Latinx Heritage
(National Latinx Heritage Month Sept-Oct)

Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library
A Selective Annotated Bibliography

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### Title Information

#### BIG BOOKS

BB  
D7379A

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.

Min/Max Grade Level: Pre-K through 2; Lexile: 510L; BL: 2.5

BB  
V4793T

Ten little puppies look for something to eat.

Min/Max Grade Level: n/a; Lexile: n/a; BL: n/a

### EASY

Marisol McDonald, a biracial, nonconformist, soccer-playing pirate-princess with brown skin and red hair, celebrates her uniqueness.

Min/Max Grade Level: Pre-K through 2; Lexile: AD580L; BL: 2.8


While running errands with her older brother, Carmela finds a lone dandelion growing in the pavement and at her brother’s suggestion, she tries to think of the perfect wish before she blows its white fluff away.

Min/Max Grade Level: Pre-K through 2; Lexile: 630L; BL: 4


Already so worried about the big second grade test that his stomach is upset, seven-year-old Tiger Turcotte, whose parents are African American, Meherrin Indian, and Hispanic, gets stuck on the question about race.

Min/Max Grade Level: 2 through 4; Lexile: 590L; BL: 3.1


Nikko’s mother wants him to stop jumping on his bed, but he’s not jumping on his bed, as he tried to convince her. Instead there are luchadores, masked wrestlers, trying to fight him one at a time. In the end, of course, Nikko is the winner: the great and mighty Nikko!

Min/Max Grade Level: Pre-K through 1; Lexile: n/a; BL: n/a


A young girl takes a walk through her urban neighborhood, observing items representing every letter of the alphabet, from her abuela to loud, zooming cars.

Min/Max Grade Level: K through 2; Lexile: AD610L; BL: 2.7

Sofia feels that because she looks so much like her older sisters, nobody notices her--so when school picture day comes around she comes up with a way to stand out.

Min/Max Grade Level: 1 through 2; Lexile: 510L; BL: 2.3


In an exuberant picture book, a glimpse of costumed mermaids leaves one boy flooded with wonder and ready to dazzle the world – but what will his abuela think?

Min/Max Grade Level: Pre-K through 2; Lexile: n/a; BL: 0.8


Lily Lujan is known as Little Chanclas because she wears her chanclas, or flip flops, wherever she goes, especially to parties, so when the chanclas come apart while she is dancing at a family barbecue and Chewcho the bulldog eats one, Lily is inconsolable until Granny Lola arrives with a solution.

Min/Max Grade Level: K; Lexile: n/a; BL: 4.2


Nia is afraid to tell her mother, who is shy because she speaks little English, that Nia volunteered her to organize a party for the first-graders of Robin Hill School.

Min/Max Grade Level: K; Lexile: 470L; BL: 1.5


When Alma Sofia Esperanza Josâe Pura Candela asks her father why she has so many names, she hears the story of her name and learns about her grandparents.

Min/Max Grade Level: Pre-K through 2; Lexile: 490L; BL: 2.2


A spunky young girl from Colombia loves playing with her canine best friend and resists boring school activities, especially learning English, until her family tells her that a special trip is planned to an English-speaking place.

When Mia's Abuela comes to live with Mia and her family, she helps her learn English while Mia learns Spanish, both with the help of a parrot named Mango.


Doña Flor, a giant lady with a big heart, sets off to protect her neighbors from what they think is a dangerous animal, but soon discovers the tiny secret behind the huge noise.


An alphabet story in verse about a Latino boy and his remarkable teacher who can teach an astronaut how to float in space and instruct a ballet dancer how to land with grace.


Tata Gus teaches his grandson Aaron how to use natural healing remedies, and in the process helps the members of his family and his neighbors.


It is El Carnaval Latino and Sebi is really excited. She loves the colorful clothes, the lively music but most of all she loves the dance. Her mother says she is a bit too young to take dance lessons. But when a beautiful Cotorra bird flies by and invites her and her friend, Keeke to follow, they are led on an exciting adventure to an enchanted land where the dancing fun has just begun!

Children discover a world of colors all around them. Many of the featured objects are Latino in origin, but all are universal in appeal. A short glossary explains the cultural significance of the colored objects featured in this book.

Min/Max Grade Level: Pre-K through 2; Lexile: AD610L; BL: n/a


A young Latina girl accidentally breaks her grandfather's vihuela and searches for someone in the community to fix the instrument, which leads her to discover her grandfather's legacy as a mariachi.

Min/Max Grade Level: 2 through 4; Lexile: AD680L; BL: 3.5

**FICTION**


Arturo's Miami summer is marked by the arrival of poetry enthusiast Carmen, who helps him use the power of protest to fight the plans of a land developer who wants to demolish his Abuela's restaurant.

Min/Max Grade Level: 5 through 8; Lexile: 750L; BL: 5


Paloma Marquez is traveling to Mexico City, birthplace of her deceased father, for the very first time. When Lizzie and Gael share an irresistible challenge, to find the peacock ring that once belonged to artist Frida Kahlo, Paloma decides it is the perfect way to honor her father.

Min/Max Grade Level: 4 through 6; Lexile: 710L; BL: 4.7


Alex is a bruja and the most powerful witch in her family. But she's hated magic ever since it made her father disappear into thin air. When a curse she performs to rid herself of magic backfires and her family vanishes, she must travel to Los Lagos, a land in-between as dark as Limbo and as strange as Wonderland, to get her family
Stella Díaz wants to be friends with the new boy in class, but sometimes she accidentally speaks Spanish instead of English and pronounces words wrong, which makes her turn roja. In addition, she has to get over her fear of speaking in front of the class.

