



alma

Rooted in culture. Connected in community.
Supporting Latino families.

CULTURE
COMMUNITY
BELONGING
OPPORTUNITY

Hispanic Heritage Month

TOOLKIT FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

Activities and ideas to celebrate
Latino cultures, histories and
contributions across your
school community.



About Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month (HHM) is a time to recognize and celebrate the rich cultures, histories, contributions and futures of Latino communities. Observed from September 15 to October 15, it honors the independence of several Latin American countries and celebrates the lasting impact of Latinos in the U.S. and around the world.

CULTURE
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OPPORTUNITY



Our stories
shape brighter
tomorrows.

WHY IT MATTERS



CELEBRATES COMMUNITY

Honors the diversity, resilience and contributions of Latino communities.



BUILDS UNDERSTANDING

Highlights the rich histories, cultures and traditions that shape our shared future.



INSPIRES BELONGING

Creates opportunities for meaningful representation and connection in schools and beyond.



INVESTS IN THE FUTURE

Affirms the value and potential of Latino students, families and communities.

A NOTE TO EDUCATORS

This toolkit was created to support your school's Hispanic Heritage Month programming with ready-to-use ideas, resources and inspiration. We hope it helps you celebrate the vibrant cultures and contributions of Latino communities in ways that are meaningful, inclusive and engaging for your entire school community.



KEY DATES

A Month of Heritage, History and Possibility

Hispanic Heritage Month (HHM) is a time to celebrate the cultures, contributions and resilience of Latino communities. Here are a few key dates and traditions that make this month meaningful.



SEPTEMBER 15

Marks the independence of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.



SEPTEMBER 16

Marks the independence of Mexico.



SEPTEMBER 18

Marks the independence of Chile.



OCTOBER 12

Día de la Raza (or Día de la Hispanidad) is observed in many countries.



BEYOND THE DATES

Hispanic Heritage Month is also a time to uplift the histories, stories, traditions, languages and everyday contributions of Latino communities — and to inspire a more inclusive and connected future for all.



INTRODUCTION

Hispanic Heritage Month is for **Everyone**

These activities are designed to engage students across your school community in celebrating and learning about the richness and diversity of Latino cultures, histories and contributions.

While Latino voices and experiences are at the center, Hispanic Heritage Month offers an opportunity for **all students** to participate, learn and celebrate together.

HOW IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE



BUILDS BELONGING

Creates a more inclusive and connected school community.



EMPOWERS ALL STUDENTS

Encourages curiosity, respect and a deeper understanding of our shared histories.



STRENGTHENS OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

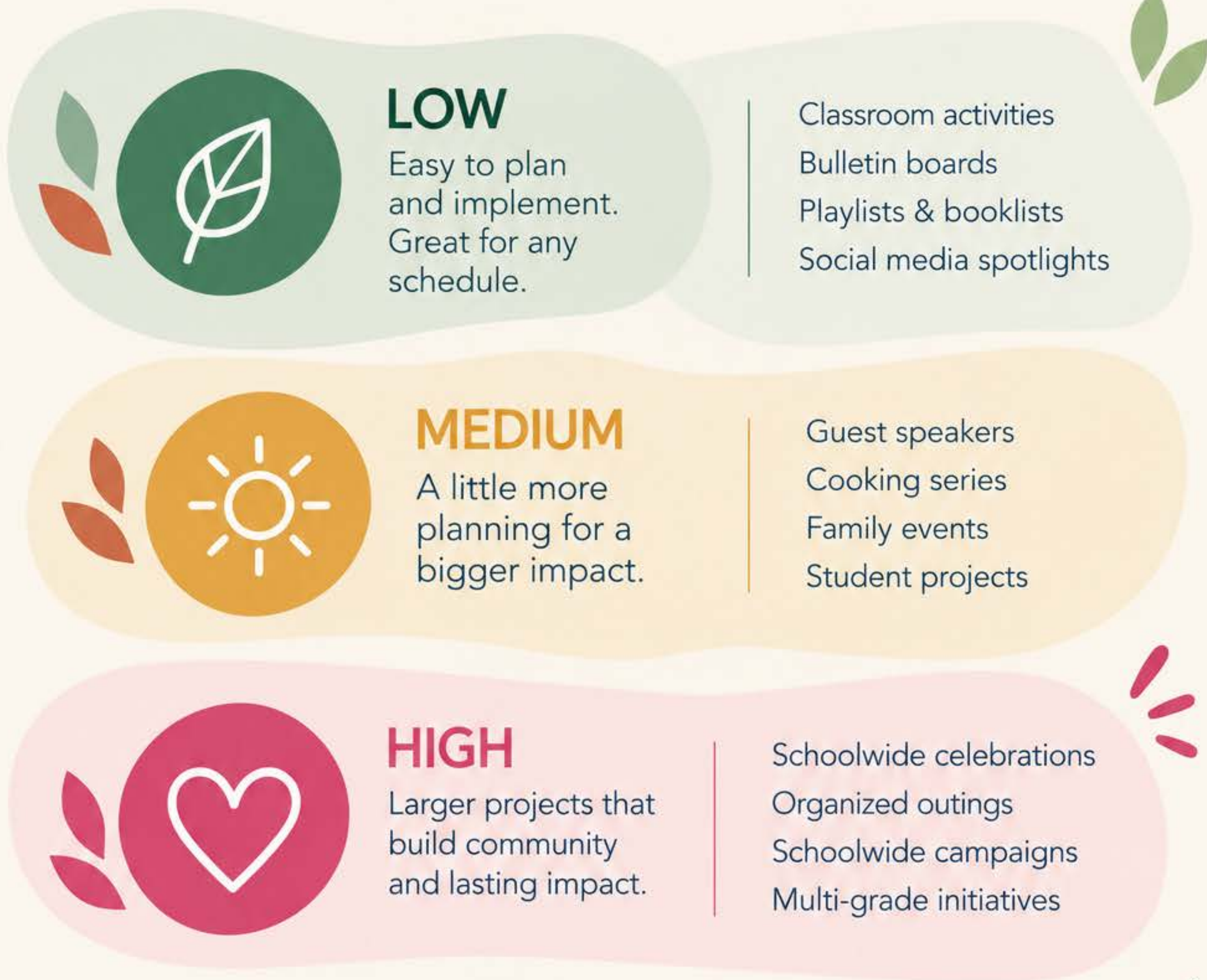
Celebrates the contributions of Latinos and enriches the experiences of all students.





