AAP’s Publishing Latino Voices for America Task Force has created this Latino Recommended Reading List in celebration of Latino Books Month in May. The list represents just a sampling of the wide variety of books that are available by and for Latinos. For more information on PLVA, please visit the AAP website at www.publishers.org. Be sure to keep an eye out for additional resources in recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month in September!

**Adult Fiction**

**Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland**  
Lewis Carroll  
Illustrated by Camille Rose Garcia  
Collins Design (February 1, 2010)  
ISBN: 9780061886577  
Languages Available: English

Since its publication in 1865, Lewis Carroll’s *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* has delighted the world with a wildly imaginative and unforgettable journey, inspiring children of all ages to suspend disbelief and follow Alice into her fantasy worlds. This new gift edition presents Carroll’s tale fully unabridged with a unique visual interpretation by renowned artist Camille Rose Garcia.

**Dancing with Butterflies: A Novel**  
Reyna Grande  
Washington Square Press (October 2009)  
ISBN: 9781439109069  
Languages Available: English

*Dancing with Butterflies* uses the alternating voices of four very different women whose lives interconnect through a common passion for their Mexican heritage and a dance company called Alegría. Yesenia, who founded Alegría with her husband, Eduardo, sabotages her own efforts to remain a vital, vibrant woman when she travels back and forth across the Mexican border for cheap plastic surgery. Elena, grief stricken by the death of her only child and the end of her marriage, finds herself falling dangerously in love with one of her underage students. Elena’s sister, Adriana, wears the wounds of abandonment by a dysfunctional family and becomes unable to discern love from abuse. Soledad, the sweet-tempered illegal immigrant who designs costumes for Alegría, finds herself stuck back in Mexico, where she returns to see her dying grandmother. Award-winning novelist Reyna Grande has brought these fictional characters so convincingly to life that readers will imagine they know them.
El Guerrero Pacifico
Dan Millman
New World Library/HJ Kramer (2001)
ISBN: 978-0-915811-90-8
Languages Available: English, Spanish, and various languages worldwide

El Guerrero Pacifico begins during Dan Millman's junior year of college, when he is training to become a world-champion gymnast. Guided by a ninety-four-year-old mentor named Socrates, he blends Eastern philosophy and Western fitness to cultivate the true essence of a champion — the "way of the peaceful warrior." An odyssey into realms of light, darkness, mind, body, and spirit, this international bestseller is a testament to the universal quest for happiness.

El Tercer Reich
Roberto Bolaño
Vintage Español (March 2, 2010)
ISBN: 9780307476142
Languages Available: Spanish

El Tercer Reich is pure Bolaño—a detective, extravagant characters, and a descent into madness—and in it we can be seen the seed of future masterpieces such as Los detectives salvajes (The Savage Detectives) or 2666. Thought to have been written in the early 1990s, El Tercer Reich was found among Bolaño's papers after his death.

The Black Minutes/Los minutos negros
Martin Solares
Grove Atlantic /Vintage Español (April 27, 2010)
Languages Available: English and Spanish

In order to solve the murder of a journalist in the steamy city of Paracuán, Tamaulipas, in the Gulf of Mexico, a police officer must investigate an unsolved crime from twenty years ago. As he delves into the creepy undersides of the port, he begins to doubt the identity of the assassin. Could he be the one that killed a group of children in the Seventies? That incipient drug dealer? A member of that sinister and almost invisible secret police that has held Mexico down for decades? Or was it one of his dishonorable colleagues? The strange case involves a mysterious writer, a legendary doctor, an FBI agent with peculiar ideas on extraterrestrial beings, an inspector disappeared in tenebrous circumstances, and one of the best detectives of Latin America, that come together in this crude, ironic, and darkly humored mystery about life in the extremes.

Martín Solares was born in Mexico City in 1972 and has worked in the Mexican publishing industry for many years. Los minutos negros will be published simultaneously in English in hardcover by Grove/Atlantic in Spring 2010. He lives in Mexico.
"He was named Jorge, like me, and for this his life hurts me twice." So writes Jorge Volpi Escalante in this highly original novel that presents a biographical perspective on the tragic life of the poet and chemist Jorge Cuesta. Cuesta was one of the founders of Los Contemporáneos, an influential literary movement of the twentieth century, and his voice can be heard throughout offering insight into the creative and destructive forces that eventually led to a mental ward and shocking suicide at thirty-eight. The fictional "Jorge," as narrator, embarks on an obsessive quest to understand the life of the long-dead poet. It is a brave search for anyone willing to gaze into the mirror of mortality "in spite of the dark silence."

