What does LatinX mean?

LatinX is a gender-neutral term for a person who is of Latin American origin or decent. Instead of identifying as Latino or Latina, a person may identify as LatinX.

Hispanic and LatinX Heritage Month

Hispanic and LatinX Heritage Month, is from September 15th to October 15th. We celebrate the histories, cultures, and contributions Hispanic and LatinX people have made.

Originally, the celebration was only a week long, until 1988 when President Ronald Reagan enacted a law making it a whole month.

There is much significance to September 15th as it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries like Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. Furthermore, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16th and 18th respectively.

Monthly Recap

In September, Cultural Outreach had its first meeting of the year! The advisers and officers explained that the mission of the club is to spread respect and acceptance throughout Lake Orion High School.

September's theme was Hispanic and LatinX Heritage Month. The month's theme carried into part of October as well. To celebrate, a variety of events were held around LOHS the week of October 4th.

At lunches on Tuesday, there was an educational coloring activity and candy from the cultures were passed out.
On Thursday and Friday, we played music from singers of Hispanic and LatinX heritage as we welcomed students into school.
Finally, Thursday after school, we hosted a sugar cookie, Sugar Skull, decorating event. We played music as we decorated cookies and talked about the month's theme.
What does this month’s theme of Hispanic and LatinX Heritage mean to you?
“It’s my culture so it’s very important to me. I get to share my culture with others and I love my culture. Any opportunity I get to educate others, I’m thrilled.”

What is your favorite tradition or celebration in your culture?
“For me, it’s Día de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead). It’s so vibrant and beautiful. I’ve never been in Mexico to celebrate, but my dad has. He comes home and brings sugar skulls.”

What should more people know about your culture?
“I feel like when people are introduced to people of the culture, they’re like, ‘Oh you’re Mexican’. I wish more people knew not everyone’s Mexican. Every Latin culture shares some similarities, but we have our differences too. I have so many friends that are from Puerto Rico; I’m Puerto Rican, Guatemalan, and Mexican. Everything’s not about tacos either, that falls under the Mexican category. There’s more types of foods and sweets. For my culture, Mexican, all of our spices are about a certain fruit.”