

Diálogos

in this issue

- [Calendar, Trivia, News & Notes](#)
- [Chocolate](#)
- [Independence Day](#)
- [Sports](#)

Calendar, Trivia, News & Notes



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Calendar of Activities

Now-October 15: Hispanic Heritage Month activities at Hennepin County Libraries, dates and times vary.
www.hclib.org

Now-October 31: Evita, Ordway McKnight Theatre, St. Paul.
www.ordway.org

Opens October 2: "Chocolate: the Exhibition," Minnesota History Center, St. Paul, in

Commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month

September 15-October 15

Every year, the U.S. celebrates Hispanic Heritage month to recognize the economic, cultural and social contributions of the more than 45 million Latinos residing in the U.S. The custom originated more than 30 years ago and commemorates the independence of seven countries: Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua. All declared independence on or near September 15.

While you may have your own favorite ways to celebrate Hispanic culture, this newsletter features several more customs:

- Salute the ancient Mayans who first brewed the drink we call hot chocolate.
- Kick a soccer ball around with friends or watch a futbol match on TV.
- Make plans to attend some of the activities listed at left.

And of course, enroll in Spanish language courses today!

New Classes Begin October 11

Whether you're planning a winter getaway in Mexico, a spring trip to Spain, or you just want to brush up on your skills, now is the time to sign up for adult classes at the Spanish Institute. The next 10-week session begins October 11, 2010.

[View the full catalog of courses online](#)

¡Hasta Pronto!

~ The Staff of the Spanish Institute ~

Chocolate

New Bilingual Exhibit Explores Pop Culture Significance and Ancient Mayan Roots of Chocolate

English and Spanish.
[Lear More](#)

October 5: Open House at the Spanish Institute, 4-6 p.m., Edina.
www.spanishin.com

October 11: New 10-week classes for adults begin at the Spanish Institute. Enroll today.
www.spanishin.com

October 16-November 14: Young People's Ofrenda exhibit, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis.
www.artsmia.org/ofrenda

October 30: Dia de Los Muertes activities, noon-4 p.m., Minnesota History Center, St. Paul.
[Lear more](#)

November 14: "DIY: Chocolate," 3-5 p.m., Fabulous Catering, Minneapolis.
[Learn more](#)

November 17-18: "Viva Latino" young people's program, 10 a.m. and 11:35 a.m., Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis.
[Learn more](#)

November 19: Contra-Tiempo Dance, 7:30 p.m., Ordway Theatre, St. Paul.
www.ordway.org

November 20: Tiempo Libre concert, 7:30 p.m., Ordway McKnight Theatre, St. Paul.
www.ordway.org

December 17-19: The Rose Ensemble presents "La Nochebuena: A Spanish Renaissance Christmas," times and locations vary.
www.roseensemble.org

Visit at Minnesota History Center in English or Spanish

This fall, the Minnesota History Center in St. Paul puts all things chocolate front and center, with a bilingual exhibit that runs October 2 through January 2, 2011.

Chocolate or "xocoatl" as it was known by the ancient Mayans has long been associated with Mexican and Spanish cultures. Anthropologists discovered cacao beans and residue of ground beans in Honduran storage vessels dating back to 1400 B.C.

Aztec Indians also treasured the beans and drink they called "chocolatl." They believed the cacao beans and resulting drink were gifts from the gods and drinking chocolate would bring wisdom. Drinking chocolate figured in ancient religious ceremonies and by the 12th century, sharing the drink was often part of marriage ceremonies.

Hundreds of years later, the Mexican emperor Montezuma introduced Spanish explorer Hernando Cortez to chocolate, and Cortez brought it back to the court of King Charles V. Christopher Columbus was also said to have brought back cacao beans.

Initially, cacao's potential was overlooked in Europe, but by the 1600s, chocolate was well established as both a beverage and food for the elite. In 1615, the Spanish Princess Maria Theresa gave Louis XIV of France an engagement gift of chocolate.

[Learn more:](#)

www.minnesotahistorycenter.org/chocolate

Independence Day

Mexico Marks Bicentennial with Year-Long Celebration

Thousands participate in September 16 festivities

During 2010, Mexico commemorates the 200 year anniversary of its independence from Spain (declared on September 16, 1810) as well as the 100 year anniversary of the Mexican Revolution (begun on November 20, 1910).

