



Hispanic
Heritage
Month

Inspired: LatinX Arte

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month this year by discovering a few of the many Hispanic and Latinx Contributions to the arts through this creative kit. Learn a bit about the life and painting styles of prominent Latinx Painters of the past then create your own work of art inspired by their unique styles.

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Introduction:

Hispanic Heritage Month began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week when it was signed by President Lyndon Johnson. In 1988, President Ronald Reagan expanded it to Hispanic Heritage Month beginning September 15th and ending October 15th. The reason behind this decision was the number of independence celebrations in Latin American countries that are commemorated in mid-September, including Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua on September 15th, Mexico on September 16th, and Chile on September 18th.

This month-long event celebrates, honors, and highlights the history and achievements of the Hispanic and Latinx community. This kit contains a small glimpse into the extraordinary contributions to the Arts by highlighting LatinX Artists. We hope it inspires you to create, explore, and learn.

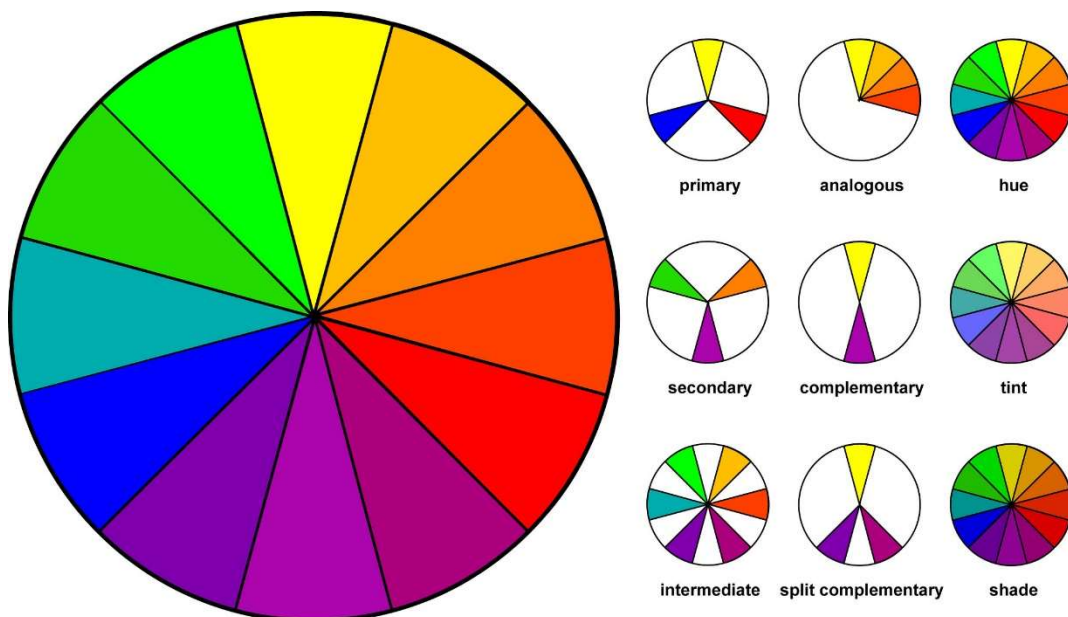
Learn more about Hispanic Heritage Month, including links to other free resources and programs for all ages at <https://www.hispanicheritagemonth.gov/>

Kit Contents:

- 1 - Canvas
- 3 - Paints [Red, Yellow, and Blue]
- 1 - Paint Brush
- 1 - Set of Instructions with links to resources*

*a digital download of this booklet is available on the event webpage.

You will notice that your kit contains only three colors of paint: Red, Yellow, and Blue. This is because every color can be made from these three. If you like you can add your own white or black paints to create tints and shades of the colors as well. You may find the color wheel below helpful. Interestingly <https://www.realmenrealstyle.com/color-wheel-menswear/> is a great resource to check out for understanding and creating colors.



Featured Artist: Frida Kahlo

1907-1954: Mexico



Pictured: Frida Kahlo [Left] and Self-Portrait with Small Monkeys [Right] both courtesy of FridaKahlo.org.

Arguably one of the most iconic and instantly recognizable artists in the world. Frida Kahlo was born in Mexico in 1907 and was married to fellow artist Diego Rivera. She suffered much in her life, first from polio as a child and later in a near-fatal bus accident. She began painting shortly after the accident, many of which were self-portraits. In fact, 55 of her 143 known paintings are self-portraits.

These self-portraits often reflect the portraiture style of renaissance painters coupled with her use of vibrant colors. Frida Kahlo's work was called surrealist by some, but she rejected the association. For her, it was very much a reflection the pain and beauty that was her life. It is no wonder that her work continues to delight and inspire today.

