



### **Why is Hispanic Heritage Month important?**

Hispanic Heritage Month is an important event to honor, to both celebrate the achievements that Hispanic people have made throughout history and to catalyze action against the discrimination they continue to face. With only 3.4% of Latinos occupying positions in corporate executive suites and only 8% of private tech sector jobs, Hispanic Heritage Month educates society on the benefit of a diverse and inclusive world. Despite the lack of representation and discrimination that the Hispanic community continue to face, Hispanic Heritage Month is an impactful way of abolishing such discrimination.

Some famous Hispanic Americans / Latinos include:

**Ellen Ochoa**, a pioneering engineer and astronaut, shattered the glass ceiling in 1993 when she became the first Latina to reach space. This electrical engineer leveraged her expertise on four Space Shuttle missions, even serving as mission commander on one and logging nearly 1,000 hours in orbit.

**Dr. Alfredo Quinones-Hinojosa** is a celebrated neurosurgeon known for his work in brain tumor research and treatment, often sharing his expertise on social media.

**Carlos Santana**. Born in Mexico in 1947, Santana has become one of the best guitarists of all time. Over his career, he's won 10 Grammy Awards and three Latin Grammy Awards.

**Diana Taurasi** is an American former professional basketball player who played in the Women's National Basketball Association for 20 seasons, spending her entire career with the Phoenix Mercury. Taurasi is widely recognized as one of the greatest women's basketball players ever.