



National Hispanic Heritage Month has been observed from September 15th to October 15th in the U.S. since 1988. It takes place during this time period to honor the independence days of several countries, including Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico and Chile, as well as *Día de la Raza*, a significant cultural celebration observed in Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Throughout Hispanic, or Latinx, Heritage Month, you and your students can learn about and celebrate Latinx artists, performers, and arts educators. Check out this [Spotlight on: Latinx Heritage Month](#) from the Lincoln Center to get started.

Explore Latinx Composers! Here are just a few composers and some of their works. Encourage your students to choose a Latinx composer to learn more about and listen to their music. Have students share a piece by the composer they researched!

- [Robert Xavier Rodriguez](#) (1946)
 - Piñata (1991)
 - This piece blends Mexican folk music, samba rhythms, contemporary symphonic techniques and American jazz.
 - Tango di Tango (1992)
- [Roberto Sierra](#) (1953)
 - [Sinfonía No. 3 “La Salsa”](#) (2005) – commissioned by the MSO!
 - I. Tumbao
 - II. Habanera
 - III. Danzas
 - IV. Jolgorio/Celebration
- [Clarice Assad](#) (1978)
 - *É Go!* (2019)
 - This piece was inspired by female Brazilian soccer player, Marta Vieira da Silva. It has interactive elements for the orchestra and audience members that are perfect for curious people.

Learn about local Wisconsin artists, [Marván Folk Art](#).

- [Marván Folk Art](#) is a wife and husband team of cartoneros (artists of papiermâché) who live in Viroqua, Wisconsin. They create sculpture through a traditional technique: cartonería (coming to Mexico from Spain in the 16th Century). They use structures of wire, reed frame, or clay molds followed by layers of paper.



I love the idea of preserving and sharing part of my culture, working with tradition while creating my own style in colorful sculptures of recycled paper that becomes a Catrina, a skull, or a Judas (decorated devil). Behind each of these sculptures there is a story and meaning of motion, a connection with nature, in the tradition of colorful Mexican folk art. I want to touch your heart through my art, making you feel like we are connected.

– Gabriela Marván

- Using Marván Folk Art as inspiration, take a closer look at mixed media art with these activities.
 - [Pedro Linares and His Alebrijes/Pop-up Card](#)

Experience and support local Latinx Organizations, and not just during Latinx Heritage Month!

- [Ballet Folklórico Nacional](#)
 - You can see Ballet Folklórico Nacional perform their live show, [An Evening on Mango Street](#), on Wednesday, October 6th at 5:00 pm at the Waukesha Civic Theater.
- [Latino Arts, Inc.](#)
 - Celebrate with Latino Arts, Inc. on Friday, October 29th at 7:00 pm at their “Day of the Dead Concert: Las Cafeteras.” The concert will even feature students participating in the Latino Arts Strings Program!
- [Latinx Heritage Month at UW-Milwaukee 2021](#)
 - Check out UWM’s website to see a list of events happening from now until Día de Los Muertos on November 2nd.

Head to your school or local library and check out a few of these books!

- Winter, Jonah. [Frida](#). Illustrated by Ana Juan, Arthur A. Levine Books, 2002.
- López, Silvia. [Selena: Queen of Tejano Music](#). Illustrated by Paolo Escobar, Little Bee Books, 2020.
- Reich, Susanna. [José! Born to Dance: The Story of José Limón](#). Illustrated by Raúl Colón, Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books, 2005.
- Engle, Margarita. [Dancing Hands: How Teresa Carreño Played the Piano for President Lincoln](#). Illustrated by Rafael López, Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2019.
- Cisneros, Sandra. *The House on Mango Street*. Vintage Books, 1991.

Even after Latinx Heritage Month, your class can celebrate and recognize **El Día de los Muertos** on **November 1-2, 2021**. This celebration honors and commemorates the lives of loved ones lost and welcomes the return of their spirits. Use some of these resources to celebrate and learn more about El Día de los Muertos:

- Learn a Song:
 - [A Collection of Day of the Dead Songs](#)
- Watch a video:

- [Dia de los Muertos animated short](#)
- Celebrate at home:
 - [The Mitchell Park Domes](#) offers a fun way to celebrate Dia de los Muertos with celebration kits and virtual offerings!
- Learn more about the holiday and its traditions:
 - [Google Arts & Culture Page on Dia de los Muertos](#)
 - [Day of the Dead \(Día De Los Muertos\)](#)

