

## National Hispanic Heritage Month

By Curt Keester 21 September 2018



*Lt. Col. Jorge Arredondo shared insights from his career in the Army, and memories from his childhood in Mexico and early years in American during a National Hispanic Heritage Month observance at the Letort View Community Center, Friday, Sept. 21.*

**CARLISLE, Pa. (Sept. 21, 2018)** – The Army War College celebrated National Hispanic Heritage Month at the Letort View Community Center, Friday, Sept. 21, honoring people, music, dance and food -- icons of the Hispanic-American contributions to the United States. The event was open to the public, and members and neighbors of the Army War College and Carlisle Barracks community.

Army War College student, Lt. Col. Jorge Arredondo, was guest speaker, offering his thoughts about a Roberto Clemente quote, "If you have an opportunity to make things better and you don't, you are wasting your time on earth."

Arredondo shared insights from his career in the Army, linking his service to his childhood in Mexico and early years in the United States. Hispanic Americans are forging a leadership model that is people-oriented, community-based and participatory. "I never say my unit, my battalion, or my country," he said, as example. "It is *our* unit. It

is *our* county.

"We are natural collaborators, learning to share and to contribute to our families and community early in childhood. Values such as reciprocity, cooperation, and generosity encourage collaboration," said Arredondo, reminding the audience of the power of the well-known phrase, "mi case es su casa."

Arredondo is an 18-year Army Intelligence officer, with joint and interagency experience in all-source intelligence operations, and prior service as an Infantry Soldier in OPERATION DESERT STORM/DESERT SHIELD. He holds a Master's degree in International Relations from Troy University and two bachelor's degrees from New Mexico State University.

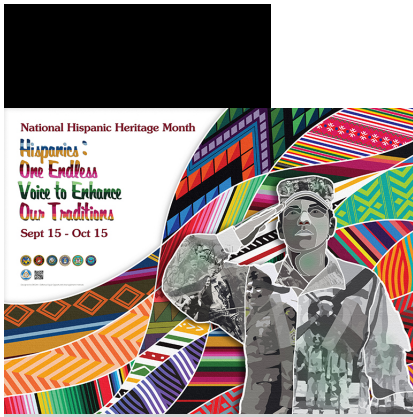
Following Los Bomberos De La Calle gave an educational and interactive performance highlighting the traditional music of Puerto Rico, and there was a sampling of traditional Hispanic-American food.

Each year the nation observes National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>. The theme for this year's month-long observance is, "Hispanics: One Endless Voice to Enhance our Traditions."

Over the course of the month, the nation celebrates the diversity that makes our country strong, and the histories, cultures, and contributions citizens with ancestors from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America have made to our nation. America's diversity has always been one of our nation's greatest strengths.

Hispanic Americans have long played an integral role in America's rich culture, proud heritage. Hispanic-Americans contribute their own traditions, culture, language, values, work ethics and ideals to the vitality and meaningful legacy in our Nation's cultural framework. Hispanic-Americans have enhanced and shaped our national character with traditions that reflect their multiethnic and multicultural customs.





*The Army War College will honor National Hispanic Heritage Month during an observance at the Letort View Community Center, 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m., Friday, Sept. 21, 2018.*



*Los Bomberos De La Calle gave an educational and interactive performance highlighting the traditional music of Puerto Rico during a National Hispanic Heritage Month observance at the Letort View Community Center, Friday, Sept. 21.*

#### RELATED ARTICLES

13 Sep 2018

[Stand-To: National Hispanic Heritage Month](#)

#### RELATED LINKS

[National Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15 to Oct. 15](#)

[Hispanic Americans in the U.S. Army](#)

[Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute](#)

[Hispanic Americans: Shaping the Bright Future of America](#)

