

Resources for Latinx and Hispanic Students

Navigating through the academic journey can be challenging, especially for Latinx and Hispanic students who often find themselves balancing cultural identity with educational pursuits. To support and empower you, we've compiled a comprehensive guide to valuable resources, cultural organizations, and supportive networks. This guide will help you connect with your heritage, access crucial support, and thrive both personally and academically.

Cultural Organizations and Community Resources

Connecting with cultural organizations can provide a sense of belonging and offer vital support. Here are some key organizations:

LatinX Student Association

The **LatinX Student Association** at Point Park University is a student-led group dedicated to improving the experience of Latinx students on campus. The association focuses on raising awareness about Latinx struggles and providing opportunities for students to connect with each other and their heritage. Their efforts include organizing cultural events, advocacy initiatives, and networking opportunities.

Latin American Cultural Center (LACC)

The **Latin American Cultural Center (LACC)** is an outreach initiative of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA). Based in Pittsburgh, PA, since 1986, LASA is a non-profit organization comprising nearly 14,000 scholars and students dedicated to Latin American studies. LACC serves as a hub for cultural exchange and educational activities, promoting a deeper understanding of Latin American cultures.

Casa San Jose

Casa San Jose serves as a vital resource center for the Latino community in Pittsburgh. Their services include weekly clinics, food pantries, summer camps, community meetings, and Know Your Rights sessions. Casa San Jose provides a welcoming and supportive environment, ensuring the community has access to essential resources and opportunities for growth.

PGH Metropolitan Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (PMAHCC)

The **Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (PMAHCC)** is the leading advocate for the Hispanic business community in the region. PMAHCC works to promote the civic and economic interests of Hispanic businesses, offering networking opportunities, business development resources, and advocacy support.

PGH Hispanic Development Corp (PHDC)

The **Pittsburgh Hispanic Development Corporation (PHDC)** is a community development organization focused on racial equity in the Pittsburgh metropolitan area. PHDC provides resources and support for Hispanic businesses and community initiatives, working to create a more inclusive and equitable environment.



National Resources

Accessing national resources can provide additional support and opportunities for Latinx and Hispanic students. Here are some key organizations to explore:

- **Amnesty International:** Advocates for human rights and social justice.
- **Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute:** Offers leadership development programs and scholarships.
- **Hispanic Heritage Foundation:** Provides educational and career opportunities.
- **League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC):** Focuses on advancing the economic condition, educational attainment, and civil rights of Hispanic Americans.
- **UnidosUS:** The largest Latino advocacy organization in the United States, promoting social change and equity.

Media Recommendations

Staying informed and connected with your culture can be both educational and inspiring. Here are some

media recommendations, including movies, podcasts, and books:

Movies

- **Latino Vote: Dispatches from the Battleground (2020)**: A documentary exploring the impact of Latino voters in the U.S. political landscape.
- **Palante, Siempre, Palante! The Young Lords (1996)**: Chronicles the history of the Young Lords, a Puerto Rican nationalist group.
- **The Latino List (2011)**: Features interviews with influential Latino figures sharing their personal stories.

Podcasts

- **NPR's Alt Latino**: Explores Latinx culture through music, stories, and interviews.
- **Port of Entry**: Delivers stories from the U.S.-Mexico border, highlighting the complexities of border life.
- **La Brega**: A narrative podcast that delves into Puerto Rican history and culture.

Books

- **Wild Tongues Can't be Tamed by S. Fennell**: A collection of essays exploring Latinx identity.
- **Finding Latinx: In Search of the Voices Redefining Latino Identity by P. Ramos**: An exploration of diverse Latinx identities across the United States.
- **My Broken Language by Q. Hudes**: A memoir reflecting on the author's upbringing in a Puerto Rican family.

Empowering Latinx and Hispanic students means providing access to resources, community support, and opportunities for cultural connection. This guide aims to be a roadmap for your journey, helping you navigate academic life with confidence and pride in your heritage. Remember, you are not alone; there is a vibrant community ready to support and uplift you. Embrace these resources, connect with your peers, and take pride in your unique identity.