Marjorie Agosín’s intensely personal long poem *The Light of Desire* is a meditation on love and its meanings in the land of Israel. The light on the pink stones of Jerusalem, the sunlight of Galilee, the fragrant air, and the “mantle of stars” all become one in this rhapsodic expression of longing and desire. This is not unrequited love, but rather a reciprocal passion that brings pleasure, pain, and the hope and belief in that which is eternal. The poem was written over a four-year span in Jerusalem’s Mishkenot Sha’ananin neighborhood and these hallowed surroundings imbued Agosín’s poetic voice. Lori Marie Carlson’s translation maintains the spirit of the original Spanish in this bilingual edition.

"We slipped into this country like thieves, onto the land that once was ours." With these words, spoken by an illegal Mexican day laborer, *The Madonnas of Echo Park* takes us into the unseen world of Los Angeles, following the men and women who cook the meals, clean the homes, and struggle to lose their ethnic identity in the pursuit of the American dream. Like the Academy Award–winning film *Crash*, *The Madonnas of Echo Park* follows the intersections of its characters and cultures in Los Angeles. In the footsteps of Junot Díaz and Sherman Alexie, Brando Skyhorse in his debut novel gives voice to one neighborhood in Los Angeles with an astonishing—and unforgettable—lyrical power.
The Sonnets: A Dual-Language Edition with Parallel Text
Jorge Luis Borges
Penguin Group USA (March 30, 2010)
ISBN: 9780143106012
Languages Available: Dual-language

This landmark collection brings together for the first time in any language all of the sonnets of Jorge Luis Borges. More intimate and personally revealing than his fiction, and more classical in form than the inventive metafictions that are his hallmark, the sonnets reflect Borges in full maturity, paying homage to many of his literary and philosophical paragons-Cervantes, Milton, Whitman, Emerson, Joyce, Spinoza-while at the same time engaging the mysteries immanent in the quotidian. A distinguished team of translators-Edith Grossman, Willis Barnstone, John Updike, Mark Strand, Robert Fitzgerald, Alastair Reid, Charles Tomlinson, and Stephen Kessler-lend their gifts to these sonnets, many of which appear here in English for the first time, and all of which accompany their Spanish originals on facing pages.

Try To Remember
Iris Gomez
Grand Central Publishing (May 5, 2010)
ISBN: 9780446556194
Languages Available: English (Bilingual reading group guide available)

Award-winning poet and expert in US immigration and asylum law Iris Gomez delivers a debut novel about a daughter's attempt to sustain her family as her father battles with mental illness.

Waking Up in the Land of Glitter
Kathy Cano-Murillo
Grand Central Publishing (March 1, 2010)
ISBN: 9780446509244
Languages Available: English (Bilingual reading group guide available)

If Amy Sedaris and Ugly Betty teamed up to rewrite The Friday Night Knitting Club, you'd have this hilarious, heartwarming debut novel from "Crafty Chica" Kathy Cano-Murillo.
Werewolf Smackdown
Mario Acevedo
Eos, an imprint of HarperCollins (March 9, 2010)
ISBN: 9780061567186
Languages Available: English

Werewolf Smackdown is a tightly crafted urban fantasy by Mario Acevedo featuring Felix Gomez, a Latino vampire detective extraordinaire, who tackles a dangerous werewolf civil war. This is the fifth of Mario Acevedo’s popular, satirical series and is the only series to date that features a Latino vampire as the hero.

Werewolf Smackdown puts undead PI Felix Gomez right in the middle of a supernatural battle for power, one that will wake the ghosts of Charleston and could destroy both human and undead if he’s not careful. A civil war is brewing between rival werewolf factions and Gomez, the private investigator, will do anything he can to ensure this conflict doesn’t turn into an all out battle that will make the supernatural underworld explode. But between that, the sudden reappearance of an ex-girlfriend, and several other vampires trying to take off his head, this is one rumble even a vampire detective may not be able to handle.

Who Would Have Thought It?
Maria Amparo Ruiz de Burton
Penguin Group USA (August 25, 2009)
ISBN: 9780143105879
Languages Available: English

Maria Amparo Ruiz de Burton was the first Mexican American woman to write novels in English and the first nineteenth-century California writer to publish a novel in the aftermath of the Mexican-American War. Her first book, Who Would Have Thought It?, tells the story of Lola, a young, orphaned Mexican girl rescued from Indian captors by one Dr. Norval, who returns with Lola to his New England home. Though the townspeople initially shun the interloper, they become transfixed by Lola once word about the gold accompanying her gets out. Through the riveting personal story of a young girl’s coming-of-age, Who Would Have Thought It? offers a stunning portrayal of the clash of cultures and communities, and a fresh perspective on Civil War America.

