From September 15 to October 15, we honor the histories and cultures of Hispanic and Latinx people. These dates coincide with the national independence days of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, and Chile. The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week and was expanded in 1988 to cover the 30-day period.

- Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua - Sept. 15, 1821
- Mexico - Sept. 16, 1810
- Chile - Sept. 18, 1810
- Belize - Sept. 21, 1981

Sylvia Rivera was a transgender activist of Puerto Rican and Venezuelan descent and a formidable leader in the trans rights movement in NYC. Sylvia played a key role in the 1969 Stonewall uprising and co-founded Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries (STAR).

62 million Latinx people live in the United States, making up about 18.5% of the total US population. Hispanic/Latinx students are also the fastest growing population in US colleges and universities.

Latinx history is also Black and Indigenous history. It is important that we recognize these intersections and center Africa, the Caribbean, and North and South America in telling the rich histories of Latinx people.

Dolores Huerta, a central figure in the Chicano Movement, is one of the most important labor leaders of the 20th century. In the 1950s, Huerta began organizing farmers and farmworkers in California. In 1962, she co-founded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA) with César Chávez.

For resources, including artwork, music, podcasts, oral histories, and lesson plans, visit the Library of Congress Hispanic Heritage Resource Guide at hispanicheritagemonth.gov

Happy Latinx Heritage Month from the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion!