DNA Testing and Digital Archives Expand Reach of Hispanic Heritage Research

DNA Testing and the Internet Make It Much Easier to Explore Hispanic history, genealogy, and family heritage during Hispanic Heritage Month

BALTIMORE, MD, UNITED STATES, September 22, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Observed annually from September 15 through October 15, National Hispanic Heritage Month highlights the rich history, culture, and contributions of Hispanic and Latino communities. For Hispanic Americans seeking to uncover family histories often omitted from standard U.S. history curricula, modern DNA testing and expanding online archives offer unprecedented opportunities for discovery.

> “All who have Hispanic ancestry will benefit greatly from having this book [Finding Your Hispanic Roots] as part of their permanent research collection.”
>
> *Peter E. Carr, National Gen. Soc. Quarterly, September 1997.*

While traditional Hispanic naming conventions have long helped trace maternal lines, modern DNA testing allows individuals to confirm relationships and connect with living relatives to extend family trees. DNA expert Roberta Estes—author of DNA for Native American Genealogy and manager of the blog DNA Explained—Genetic Genealogy—notes that mitochondrial DNA testing enables Hispanic Americans to trace their Native American roots back to early ancestral populations in the Americas.

Researchers can also draw on extensive historical records. Commercial genealogy platforms like Ancestry.com and MyHeritage.com host billions of searchable censuses, vital, and immigration records. Additionally, FamilySearch.org offers vast, free global collections. Featured as a top resource in Family Tree Magazine’s guide to Hispanic and Latino genealogy websites, FamilySearch is further detailed in Dana Ann Palmer’s book, Ultimate Guide to Mastering FamilySearch.

Additional key resources and specialized tools include:

Regional & Library Archives: Southwestern state archives, along with specialized collections at the Dallas Public Library and Grapevine Public Library, host extensive historical records of Hispanic forebears.

Specialized Networks: Professional genealogist Moisés Garza, who specializes in Mexican and South Texas family history, runs Somos Primos, an online network offering access to family letters, published genealogies, and research links.

Paleography & Historical Documents: To assist advanced researchers with early colonial records, Mastering Hispanic Handwriting and Documents—co-authored by the late Brigham Young University professor George Ryskamp, Peggy Ryskamp, and H. Leandro Soria—provides essential guidance on interpreting historical Spanish script.

Together, these DNA tools, digital archives, and educational guides provide a comprehensive roadmap for tracing birth, marriage, church, land, and military records. Hispanic Heritage Month serves as an ideal time to begin asking questions, exploring historical records, and preserving ancestral stories for future generations.

Joseph Garonzik
Genealogical.com
+1 410-804-1558
jgaronzi@genealogical.com
Visit us on social media:
Facebook
YouTube

This press release can be viewed online at: https://www.einpresswire.com/article/943803421

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.
© 1995-2026 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.