Daisy: Morning, Noon, and Night
Daisy Martinez
Atria (March 2, 2010)
ISBN: 9781439157534
Languages Available: English and Spanish (available May 4, 2010)

In this upbeat, accessible and beautifully packaged cookbook, tradition meets innovation as Daisy Martinez, Food Network star of Viva Daisy!, “Daisifies” the classic Latin American dishes she grew up with, mixing in tastes from her travels through Spain, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Peru, and Argentina.
**The Power of Now/El Poder del Ahora**  
Eckhart Tolle  
New World Library (2001)  
ISBN: 978-1-57731-185-0  
Languages Available: English, Spanish, and 30+ languages worldwide

*The Power of Now* is a guide to spiritual awakening from a man who is emerging as one of this generation’s clearest, most inspiring teachers on the subject. Eckhart Tolle is not aligned with any particular religion but does what all the great masters have done: shows that the way, the truth, and the light already exist within each human being. There is no need to look elsewhere.

At the heart of this book is Tolle’s own story of early despair that culminated in a life-transforming experience of enlightenment at the age of twenty-nine. He emerged to share insights on the perils of the mind, the power of the present, and the accessibility of one’s true nature. According to Tolle, “To regain awareness of Being and to abide in that state of ‘feeling-realization’ is enlightenment.”

**Just Like Us: The True Story of Four Mexican Girls Coming of Age in America**  
Helen Thorpe  
Scribner (September 2009)  
ISBN: 9781416538936  
Languages Available: English

A powerful and moving account of four young women from Mexico who have lived most of their lives in the United States and attend the same high school. Two of them have legal documentation and two do not. *Just Like Us* is their story.

**The Lost City of Z/La ciudad perdida de Z**  
David Grann  
Vintage Books/Vintage Español (April 27, 2010)  
ISBN: 978-1-4000-7845-5 (English)/978-0-307-47618-0 (Spanish)  
Languages Available: English and Spanish

In 1925, British explorer Percy Fawcett ventured into the Amazon to find an ancient civilization, hoping to make one of the most important discoveries in history. For centuries, Europeans believed the world’s largest jungle concealed the glittering kingdom of El Dorado. Fawcett embarked with his twenty-one-year-old son, determined to prove that this ancient civilization—which he dubbed “Z”—existed. Then he and his expedition vanished.

Fawcett’s fate—and the tantalizing clues he left behind about “Z”—became an obsession for hundreds who followed him into the uncharted wilderness. Countless perished, were captured by tribes, or went mad. After stumbling upon a hidden trove of diaries, acclaimed New Yorker writer David Grann set out to solve “the greatest exploration mystery of the twentieth century”: what happened to Fawcett and his quest for the Lost City of Z?
In *The Seven Spiritual Laws of Success*, Deepak Chopra distills the essence of his teachings into seven simple yet powerful principles that can easily be applied to create success in all areas of your life. This book has sold over 2 million copies in North America alone.

Based on natural laws that govern all of creation, this book shatters the myth that success is the result of hard work, exacting plans, or driving ambition. In *The Seven Spiritual Laws of Success*, Deepak Chopra offers a life-altering perspective on the attainment of success: Once we understand our true nature and learn to live in harmony with natural law, a sense of well-being, good health, fulfilling relationships, energy and enthusiasm for life, and material abundance will spring forth easily and effortlessly.

Filled with timeless wisdom and practical steps you can apply right away, *The Seven Spiritual Laws of Success* is a book you will cherish for a lifetime, for within its pages are the secrets to making all your dreams come true.


