



STATE OF NEW YORK | EXECUTIVE CHAMBER

ANDREW M. CUOMO | GOVERNOR

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GOVERNOR CUOMO UNVEILS 2013 HISPANIC HERITAGE EXHIBIT AT STATE CAPITOL

War Room Display Honors Hispanic Contributions to Arts & Culture

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced the opening of a new exhibit in the State Capitol, *Celebrating Hispanic Culture/Celebrando Nuestra Cultura Hispana*, which celebrates the contributions of Latino artists to the arts and culture of the Empire State. The exhibit, located in the War Room on the Second Floor of the State Capitol, comes as millions of Americans across the state and nation begin to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month.

The Governor also issued a state proclamation observing the month, which has been nationally designated as running from September 15 – October 15 since 1988.

“New York is proud to join in the annual celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month in honor of our state’s flourishing Hispanic communities,” Governor Cuomo said. “The ‘Celebrating Hispanic Culture’ exhibit highlights some of the men and women whose passion and creativity have helped push our state’s boundaries and expand our horizons in arts and culture. I encourage New Yorkers to come explore this exhibit and learn about how this vibrant community has and continues to enhance our state.”

Keeping History Alive for Generations

The *Celebrating Hispanic Culture/Celebrando Nuestra Cultura Hispana* exhibit features 10 Hispanic New Yorkers who have had a significant impact on the state’s cultural landscape. In addition to the featured artist biographies, the exhibit describes Latino contributions in dance, music, literature, theatre and film. It also contains several artifacts that will help visitors understand the history of the Hispanic community in New York.

To explore the exhibit online, visit: <http://www.hallofgovernors.ny.gov/hh/hispanic-heritage-2013>. The Hall of Governors website has additional information on the featured artists, videos and links to other websites where New Yorkers can learn more about the state’s Hispanic heritage.

Hispanic New Yorkers featured in the exhibit include:

- Chita Rivera - Tony Award-winning actress

- Willie Colón - Grammy Award-winning musician and community activist
- Rubén Blades - Grammy Award-winning musician and political activist
- Lin-Manuel Miranda - Tony Award-winning playwright, actor & composer
- Quiara Alegria Hudes - Pulitzer Prize-winning writer and playwright
- Celia Cruz - Grammy Award winning-singer and dancer.
- Héctor Lavoe - Famed singer & musical trailblazer
- Tito Puente - Grammy Award-winning musical legend
- Tina Ramirez - Award winning choreographer and founder of Ballet Hispanico

Examples of artifacts featured in the exhibit include:

- First edition of the Oscar Hijuelos' Pulitzer Prize winning novel, *The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love*
- Hispanic Screenwriter Scripts that were censored by the NYS Motion Picture Commission during the 1940s and 50s
- First edition of Timothy Flint's *Francis Berrian, or, The Mexican Patriot*, the first North American novel set in Mexico
- Recordings by several famous Hispanic artists including Raul Soler and Xavier Cugat

The display, which will remain open throughout the fall, is part of the Governor's ongoing efforts to highlight New York's history, which has included the restoration of the Hall of Governors, the Black History Month and Women's History Month exhibits, as well as displays honoring Independence Day and Memorial Day. The New York State Archives is also working with various groups and community partners around the state to document the rich history and culture of the state's growing Hispanic population. To date, its Latino Heritage Documentation Project has produced two important guides: [Preliminary Guide to Historical Record Sources on Latinos](#) and [A Guide to Documenting Latino/Hispanic History & Culture in New York State](#).

NYS Hispanic Heritage Month Links

2013 Hispanic Heritage Month Exhibit: *Celebrating Hispanic Culture/Celebrando Nuestra Cultura Hispana*

<http://www.hallofgovernors.ny.gov/hh/hispanic-heritage-2013>

2012 Hispanic Heritage Month Exhibit: *The Future is Now/El Futuro Es Ahora*

<http://www.hallofgovernors.ny.gov/hh/hispanic-heritage>

NYS Hispanic Heritage Month Proclamation:

English: www.governor.ny.gov/assets/documents/HispanicHeritageMonthEnglish.pdf

Spanish: www.governor.ny.gov/assets/documents/HispanicHeritageMonthSpanish.pdf

NYS Archives: Latino Heritage Documentation Project:

http://www.archives.nysed.gov/a/research/res_topics_pgc_latino_docproj.shtml

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