



# Hofstra University

## Joan & Donald E. Axinn Library

CURRICULUM MATERIALS CENTER

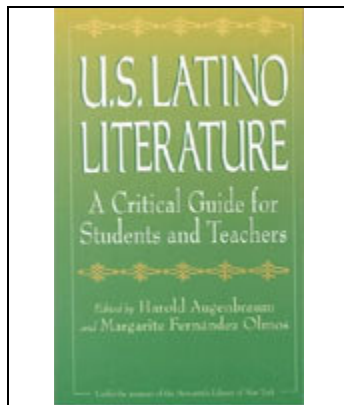


## Hispanic American Heritage Month Bibliography

### Introduction

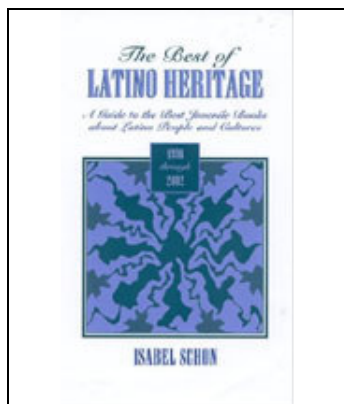
Every month the CMC presents a display of children's literature related to a theme. Often these themes pertain to the celebration of the heritage of a particular ethnicity. In the past, America was often referred to as a "Melting Pot" but, today, the preferred term is "salad" with every group contributing its own unique ingredients to the mix. September has been designated as Hispanic American Heritage Month and while the term Hispanic or Latino represents a variety of ethnicities, all are bound together by a richness of culture that truly adds a zesty flavor to the American experience. The children's books listed below are, in the case of picture books, accompanied by bright and bold illustrations. Many are bilingual and all of these books reflect difference perspectives and points of view.

### Professional Books



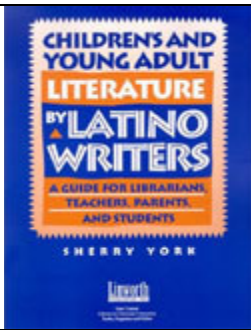
Augenbraum, Harold and Margarite Fernández Olmos, ed. by.  
***U.S. Latino Literature: A Critical Guide for Students and Teachers.*** Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 2000.  
PS153 .H56U7

This scholarly source contains detailed analysis of the writings of various Latino authors. The material in each chapter provides background information for high school teachers to utilize as part of their classroom teaching. (Authors included may be read by high school students but are not necessarily intended for a young adult audience.)



Schon, Isabel. ***The Best of Latino Heritage 1996-2002: A Guide to the Best Juvenile Books About Latino People and Cultures.*** Lanham, Maryland: Scarecrow Press, Inc., 2003.  
Z1609 .C5S34

Isabel Schon is an authority on Latino books for children and young adults having edited many other books on this topic - including a number that appear in the Curriculum Materials Center. These recent books (1996-2002) are arranged by country and are accompanied by an annotation for each title.

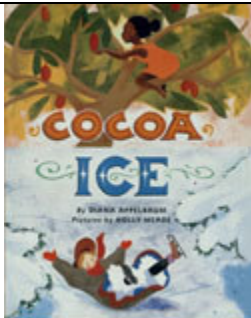


York, Sherry. *Children's and Young Adult Literature by Latino Writers: A Guide for Librarians, Teachers, Parents, and Students*. Worthington, Ohio: Linworth Pub., 2002.

Z1229 .H57Y67

The titles in this bibliography are arranged by genre and are then, in turn, arranged alphabetically by title. This guide contains very brief summaries of each book and includes some biographical information about each author, a list of resources, and web sites.

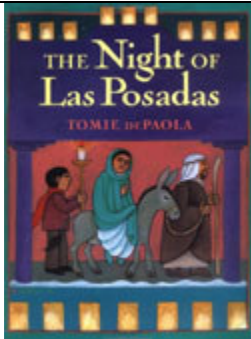
## **CHILDREN'S BOOKS: (Picture Book Format)**



Applebaum, Diana. *Cocoa Ice*. New York: Orchard Books, 1997.

