a radio dispatcher, eventually becoming a police officer. "I saw police work as an extension of my commitment to help and serve people," Dr. Cruz said. "My teaching experiences, combined with my doctorate and my passion for helping people reach their educational and personal goals, led to me deciding to teach at the collegiate level." Dr. Cruz believes "I am here not only to teach you but learn from you as well."

It is with pride and joy that MACS recognizes and celebrates the many contributions by Hispanics to our communities.

Since 1988, the U.S. Government has set aside the period from September 15 to October 15 as National Hispanic Heritage Month to honor the many contributions Hispanic Americans have made and continue to make to the United States of America. The below Teacher's Guide brings together resources created during NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes, lesson plans for K-12 classrooms, and think pieces on events and experiences across Hispanic history and heritage.

<https://edsitement.neh.gov/teachers-guides/hispanic-heritage-and-history-united-states>