Learn more about Frida Kahlo's Life and Work at <https://FridaKahlo.org>

ArtStory: <https://www.theartstory.org/artist/kahlo-frida/>

Museum of Modern Art [MoMA]: <https://www.moma.org/artists/2963>

Tutorial: <https://artprojectsforkids.org/draw-frida-kahlo/>

Featured Artist: Jean-Michel Basquiat

1960-1988: United States



Jean-Michel Basquiat. Glenn. 1985 MoMA

Born in Brooklyn to a Puerto Rican Mother and Haitian Father, Basquiat showed a talent for the arts from an early age. He began painting by creating street art in Lower Manhattan and later moved to the canvasses he is famed for. Basquiat was known to have collaborated with famed Pop Artist, Andy Warhol on occasion, though not among his best-known or loved works.

He quickly rose to fame becoming a star of the Neo Expressionist movement in the 1980s. His style often features anti-establishment messages, bold, graphic colors, and graffiti-like lines. Basquiat's 1982 painting, *Untitled* set a new record high for an American artist at a Sotheby's auction in 2017. It sold for \$110.5 million, cementing the enduring popularity of his work.

Learn more about Jean-Michel Basquiat's Life and Work at [The Estate of Jean-Michel Basquiat](#)

ArtStory: <https://www.theartstory.org/artist/basquiat-jean-michel/life-and-legacy/>

Museum of Modern Art [MoMA]: <https://www.moma.org/artists/370>

Tutorial: <https://cameronartmuseum.org/documents-download/previous/Basquiat.pdf>

Featured Artist: Joan Miró

1893-1983: Spain



Pictured: Joan Miró 1955. Artstory [Left] and Joan Miró *The Sun (El Sol)* 1949. MoMA [Right]

Joan Miró was born in Spain in 1893. Perhaps not a surprise he was a far better artist than student. At 14 he enrolled in the School of Industrial and Fine Arts (the Llotja), and, to please his parents, the School of Commerce in Barcelona. The strain of his studies caused him to suffer a nervous breakdown. Shortly after, he contracted a severe case Typhoid Fever and while recovering devoted himself solely to his art.

Miró drew inspiration from many sources, including Van Gogh, Cézanne, and the French Fauve painters, but almost always his Catalan roots. He often referred to himself as an “international Catalan”. He is known for his use of limited color palettes featuring soft gradient backgrounds juxtaposed with bold colors and whimsical, almost childlike figures. His use of soft, unblended colors in backgrounds would inspire the Color Field Painters that were to come. His work contains a joyful and often dreamlike quality that is still popular today.

Learn more about Joan Miró’s Life and Work at <https://www.joan-miro.net/>

ArtStory: <https://www.theartstory.org/artist/miro-joan/>

Museum of Modern Art [MoMA]: <https://www.moma.org/artists/4016>

Tutorial: <https://artprojectsforkids.org/how-to-draw-like-miro/>

Now it's Your Turn!

Pick your favorite artist and try to paint something in their style. Will it be a vibrant and soulful self-portrait like Kahlo, a Neo-Expressionist inspired piece like Basquiat, or a surrealist masterpiece in the style of Miró? It's up to you. We'd love for you to share your finished piece with us on social media, #InspiredDPL.

Find all of Dallas Public Library Hispanic Heritage Month Programs at <https://dallaslibrary.librarymarket.com/events/hispanic-heritage-month-2021>

Booklist:

Modern art adventures: 36 creative, hands-on projects inspired by artists from Monet to Banksy by Pitamic, Maja, author.
Call Number: 709.04 P681M 2015

Fearless trailblazers: 11 Latinos who made U.S. history = Pioneros audaces : 11 Latinos que hicieron historia en Estados Unidos by Reynoso, Naibe, author.
Call Number: 920.009268 R466F 2020

Radiant child : the story of young artist Jean-Michel Basquiat by Steptoe, Javaka, 1971-author.
Call Number: B B316S 2016

Writing the future : Basquiat and the hip-hop generation
Call Number: 707.411 W956 2020

Frida Kahlo : the Gisèle Freund photographs by Freund, Gisèle, author, photographer.
Call Number: 759.972 F889F 2014

Joan Miró, 1893-1993. by Miró, Joan, 1893-1983.
Call Number: 759.6 M676YM 1993

Joan Miró : I work like a gardener by Miró, Joan, 1893-1983, author.
Call Number: 759.6 M676J 2017

For Kids

Jean-Michel Basquiat by Sánchez Vegara, Maria Isabel, author.
Call Number: B B316S 2020

Frida Kahlo by Sánchez Vegara, Ma Isabel (María Isabel), author.
Call Number: B K12S 2016

Miró by Ross, Nicholas.
Call Number: B M676R 1995

Find more at <https://dallaslibrary2.org>