PZ7 .A6415 E

A girl in Santo Domingo tells how cocoa is harvested during the late 1800s while at the same time her counterpart in Maine tells about the harvesting of ice.



DePaola, Tomie. *The Night of Las Posadas*. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1999.

PZ7 .D439

At the annual celebration of Las Posadas in old Santa Fe, the husband and wife slated to play Mary and Joseph are delayed by car trouble, but a mysterious couple seems perfect for the part.



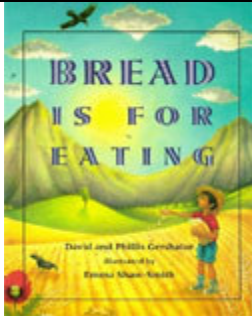
Dorros, Arthur. *Abuela*. New York: Dutton's Children's Books, 1991.

PZ7 .D7294 E

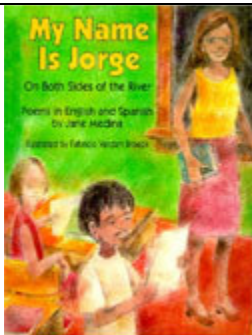
While riding on a bus with her grandmother, a little girl imagines that they are carried up into the sky and fly over the sights of New York City.



-----.. **Isla**. New York: Dutton Children's Books, 1995.  
 PZ7 .D7294 E  
 A young girl and her grandmother take an imaginary journey to the Caribbean island where her mother grew up and where some of her family still lives.



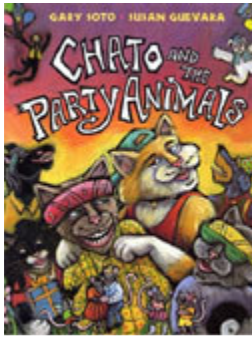
Gershator, David and Phillis. **Bread is for Eating**. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1995. (Guatemala)  
 PZ7 .G314 E  
 Mamita explains how bread is created in a song sung in both English and Spanish.



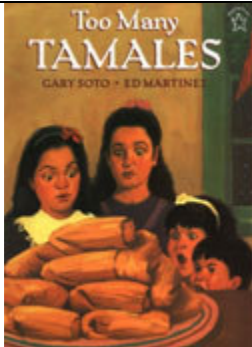
Medina, Jane. **My Name is Jorge On Both sides of the River**. Honesdale, Pennsylvania: Wordsong, Boyds Mills Press, 1999.  
 PZ8.3 .M455 P-I  
 A book of poems that explores the struggles of a boy from Mexico attending school in the United States.



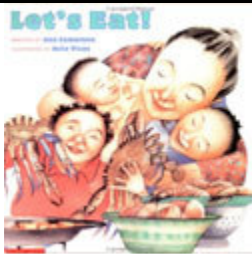
Slate, Joseph. **The Secret Stars**. New York: Marshall Cavendish, 1998.  
 PZ7 .S6289 E  
 In New Mexico on a rainy, icy Night of the Three Kings, Sila and Pepe worry that the kings will not be able to use the stars to navigate, so their grandmother takes them on a magical journey to see the secret stars all around them.



Soto, Gary. **Chato and the Party Animals**. New York: G.P. Putnam Sons, 2000.  
PZ7 .S7242  
Chato decides to throw a "pachanga" for his friend Novio Boy, who has never had a birthday party, but when it is time to party, Novio Boy cannot be found.

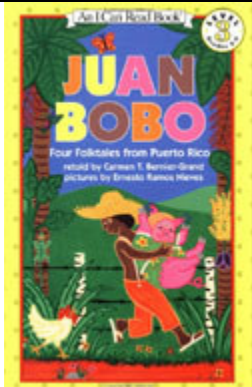


----- **Too Many Tamales**. New York: G. P. Putnam's & Sons, 1993.  
PZ7 .S7242 E  
Maria tries on her mother's wedding ring while helping make tamales for a Christmas family get-together. Panic ensues when hours later, she realizes the ring is missing.