Shy, seventeen-year-old Marcus and his sixteen-year-old brother, Enrique, accompanied by two friends, drive from their home in southern California to Monterey to confront the abusive father who walked out a year earlier, and who now wants to return home.

When poverty forces her family to leave their home in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Dani has a hard time adjusting to life in New York City, where everything is different except her father's anger, but an unlikely bond she forms with a wealthy, spoiled girl at school helps heal both of their families.

When the murals painted on the walls of her Brooklyn neighborhood start to change and fade in front of her, Sierra Santiago realizes that something strange is going on. Then she discovers that her Puerto Rican family are shadowshapers, and she finds herself in a battle with an evil anthropologist for the lives of her family and friends.

Violet Paz, a Chicago high school student, reluctantly prepares for her upcoming "quince," a Spanish nickname for the celebration of an Hispanic girl's fifteenth
birthday.

Min/Max Grade Level: 6 through 10; Lexile: 750L; BL: 4.9


Haunted by the event that sentences him to time in a group home, Miguel breaks out with two unlikely companions and together they begin their journey down the California coast hoping to get to Mexico and a new life.

Min/Max Grade Level: 9 through 12; Lexile: 770L; BL: 5


Ambitious high school senior and honor student Efrain Rodriguez makes some questionable choices in pursuit of his dream to escape the South Bronx and attend an Ivy League college.

Min/Max Grade Level: 7 through 9; Lexile: 780L; BL: 4.9

**NONFICTION**


Looks at the different ways that Hispanic Americans have fought for their civil rights in the United States throughout the past few centuries.

Min/Max Grade Level: 4 through 6; Lexile: n/a; BL: n/a


Years before the landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling Brown v. Board of Education, Sylvia Mendez, an eight-year-old girl of Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage, played an instrumental role in Mendez v. Westminster, the landmark desegregation case of 1946 in California.

Min/Max Grade Level: 2 through 5; Lexile: AD870L; BL: 5.1


With sugar skulls, sweet-smelling marigold petals and joyful songs, Hispanic families
welcome back ancestors on this holiday.

Min/Max Grade Level: n/a; Lexile: AD530L; BL: n/a


Presents the authors' retellings of more than ten traditional tales accompanied by information on origins and different versions.

Min/Max Grade Level: 3 through 12; Lexile: n/a; BL: 6


Marisol celebrates the different people who come to sing, dance, and make music at her father's music store, including Samuel who plays samba music, Mr. and Mrs. Mayer who dance the tango, and Professor Soto who plays the zampona.

Min/Max Grade Level: 2 through 5; Lexile: 840L; BL: 4.2


When Juan Felipe Herrera was very young, he picked flowers, helped his mama feed the chickens, slept under the starry sky, and learned to say goodbye to his amiguitos each time his migrant family moved on. When he grew up, Juan Felipe Herrera became a poet. His breathtaking poem "Imagine" and Lauren Castillo's evocative illustrations will speak to every reader and dreamer searching for their place in life. Who might you be? Imagine...

Min/Max Grade Level: K through 4; Lexile: n/a; BL: n/a


Bold, graphic portraits and beautiful poems present famous and lesser-known Latinos from varied backgrounds who have faced life's challenges in creative ways.

Min/Max Grade Level: 4 through 7; Lexile: NC1150L; BL: 6.3


Twenty Hispanic American artists, scientists, athletes, activists and political leaders are profiled in this stunning picture book, complete with inspirational quotes and distinctive expressionist portraits.

Min/Max Grade Level: 4 through 8; Lexile: n/a; BL: 7.7

Traces Hispanic history, discusses the rise and decline of Spanish colonial North America, and examines the political, economic, and social influence of the Hispanic population.

Min/Max Grade Level: 4 through 6; Lexile: 950L; BL: 6.2

**BIOGRAPHY**


Presents an account of the life of the Mexican American labor activist who helped organize the migrant farm workers and establish a union to fight for their rights.

Min/Max Grade Level: 1 through 2; Lexile: 490L; BL: 2.1


Offers an account of the first fourteen years of the author's life in poems, telling of her time spent between her mother's native Cuba and her home in Los Angeles, until the revolution in Cuba dramatically alters relations between the two countries she loves.

Min/Max Grade Level: 6 through 10; Lexile: 1120L; BL: 6.1


A biography of the Mexican painter shares details of her childhood, career, and the accident that changed her life.

Min/Max Grade Level: 2 through 3; Lexile: n/a; BL: 3.8


Highlights the life and achievements of Father Junipero Serra, from his boyhood in Spain and his years in Mexico to his role in the Spanish colonization of California and the conversion of Native Californians to Christianity.

Min/Max Grade Level: 2 through 3; Lexile: n/a; BL: 5.1

A biography of the first Hispanic Supreme Court justice shares details of her childhood, career, and personal achievements.

Min/Max Grade Level: 2 through 3; Lexile: n/a; BL: 4.6


Provides an introduction to the life and biography of Pancho Villa, the Mexican outlaw who played an important role in the Mexican Revolution of 1910.

Min/Max Grade Level: n/a; Lexile: n/a; BL: n/a

**PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION**


