

The Latino Holiday Book: From Cinco de Mayo to Día de los Muertos-- the Celebrations and Traditions of Hispanic-Americans. 2004. Valerie Menard. Marlowe & Company, 2004. 224 pages. 9781569244067

A list of 20 customs, celebrations, and traditions of Spanish and Hispanic cultures that originate from Spain, Mexico, and Latin American countries. Spanish Holidays. Día de los Muertos. In Hispanic cultures, it's important to remember family members and friends who have passed. Día de los Muertos is a particularly significant holiday in Mexico, where it's observed on November 1st and 2nd. Mexican traditions for Día de los Muertos combine Catholic elements with Aztec rituals. People create altars in their homes with photos, foods, and other objects that have some link to the deceased. They also visit the graves of their loved ones, where they may spend hours or even the entire day. Art related to the holiday depicts skeletons enjoying life. The El día de los Niños/El día de los libros (Day of the Child/Day of the Book) Toolkit is a 100 page online document describing booktalks, authors visits, storytelling, and other programming ideas that can be used to celebrate El día de los Niños/El día de los libros on April 30th. The comprehensive document is available at: <http://www.texasdia.org/toolkit.html>. Ideas for Latino Youth Programs (Cont.) To supplement this book, Naidoo suggests Menard's The Latino Holiday Book: From Cinco de Mayo to Día de los Muertos--the Celebrations and Traditions of Hispanic-Americans (2004, 2nd ed.) Ideas for Latino Youth Programs (Cont.) More editions of The Latino Holiday Book: From Cinco de Mayo to Día de los Muertos--the Celebrations and Traditions of Hispanic-Americans: The Latino Holiday Book: From Cinco de Mayo to Día de los Muertos--the Celebrations and Traditions of Hispanic-Americans: ISBN 9781569244067 (978-1-56924-406-7) Softcover, Da Capo Press, 2004. Salma Hayek (A Real-Life Reader Biography). by Valerie Menard. Though Latinos' holiday celebrations vary from country to country and from household to household, one thing holds true across the board: Latino holiday traditions and festivities are the gifts that keep on giving. We've rounded up 12 time-honored Latino traditions that never fail to put us in the holiday spirit. Día de las Velitas. LUIS ROBAYO via Getty Images. Día de las Velitas is celebrated in Colombia on Dec. 7, marking the beginning of the holiday season. Día de los Reyes Magos. Getty. In many Spanish-speaking countries, Three Kings Day, or Día de los Reyes Magos, on Jan. 6 is more important than Christmas. The holiday honors the arrival of the Three Wise Men -- Balthazar, Melchor and Gaspar-- bearing gifts for the newborn Jesus, a story from the New Testament.