

## National Hispanic Heritage Month

**National Hispanic Heritage Month** is the period from September 15 to October 15 in the United States, when people recognize the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans to the United States and celebrate the group's heritage and culture.

Hispanic Heritage Week was established by legislation sponsored by Rep. Edward R. Roybal (D-Los Angeles) and first proclaimed President Lyndon Johnson in 1968.<sup>[1][2]</sup> The commemorative week was expanded by legislation sponsored by Rep. Esteban E. Torres (D-Pico Rivera) and implemented by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period (September 15 - October 15).<sup>[1]</sup> It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988 on the approval of Public Law 100-402.

September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. All declared independence in 1821. In addition, Mexico, Chile and Belize celebrate their independence days on September 16, September 18, and September 21, respectively.<sup>[3]</sup>

### **Extra Credit Opportunity: 5pts to Unit 3 Test**

1. Due Fridays after Current Events (September 30-October 14)
2. A bio about a Hispanic American who has made an impact (personally, on the community or the nation)
  - a. Typed
  - b. Personal Information (birth, family, etc)
  - c. Significance of individual (impact)
  - d. At least 2 paragraphs
3. Brief Oral Presentation
  - a. Picture of the Individual
  - b. Significance
  - c. Explanation as to why it's important to celebrate all nationalities and diversities which make each of us unique
4. Individuals cannot be duplicated in a class (check signup sheets)
5. If you did not sign up in advance, you will not be able to present on that Friday