January 28, 2011:
VocalEssence: Canto de las
Estrellas, 8 p.m., Central
Lutheran Church, Minneapolis.
www.vocalescence.org

Trivia

Autumn Vocabulary

See if you can match these
words from the the Autumn
season.

1. otoño
 2. la caída de las hojas
 3. calabazas
 4. migración de aves
 5. la cosecha de manzanas
 6. vuelta a la escuela
 7. la bajada de las temperaturas
 8. árboles de hoja caduca
 9. árboles de hoja perenne
 10. paleta de colores de otoño
-
- a. deciduous trees
 - b. back to school
 - c. bird migration
 - d. the fall of the leaves
 - e. autumn color palette
 - f. temperature drops
 - g. Autumn
 - h. pumpkins
 - i. the apple harvest
 - j. evergreen trees

(Answers appear at the end of
this newsletter.)

News & Notes

The Frick Collection Museum of NY presents The Spanish Manner: Drawings from classic artists .

The Spanish Manner exhibition
in NY presents drawings from
classic Spanish artists from
Ribera to Goya. These diverse

President Felipe Calderón encouraged Mexicans to look the future as well as back to the past as they celebrate their heritage. To go along with that theme, digital countdown clocks are located in the main squares in the capital cities of all 31 of the Mexican states. The Independence bicentennial countdown ended on September 16, 2010, but the Revolution centennial countdown continues until November 20, 2010.

Mexico City Celebrates

On September 16, most states staged lavish fiestas featuring parades, fireworks and the traditional independence cry of "Viva Mexico!". Mexico City's \$40 million fiesta took years to plan and attracted hundreds of thousands of people from across the country to the main Reforma Avenue and Zocalo.

New Monuments

In addition, the Arco del Bicentenario, a new commemorative arch constructed of steel and quartz along the Paseo de la Reforma, was dedicated in Mexico City. The new Mexican Children's Library, a Virtual Museum and the move of the General Archive of the Nation to a new building were also timed for September 16 in Mexico City.

In the state of Guanajuato, the Expo Parque Bicentenario opened in July, creating a "world's fair" environment that runs through November 20, 2010. Its 245 acres host exhibits, artistic musical, folklore and historical events highlighting Mexico's heritage.

Ruta 2010 Crosses Mexico

Across Mexico's highways and roads, "Ruta 2010" signs designate six routes that link monuments and past military campaigns related to Mexico's War of Independence and the Mexican Revolution. The various routes highlight prehispanic, Spanish, modern and contemporary Mexican art as well as historic shows and 10 newly opened archeological sites.

U.S. and Twin Cities Join Festivities

The celebrations were not confined to Mexico. Many U.S. cities with large Mexican-American populations, including Minneapolis, observed the bicentennial in September. Locally, several thousand gathered on Lake Street on September 12

possessing a specifically "Spanish manner"; more than fifty works present a sampling of the rich, diverse legacy of the Spanish draftsman from the early seventeenth to the early nineteenth century.

[Learn more](#)

Quick Links...

- [More About Us](#)
- [View class schedule](#)
- [Register now](#)

Join our mailing list!

Join

for the Twin Cities' annual celebration. Coming up, local musical group VocalEssence will perform "Canto de las Estrellas" to celebrate Mexico's bicentennial on January 28, 2011.

Sports

Spain Tops Competition in Three Major Events

Futbol Remains a Fan Favorite

Clearly, 2010 has been a remarkable year for Spain, its athletes and sports fans:

- Tennis star Rafael Nadal won the U.S. Open as well as three Grand Slam titles (Wimbledon, French Open, US Open).
- Alberto Contador won the Tour de France.
- The Spanish soccer team won the FIFA World Cup for the first time

While Spain is proud of all its athletes, soccer or "futbol" holds a special place in Spaniards' hearts. In fact, futbol is a source of pride and a key part of Hispanic culture and identity from Brazil to Mexico to Spain.

Much like baseball in the U.S., futbol is the sport everyone plays-from children to adults. Watching professional teams inspires as much passion in Spanish-speaking countries as baseball and football do in the U.S. Many Americans of Hispanic heritage have maintained their love of the game. For some, futbol is a bit of home; for others, it's simply an exciting international sport they love to watch.

Trivia Answers:

1-g, 2-d, 3-h, 4-c, 5-l, 6-b, 7-f, 8-a, 9-j, 10-e.

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