Flexible Ways to Participate

These ideas can be adapted to fit your school's unique community, schedule and resources.



We will continue to add new ideas and resources each year. Thank you for growing this toolkit with us!

Ways to Bring Hispanic Heritage Month *to Life*

Meaningful ideas for your school community.



CREATE A COMMUNITY PORTRAIT

Invite students to reflect on Latino heritage, identities and contributions in our community.



MESA DE TODOS

A schoolwide potluck where all students and families share dishes, stories and traditions.



FAMILY SALSA NIGHT

Celebrate together with music, dance and connection.



A COOKING SERIES

Explore Latino flavors, recipes and the stories behind them.



GUEST SPEAKERS

Inspire students with authors, athletes, artists and changemakers.

A Schoolwide Celebration

THAT CONNECTS US

Thoughtful activities
that honor Latino voices
and invite every student
to learn, reflect and
celebrate together.

Celebrating cultura.
Building belonging.
Growing together.

More Ways to Celebrate Together

IDEAS FOR A LASTING IMPACT



ORGANIZED OUTING

Visit a local museum, cultural center or Latino-owned business.



DECORATIONS

Create banners, posters and displays featuring Latino figures — past and present.



SHARE STORIES AND VOICES

Highlight books, films, student stories and family perspectives.



INTEGRATE ACROSS SUBJECTS

Incorporate Latino histories and contributions into classroom learning across all grades and subjects.



STUDENT-LED INITIATIVES

Empower students to create projects, campaigns or presentations about topics that inspire them.



REFLECT AND TAKE ACTION

Encourage conversations about how we can build a more inclusive and caring community — beyond this month.



Let's Celebrate TOGETHER!

Tag us in your activities and events
so we can celebrate our familias, uplift
Latino voices and inspire more connection
across our community.



@withalmaorg
INSTAGRAM



@withalmaorg
TIKTOK



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Juntos hacemos más. ♡

Thank you for elevating Latino voices
and inspiring our students.



www.withalma.org



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Hispanic Heritage Month

Events Around Los Angeles

Here are some great community events happening across Los Angeles to celebrate Latino cultures, histories and contributions.

SEP
15
3-5 PM

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

📍 Civic Center Plaza, Long Beach | Free
Community celebration with live music, guest speakers, food and more.

SEP
19
12-2 PM

Mexican Ballet Folklórico

📍 Pico Branch Library, Santa Monica | Free
Interactive folklórico performance and dance lesson featuring Mexican folk music and traditional instruments.

SEP
24-27

LéaLA — Spanish Language Book Fair & Literary Festival

📍 LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes, Downtown LA | Free
Four-day celebration of Spanish-language books, authors, storytelling, arts and culture for all ages.

SEP
26
10 AM-4 PM

Los Angeles Libros Festival

📍 Los Angeles Central Library, Downtown LA | Free
Bilingual family book festival with authors, storytelling, music, workshops and activities in English and Spanish.

SEP
26-27
9 AM-5 PM

Baja Splash Cultural Festival

📍 Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach | Included with aquarium admission
Celebration of Mexican, Central and South American cultures with traditional dance, live music, bilingual programs and cultural activities.

OCT
1
6-7 PM

Quetzal Beats

📍 Santa Monica Main Library | Free
Bilingual music, poetry, movement and storytelling celebrating Central American culture and experiences.

OCT
10
4-9 PM

Pasadena Latino Heritage Festival

📍 Pasadena City Hall | Free
Community celebration of Latino culture and heritage featuring music, entertainment and family activities.

ALL
MONTH

Visit LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes

📍 LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes, Downtown LA | Free
Explore interactive exhibitions celebrating Mexican and Mexican American history, culture and contributions to Los Angeles.