Abigail Ybarra (1933–) Did you know that women have had a very important role in the making of Fender guitars for decades? Fender hired women to make pickups for electric guitars because the company thought that women's hand skills were superior to men's. Abigail Ybarra was one of these women who joined a community of working Latina women when she began at Fender in 1958. Because of the factory's location in California, there were many Latina women that worked there, sharing their knowledge with one another. Ybarra learned the important task of making electric guitar pickups from Pilar Lopez. She later trained Josefina Campos, passing her knowledge on to the next generation of Latina guitar makers. Over the course of her career, Ybarra wound almost 400,000 miles of wire around magnets, and was eventually named "Queen of Tone" for her excellent work!



What is the difference between the labels "Hispanic" and "Latino"?

"The National Museum of the American Latino defines Latino, Latina and Latinx as demonyms that describe the diverse inhabitants of the United States with cultural or ancestral ties to Latin America or the Caribbean. The term Hispanic is more limiting and should be used if it is necessary to signal an essential connection to Spain or the Spanish language. Latino, Latina, Latinx and Hispanic frequently overlap with other common ethnic or national labels such as Chicano, Boricua, Salvi, which are used by Latinas and Latinos to describe themselves." (from the National Museum of the American Latino)

Why does Hispanic Heritage Month start in the middle of September?

Hispanic Heritage Month happens between September 15 and October 15 because 8 different Central Americans celebrate their independence during this time, 5 of which occur on September 15th. While it began in 1968 as a weeklong celebration under President Lyndon B. Johnson, President Ronald Reagan later expanded the celebration to last a month.

From flamenco dancing to reggaeton, there is so much music to appreciate during Hispanic Heritage Month!

national music museum
NMMusd.org

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN LATINO
latino.si.edu

Latino History is American History.

Explore our shared history at the NMM!

The National Music Museum, along with the Smithsonian Institution and other affiliates across the country are celebrating Hispanic music and culture through exhibits, events and online content.

Celebrate with us!

During your visit....

Watch for these symbols throughout the galleries. They showcase some of the instruments and people who have contributed to musical history through their work as performers, entrepreneurs, makers, and more!

Throughout the month...

Explore creations that are by Latino people rather than only depict Latino people. We'll seek opportunities to identify stories we haven't shared before, highlight intersectionality, and present stories that explore the Latino diaspora and its diversity.
si.edu/events/hispanic-heritage-month

Learn more online about how Latinas and Latinos have shaped the nation in the US Latino Museum's exhibition "¡Presente! A Latino History of the United States"

https://s.si.edu/presente

Follow the NMM's social media sites for additional information and posts.

Share what you've learned!
#HispanicHeritageMonth
#SmithsonianHHM
#AmericanLatinoMuseum

Lamont Gallery

Hispanic and Latino people have always played an important role in musical communities. Latinos and Latinas highlighted in these galleries contributed to musical traditions important to their families and cultures!

Box Drum: Cajón Peruano Instruments can have many uses and many meanings, and this box drum, called a Cajón is no exception. The Cajón is often played by sitting on top of the instrument and smacking its sides, and appears in music ranging from folk music to pop music! The Cajón came from enslaved Africans, who were forced to work in shipping yards, where they made box drums from the crates. These people and their descendants remained in Peru and contribute to the musical culture of the region. This particular Cajón was presented to the National Music Museum as a celebration of this Afro-Peruvian culture, and as emblematic of Peru's reckoning with its history of slavery.

Friction Drum: Sambumbia is a unique kind of drum because it is not struck when played. Instead, the player rubs their fingers along the rope or stick attached to the head, causing the membrane to vibrate. This Guatemalan Sambumbia is also known as a "Tigrera" because it is used to imitate the female Northern Tiger Cat during hunting season. Although the friction drum most likely came from African cultures, they are important to Guatemalan culture and are even sold as tourist items, as this one was.







Steve Turre (1948–) is a famous Mexican-American trombonist born in San Francisco. Perhaps best known for playing in the Saturday Night Live Band since 1984, Turre is a prolific performer who plays jazz, Latin, and pop music, and even invented a musical genre- Verve! He has performed in numerous ensembles, including one that uses horns made of seashells, inspired by his Latin American heritage. Here, we have a custom trombone owned by Turre, including a separate specialty engraved bell.

Lillibridge Gallery

Dolores Navarres de Goñi (1813–1892), Dolores Navarres de Goñi was a famous guitar performer. She immigrated to the United States from Spain in 1840 and was an early promoter of the now iconic Martin guitars. She was well known in both Europe and the United States, so her glowing review of Martin guitars in 1843 undoubtedly brought them important publicity!







The **Pimentel Family** operates a guitar workshop in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where they make one-of-a-kind instruments by hand. Lorenzo Pimentel began making guitars in Durango, Mexico at age 14. He immigrated to the US and opened his own shop within a decade, which his sons Robert, Rick, and Victor now run. Pimentel guitars are popular among many singer-songwriters today. Rick Pimentel made this guitar for a Wisconsin musician, adding an inlay inspired by Southwestern jewelry making traditions.