

April 3

"Identifier "Latinx" (pronounced "Latin-ex"), born out of a collective aim to move beyond the masculine-centric "Latino" and the gender inclusive but binary embedded "Latin@"

- Latino Rebels website - The Case for Latinx: Why Intersectionality is not a choice

April 4

Being Latino is not a cultural identity but rather a political one. Being Puerto Rican is not a racial identity, but rather a cultural and national one. Being Black is my racial identity. Why do I have to consistently explain this to those who are so-called conscious? Is it because they have a problem with their identity? Why is it so bad to assert who I am, for me to big-up my Africanness?

- Rosa Clemente (Black Puerto Rican Community Organizer, Independent Journalist, Hip-Hop activist, and was the vice presidential running mate of 2008 Green Party Presidential Candidate in the 2008 US Presidential election)

April 5

"As a Latina Muslim I've grown more not only as a Muslim but as Latina and as someone who is trying to contribute to society."

- Hazel Gomez, Puerto Rican/Mexican Muslim activist.

April 6

"A lot of people don't realize that I'm Latina, which is fine...I don't expect people to know my cultural background just by glancing at me. I do, however, expect that when I tell people my family is from Puerto Rico, that I will be believed and not accused of trying to be something that I'm not...common responses are, "You don't look Latina" and "I thought you were black!" I never said I wasn't black. And since when does being black and being Latina have to be mutually exclusive?

- La La Anthony (Alani Nicole Vazquez: Afro-Puerto Rican Television personality)

April 7

“If you had to ask me, I’d call myself Chinese-Puerto Rican, because both cultures have shaped me equally. I’ve learned to look at culture and race in a more fluid light. You don’t have to be one or the other”

- Hoiyan Leung (Chinese-Puerto Rican student who took part in the Latinos Break the Mold Campaign – US)
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April 10

Afro-Latinxs will not be erased on my watch

- Gloria Malone (Writer/Speaker/Activist/Consultant)
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April 11

"There's multiplicities within identities"

- Janel Martinez (Honduran-American, Afro-Latina Blogger of Aint I Latina)
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April 12

“My stories didn’t appear. We were invisible. I was invisible from the media narrative. No one in the reporting that I saw looked like me, looked like my family. So I began to think that maybe somehow my life, my story, was less valuable – less important”

- Maria Hinojosa (Anchor and Executive producer of Latino USA)
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April 13

“When I became an actress I quickly realized that ‘the world’ like their Latinas to look Italian and not like me”

- Gina Torres (Television and Movie Actress)
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April 14

“It’s not an award ceremony problem. It’s a creation on content issue. We need more in art and entertainment that is reflective of the world that we live in. And there’s just not enough reflection in it for women, for people of colour”

- America Ferrera (Actress)
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April 17

“I’ve specifically decided to say no to projects that weren’t advancing Latinos, that weren’t showing us in a positive light, roles that were gratuitous and spreading untruths.”

- Gina Rodriguez (Actress: well known for the shown Jane the Virgin).

April 18

“This refusal to accept the stark reality that race matters is regrettable. As members of the judiciary tasked with intervening to carry out the guarantee of equal protection, we ought not sit back and wish away, rather than confront, the racial inequality that exists in our society.”

– Sonia Sotomayor, Puerto Rican United States Supreme Court Justice Judge

April 19

“Children should be taught that the appreciation of their heritage does not merely occur once a year, each fall, but it happens every single day of their lives. Every time they look in the mirror they should find every reason to celebrate themselves...”

– Tim Z. Hernandez, Chicano author/performance artist.

April 20

“Fundamentally, I started writing to save my life. Yes, my own life first. I see the same impulse in my students—the dark, the queer, the mixed-blood, the violated—turning to the written page with a relentless passion, a drive to avenge their own silence, invisibility, and erasure as living, innately expressive human beings.”

— Cherríe L. Moraga, Chicana poet/playwright/educator.

April 21

We are not myths of the past, ruins in the jungle, or zoos. We are people and we want to be respected, not to be victims of intolerance and racism.

- Rigoberta Menchu (K’iche political activist from Guatemala)

April 24

“...to be inclusive of the multiple communities that make up Latin-America including but not limited to Indigenous people, Afro-Latinxs, gender non-conforming people etc. Latin-America History Month must be used instead of Hispanic Heritage Month...using the term Latin-America which references a geographical location allows for the inclusivity of all/any identities instead of using the singular [eurocentric] identity term Hispanic...”

- Andrea Vásquez Jiménez, Afro-Latina community educator, organizer, and activist. Co-Chair of the Latinx, Afro-Latin-America, Abya Yala Education Network which is based out of Toronto (formerly known as Latin American Education Network)

April 25

“We seek a world in which there is room for many worlds.”

- Subcommander Marcos, Zapatista Army of Liberation (EZLN), Mexico

April 26

“We are tired of anthropologists, environmentalist, church-related organizations, and other specialists speaking for us and using us for their self-interest. Please respect our self-determination to make our own decisions”

- Tashka Yawanawa (Chief of the Yawanaw)

April 27

If your mother tells you stories, she is a poetry maker.
If your father says stories, he is a poetry maker.
If your grandma tells you stories, she is a poetry maker.
And that’s who forms our poetics.

- Juan Felipe Herrera, Mexican-American poet. teacher and activist.

April 28

“The honoring of those that are now spirit is essential as is honoring their work to assure that their work continues to be expanded upon generation after generation.”

– Dr. Marta Moreno-Vega, Afro-Puerto Rican. Founder of the Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute.