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Chef Yamira Lee Johnson leads programs on Healthy Hispanic Dishes during Hispanic Heritage Month at the library.
(photo credit: Amanda Murphy)

The Orange County Library System celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

August 27, 2018 – In Orlando, over 25% of the community are Hispanics from all corners of the world. From September 15 through October 15, the library celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with events everyone in the family will love. Cuisine Corner hosts various cooking programs that specialize in healthy ways to prepare some of our favorite dishes, like Tortillas from Scratch on

September 27 at the downtown library. Several branches throughout town host dance performances including Flamenco dance group Alborea Dances.

Several art events focus on Mexico's rich culture and history, including the world famous artist Frida Kahlo. Teens and tweens can create their very own version of Mexican folk art and bring home to show family and friends. On October 6 the downtown library will host Dr. José Manuel García, author of *Voices from Mariel*, where he shares his experience during Cuba as a teenager in 1980. Stick around after his discussion and book signing where a screening of the *Voices from Mariel* documentary will follow.

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at the library from September 15 through October 15.

Celebrate With Dance

Orlando Public Library, Library Central, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Saturday, September 15, 11 a.m.

South Creek Branch, 1702 Deerfield Blvd.

Saturday, September 22, 2 p.m.

Hiawassee Branch, 7391 W. Colonial Drive

Saturday, September 29, 11 a.m.

Southwest Branch, 7255 Della Drive

Monday, October 15, 2 p.m.

Enjoy a lively performance of Spanish folk dances by Alborea Dances in honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

So, You Think You Can Latin Dance?

Herndon Branch, 4324 E. Colonial Drive

Saturday, September 15, 2:30 p.m.

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at Herndon! Journey to Puerto Rico, Cuba, Colombia and the Dominican Republic through dance & music. Learn step-by-step how to salsa, merengue, cumbia and bachata!

Spanish Cuisine: More than Just Spice

Herndon Branch, 4324 E. Colonial Drive

Monday, September 17, 6:30 p.m.

Chickasaw Branch, 870 N. Chickasaw Trail

Tuesday, October 2, 6:30 p.m.

Southeast Branch, 5575 S. Semoran Blvd.

Tuesday, October 9, 6:30 p.m.

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, join Chef Warren Caterson as he demonstrates how to create healthy meals from various regions of Spain using local and easy to source ingredients. For more information about Chef Warren, visit chefwarrencaterson.com.

Cuisine Corner: Food is our Greatest Medicine – A Chef's Perspective on Eating for a Delicious Life

South Trail Branch, 4600 S. Orange Blossom Trail

Monday, September 17, 6:30 p.m.

Edgewater Branch, 5049 Edgewater Drive
Wednesday, September 26, 11 a.m.

Learn how to make healthy Latin inspired food in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month. Chef Rich will debunk the myth that healthy food is expensive, inspire you to save money and educate you on cooking techniques that produce quick healthy delicious meals. To learn more about Chef Rich, visit 1pl8.com. Space is limited. Registration required. Register online at ocls.info or call 407.835.7323.

Mexican Folk Art

South Trail Branch, 4600 S. Orange Blossom Trail
Wednesday, September 19, 4:30 p.m.

Windermere Branch, 530 Main St., Windermere
Saturday, September 22, 11 a.m.

Washington Park Branch, 5151 Raleigh St., Suite A.
Monday, September 24, 4:30 p.m.

Eatonville Branch, 200 E. Kennedy Blvd., Eatonville
Tuesday, September 25, 4 p.m.

Winter Garden Branch, 805 E. Plant St., Winter Garden
Wednesday, September 26, 3:30 p.m.

Celebrate Mexican Independence Day and the start of Hispanic Heritage Month by creating your own craft honoring Mexican folk art. Recommended for tweens and teens.

Mexican Danza

Chickasaw Branch, 870 N. Chickasaw Trail
Wednesday, September 19, Noon

Orlando Public Library, Library Central, 101 E. Central Blvd.
Sunday, September 23, 2 p.m.

Southeast Branch, 5575 S. Semoran Blvd.
Saturday, October 13, 2 p.m.

Join us and Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with a Mexican Folkloric Dance performance. Enjoy colorful costumes and traditional Mexican music.

Art 101: Frida Kahlo

Orlando Public Library, Cypress Room, 101 E. Central Blvd.
Wednesday, September 26, 6:30 p.m.

Famed Mexican artist Frida Kahlo is well known for herself portraits and surrealist style. Her paintings incorporated her life experiences, Mexican folk culture, bold colors and feminist themes. Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by learning about the fascinating life of this artist and enjoy a hands on activity inspired by her art. Registration Required. Register online at ocls.info or call 407.835.7323. This program is intended for an audience 15 years of age and older.

Cuisine Corner: Healthy Hispanic Dishes

Eatonville Branch, 200 E. Kennedy Blvd., Eatonville
Thursday, September 27, 6 p.m.

Hiawasse Branch, 7391 W. Colonial Drive
Thursday, October 11, 6:30 p.m.

Yamira Lee Johnson, head chef and founder of Breaking Bread with Mira and certified holistic life coach, will demonstrate how to create healthy Hispanic dishes. Learn to incorporate healthy dishes that are delicious into your diet. For more information about Breaking Bread with Mira, visit breakingbreadwithmira.com. Space is limited. Registration required. Register online at ocls.info or please call 407.835.7323.

Cuisine Corner: Tortillas from Scratch!

Orlando Public Library, Cypress Room, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Thursday, September 27, 6:30 p.m.

Learn how to make tortillas from scratch. Library staff will discuss recipes and demonstrate the making of a homemade tortilla. Space is limited. Registration required. Register online at ocls.info or call 407.835.7323.

Southwest Art Club – Mexican Folk Art Painting with Pastels Workshop

Southwest Branch, 7255 Della Drive

Saturday, September 29, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Enjoy this step-by-step workshop using pastels to complete a piece in the style of Mexican folk art. Materials are provided or bring your own. No art experience needed. This is a Community School of the Arts program presented by Women in the Arts Inc. in partnership with the Orange County Library System. To learn more about Women in the Arts Inc., visit womenintheartsinc.org. Suggested \$15 donation for materials. Cash or checks made to Women in the Arts Inc. Registration required. Limited space. Ages 18 and up.

Cuisine Corner Junior: Latin Flavors

Alafaya Branch, 12000 E. Colonial Drive

Saturday, September 29, 11:30 a.m.

Enjoy easy-to-make snacks to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month! Ages 8–18. Registration required.

Tropical Latin Jazz

Orlando Public Library, Library Central, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Sunday, September 30, 2 p.m.

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with the tropical sounds of Caramba Productions. The performance will include Latin jazz standards, salsa, merengue, Cuban music and more.

Celebrate Through Films

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Tuesdays, October 2 & 9, 11 a.m.

Celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month with films that highlight the cultures and contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans.

***Voices from Mariel* – Oral Histories of the 1980 Cuban Boatlift**

Orlando Public Library, Library Central, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Saturday, October 6, 3 p.m.

Between April and September 1980, more than 125,000 Cuban refugees fled their homeland, seeking freedom from Fidel Castro's dictatorship. Dr. José Manuel García, author of *Voices from Mariel*, emigrated on the Mariel boatlift as a teenager and will discuss stories from this powerful moment in history. Following a book sale and signing, enjoy a screening of the *Voices from Mariel* documentary.

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