American Hispanic
In September 1968, Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week. The observance was expanded in 1988 to a month long celebration (Sept. 15–Oct. 15).

Hispanic Americans are Americans of European, African, American Indian, Asian, and mixed ancestries who share certain historical background and cultural traditions - in particular, the Spanish language.

Hispanic Americans have diverse roots. Many came to the U.S. from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Spain, the Dominican Republic, or Spanish-speaking countries of Central and South America.

Hispanic Americans represent almost 13.5% of the U.S. population or over 38.8 million people, and as the world’s fifth largest Spanish-speaking nation, rank as the fastest growing segment of the U.S. population.

As NMFS celebrates our Hispanic community, we do so with the following goals:

- Address the underrepresentation and underutilization of Hispanics at all levels of NMFS.
- Create a workplace environment where Hispanic employees are valued.
- Increase the number of Hispanics at all levels of the NMFS workforce.
- Ensure that prospective Hispanic applicants are aware of NMFS as an employer of choice and of the opportunities for Hispanics at NMFS.
- Ensure that Hispanic employees are fully developed and prepared to assume positions of greater responsibility.
- Ensure that the NMFS is aware of the culture, concerns, and issues of its Hispanic employees and the Hispanic community it serves.

For more information on this and other Affirmative Employment Programs within NMFS, please contact Natalie Huff, the NMFS Program Manager for EEO and Diversity.
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National Information and Conferences
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
http://www.hacu.net/hacu/Default_EN.asp

League of United Latin American Citizens
http://lulac.org/

Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science
http://sacnas.org/