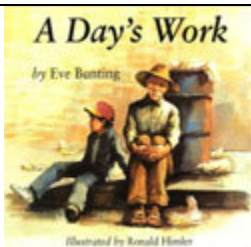
Zamorano, Ana. **Let's Eat**. New York: Scholastic Press, 1996.  
PZ7 .Z25455 E  
Each day Antonio's Mamá tries to get everyone to sit down together to eat, but someone is always busy elsewhere, until the family celebrates a new arrival.

### CHILDREN'S BOOKS: (Chapter Books and Books for Young Adults)



Bernier-Grand, Carmen T., retold by **Juan Bobo**:  
**Four Folktales from Puerto Rico**. New York: Harper Collins, 1994.  
PZ8.1 .B4173 P  
This "I Can Read Book" books contains four folktales from Puerto Rico. The central character, Juan Bobo, is described as a "noodlehead" and, as such, is similar to the "fool" depicted in the folklore of other ethnicities.

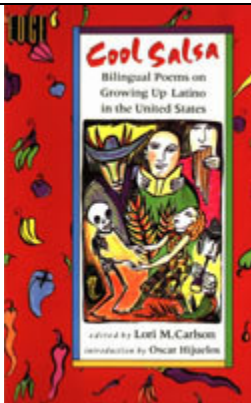




Bunting, Eve. ***A Day's Work***. New York: Clarion Books, 1994.

PZ7 .B91527 P

When Francisco, a young Mexican American boy, tries to help his grandfather find work, he discovers that even though the old man cannot speak English, he has something even more valuable to teach Francisco.



Carlson, Lori M., ed. ***Cool Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Growing up in the United States***. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1994.

PZ8.3 .C63 JH-HS

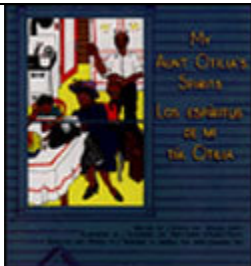
This collection of bilingual poems is introduced by Oscar Hijuelos, distinguished Cuban-American author and former Hofstra professor. It contains a number of themes including "School Days," "Learning English," "Hard Times" and "Time to Party" among others.



Cumpi'an, Carlos. ***Latino Rainbow: Poems about Latino Americans***. Chicago: Childrens Press, 1994.

PZ8.3 .C89 I

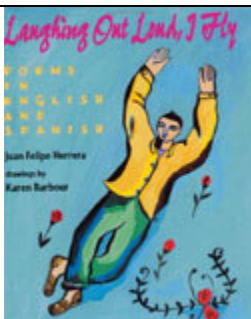
Poems about Latino Americans such as Cesar Chavez, Linda Ronstadt, Henry Cisneros, and Roberto Clemente.



Garcia, Richard. ***My Aunt Otilia's Spirits***. San Francisco: Children's Book Press, 1987. (Puerto Rico)

PZ74.1 .G37 P-I

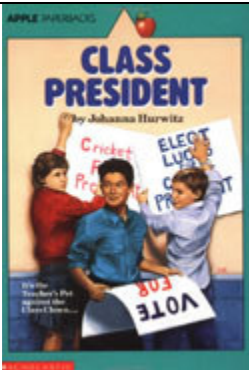
When tall, skinny Aunt Otilia comes to visit from Puerto Rico, her curious nephew finds out about her magical powers.



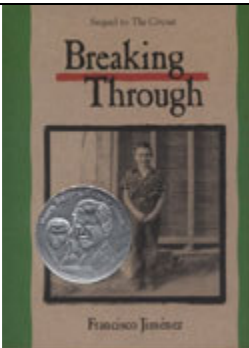
Herrera, Juan Felipe. ***Laughing Out Loud, I Fly***. New York: Joanna Cotler Books, 1998.

PZ8.3 .H47

A collection of poems in Spanish and English about childhood, place, and identity.