Approximately 1 million Hispanic-American women give birth each year. This is a book for the mother-to-be who either doesn't speak English or doesn't feel comfortable with her English; for the doctor who is having trouble communicating with a patient; for the expectant parents at a stressful time when what's most familiar—their first language—is most welcome. The book will be the book to turn to for the broad range of Spanish-speaking Americans in the United States—be they Puerto Ricans in the Northeast, Cuban-Americans in Florida, Mexican-Americans on the west coast, Dominicans, and Spanish-speaking Americans of Spanish, and Central and South American descent.
Sonia Sotomayor: Una sabia decisión
Los editores de El Diario La Prensa y La Opinion
Vintage Español (May 4, 2010)
Languages Available: Spanish

In August 2009, Sonia Sotomayor became the first Hispanic woman to be confirmed to the United States Supreme Court—this book is the record of how she got there. *Sonia Sotomayor: una sabia decisión* chronicles one remarkable woman's ascent to the highest court in America. Raised by a strong-willed single mother after the death of her father, from an early age Sotomayor knew she wanted to be a lawyer, spending her afternoons reading *Nancy Drew* novels and flipping through the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Juxtaposed with her younger self is the later Sotomayor, gaining degrees from Princeton and Yale; becoming a district judge (and “saving baseball”) and, ultimately, defending herself from senator Jeff Sessions and the National Rifle Association in her confirmation hearings to become the 111th justice of the Supreme Court. In the end *Sonia Sotomayor: una sabia decisión* is as much about what it means to be Hispanic in the United States as it is about one “wise Latina.”

The Accountant’s Story
Roberto Escobar with David Fisher
Grand Central Publishing (February 11, 2010)
ISBN: 9780446178945
Languages Available: English

For the first time ever, Roberto Escobar, the surviving brother of the infamous drug kingpin Pablo Escobar, tells the real inside story of the Medellin drug cartel, which was once estimated by *Fortune* Magazine to be worth in excess of $6 billion. Arguably the largest and most successful criminal enterprise in history, at times the Medellin drug cartel was smuggling 15 tons of cocaine a day, worth more than half a billion dollars, into the United States. Roberto Escobar knows - he was the accountant who kept track of all the money. In short, this is Pablo Escobar's story in the words of one of his closest confidants, his brother Roberto.

The Eastern Stars: How Baseball Changed the Dominican Town of San Pedro de Macoris
Mark Kurlansky
Penguin Group USA (April 15, 2010)
ISBN: 9781594487507
Languages Available: English

Because of the sugar industry, and the influxes of migrant workers from across the Caribbean to work in the cane fields and factories, San Pedro is one of the most ethnically diverse areas of the Dominican Republic. The history of baseball players from San Pedro is also a chronicle of racism in baseball, changing social mores in sports and in the Dominican Republic, and the personal stories of the many men who sought freedom from poverty through playing ball. In the town of San Pedro, baseball is not just a way of life. It's the way of life. By the year 2008, seventy-nine boys and men from San Pedro have gone on to play in the Major Leagues--that means one in six Dominican Republicans who have played in the Majors have come from the tiny, impoverished region. Manny Alexander, Sammy Sosa, Tony Fernandez, and legions of other San Pedro players who came up in the sugar mill teams flocked to the United States, looking for opportunity, wealth, and a better life. The story of baseball in San Pedro is also that of the Caribbean in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries and on a broader level opens a window into our country's history.
The Farthest Home Is in an Empire of Fire: A Tejano Elegy
John Phillip Santos
Penguin Group USA (April 1, 2010)
ISBN: 9780670021567
Languages Available: English

In his acclaimed 1999 memoir Places Left Unfinished at the Time of Creation, John Phillip Santos told the story of one Mexican family—his father's—set within the larger story of Mexico itself. In this beautifully written new book, he tells of how another family—this time, his mother's—erased and forgot over time their ancient origins in Spain. Weaving together a highly original mix of autobiography, conquest history, elegy, travel, family remembrance, and time traveling narration, Santos offers an unforgettable testimony to this calling and describes a lifelong quest to find the missing chronicle of his mother's family, one that takes him to various locations in South Texas and Mexico, to New York City, to Spain, and ultimately to the Middle East. Blending genres brilliantly, Santos raises profound questions about whether we can ever find our true homeland and what we can learn from our treasured, shared cultural legacies.

Zumba ®
Beto Perez and Maggie Greenwood-Robinson, PhD
Grand Central Publishing (September 10, 2009)
ISBN: 9780446546126
Languages Available: English

The world's largest Latin-inspired workout program expands its brand into a complete diet and fitness plan! Zumba is the fitness phenomenon that is taking the country by storm with fun, easy-to-follow dance moves set to hot Latin beats that help people shed pounds and inches. And the best part is, they're having so much fun, they forget they're working out! Now the DVD and classes, created by celebrity fitness trainer Alberto "Beto" Perez, that have hooked millions are available in book format, with a complete workout program, fat-burning diet plan with menus and recipes, and exclusive 5-minute instructional DVD with 60 minutes worth of Latin music to help readers Zumba their way to the perfect body.

Thank you for supporting Latino voices in your community!

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