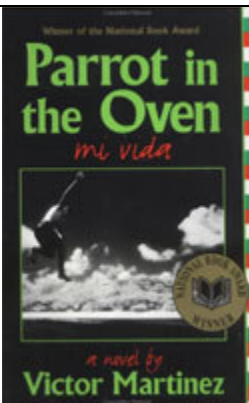
Hurwitz, Johanna. ***Class President***. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1990.  
PZ7 .H9574 I  
Julio hides his own leadership ambitions to help another candidate win the nomination for class president.



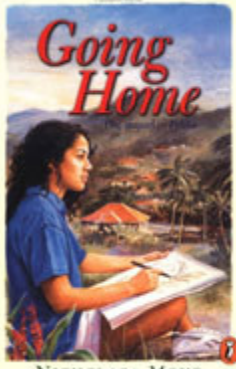
Jimenez, Francisco. ***Breaking Through***. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2001.  
PZ7 .J57525 JH-HS  
Having come from Mexico to California ten years ago, fourteen-year-old Francisco is still working in the fields but fighting to improve his life and complete his education.



Johnston, Tony. ***Any Small Goodness: A Novel of The Barrio***. New York: The Blue Sky Press, 2001.  
PZ7 .J6478 I-JH  
Arturo and his family and friends share all kinds of experiences living in the barrio of East Los Angeles--reclaiming their names, playing basketball, championing the school librarian, and even starting their own gang.



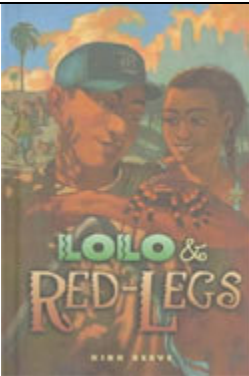
Martinez, Victor. ***Parrot in the Oven***. New York: Joanna Cotler Books, 1996.  
PZ7 .M36718 JH-HS  
Many relates his coming of age experiences as a member of a poor Mexican American family in which the alcoholic father only adds to everyone's struggle.



Mohr, Nicholasa. **Going Home**. New York: Bantam Skylark Books, 1986.  
PZ7 .M7276 I  
Feeling like an outsider when she visits her relatives in Puerto Rico for the first time, eleven-year-old Felita tries to come to terms with the heritage she always took for granted.



Osa, Nancy. **Cuba 15**. New York: Delacorte Press, 2003.  
PZ7 .O785 JH  
Violet Paz, a Chicago high school student, reluctantly prepares for her upcoming "quince," a Spanish nickname for the celebration of a Hispanic girl's fifteenth birthday.



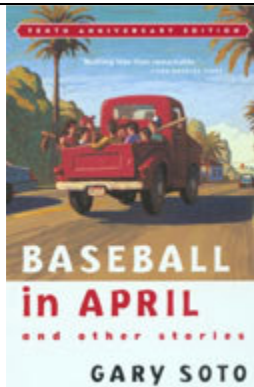
Reeve, Kirk. **LoLo & Red-Legs**. Arizona: Northland Publishing Co., 1998.  
PZ7 .R25575 I-JH  
When eleven-year-old Lolo captures a tarantula, it turns an ordinary summer into a series of adventures that take him and his friends beyond their Mexican-American neighborhood in East Los Angeles.



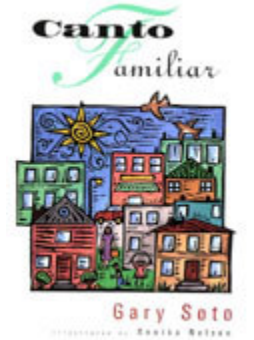
Ryan, Pam Munoz. **Esperanza Rising**. New York: Scholastic Press, 2000.  
PZ7 .R9553 I-JH  
Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.



Soto, Gary. ***The Afterlife***. Orlando, Florida: Harcourt, Inc. 2003.  
PZ7 .S7242 JH-HS  
A senior at East Fresno High School lives on as a ghost after his brutal murder in the restroom of a club where he had gone to dance.

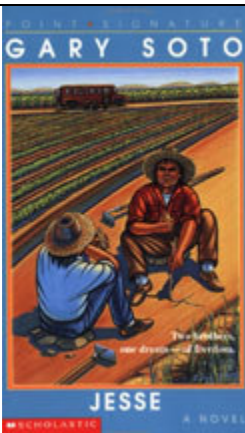


----- ***Baseball in April: and Other Stories***. San Diego: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1990.  
PZ7 .S7242 I-JH  
A collection of eleven short stories focusing on the everyday adventures of Hispanic young people growing up in Fresno, California.



----- ***Canto Familiar***. San Diego: Harcourt Brace and Company, 1995.  
PZ8.3 .S695 I-A  
Twenty-five poems about the pleasures and woes that Mexican American children experience growing up.

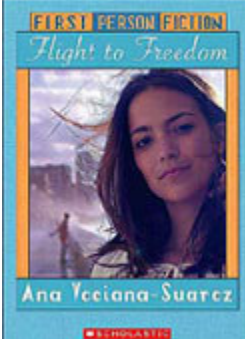




----- **Jesse**. San Diego: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1994.  
PZ7 .S7242 HS  
Two Mexican American brothers hope that junior college will help them escape their heritage of tedious physical labor.



Spurr, Elizabeth. **Lupe & Me**. San Diego: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1995.  
PZ7 .S7695 P-I  
Seven-year-old Susan forms a special friendship with her family's young housekeeper, Lupe, who introduces her to Mexican customs and the Spanish language.



Veciana-Suarez, Ana. **Flight To Freedom**. New York: Orchard Books, 2002.  
PZ7 .V4857 JH  
Writing in the diary which her father gave her, thirteen-year-old Yara describes life with her family in Havana, Cuba, in 1967 as well as her experiences in Miami, Florida, after immigrating there to be reunited with some relatives while leaving others behind



Williams-Garcia, Rita. **Every Time a Rainbow Dies**. New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2001.  
PZ7 .W6713 JH-HS  
After seeing a girl raped and becoming obsessed with her, sixteen-year-old Thulani finds motivation to move beyond his interest in his pigeons and his grief over his mother's death



Wing, Natasha. **Jalapeno Bagels**. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1996.  
PZ7 .W72825 P-I  
For International Day at school, Pablo wants to bring something that reflects the cultures of both his parents.

### **Informational Books**



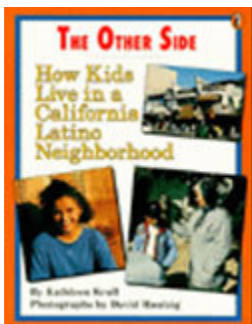
Ancona, George. **Barrio: Jose's Neighborhood**. San Diego: Harcourt Brace and Company, 1998.  
F869 .S39M53 P-I  
Presents life in a barrio in San Francisco, describing the school, recreation, holidays, and family life of an eight-year-old boy who lives there



Brown, Tricia. **Hello, Amigos!** New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1986.  
F869 .S39M537 E  
Follows a day, a birthday, in the life of a Mexican American child, who lives with his family in the Mission District of San Francisco

No Image Available

Whitney, Sharon. **Women in Politics**. New York: F. Watts, 1986.  
HQ1236.5.U6 W48  
Traces the history of women's involvement in American politics, with profiles of women candidates, mayors, governors, congressional representatives, and cabinet members.



Krull, Kathleen. **The Other Side: How Kids Live in a California Latino Neighborhood**. New York: Lodestar Books, 1994.  
F869 .S22K78 I  
Depicts the life of two Mexican American brothers and a girl in San Diego and their enjoyment of a bilingual cultures.



Morey, Janet Nomura & Wendy Dunn. ***Famous Hispanic Americans.***  
New York: Cobblehill books, 1996.  
CT107 .M68 JH-HS

As its name implies, this book includes brief biographies of many different Hispanic Americans. Among the people represented are celebrities from the world of entertainment, sports, business, medicine etc.

No Image Available

Presilla, Maricel E. and Gloria Soto. ***Life Around the Lake.*** New York:  
Henry Holt and Company, 1996.

F1221 .T3P73 I  
Depicts how the Tarascan embroiderers around Lake Pátzcuaro in central Mexico are adapting to modern life.