

A Note on Hispanic Heritage Month | By: Tony Diaz-Caballero

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I am a first generation Hispanic. I wear my heritage on my sleeve. Hispanic Heritage Month offers people like me a window of opportunity to share my culture and its achievements with others who may not be as familiar with them. This month also offers an important opportunity for American-born descendants of Hispanics to explore an important side of themselves.

I believe observing Hispanic Heritage Month is critical for those who are one or more generations apart from being born or raised in a Hispanic or Latin American country. It is a time for people like my son, Miguel, to get more in touch with a part of them that is not usually at the forefront of their day-to-day lives. It is also an important time where we highlight the many contributions the Hispanic community has made to the cultural tapestry of American society.

My Hispanic heritage is ever present, and I celebrate it by observing the many holidays in the Peruvian calendar, like its Independence Day on July 28. I also celebrate it by teaching the many life lessons that I learned growing up Peruvian to my son, Miguel.

The foundations of my perspective and outlook on life were laid out by my upbringing in Lima, Peru. There, I learned that heart and ingenuity are essential to overcoming a challenge. I also learned the value of teamwork and sharing resources in order to complement strengths and minimize weaknesses. I believe these are values at the center of all South American societies. Therefore, my outlook is one of teamwork, sharing knowledge/resources, thinking out-of-the-box and being enthusiastic in the face of life's challenges.

About Tony Diaz-Caballero:

Tony is Peruvian and was born and raised in the Miraflores District of Lima, Peru's capital city. He moved to the United States in 2006 after finishing his 4th year of secondary school (the equivalent of a high school junior). Tony earned a Juris Doctor from Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts from Florida State University.

He now practices insurance coverage, trucking and premises liability in MGC's Atlanta office. In his personal time, Tony enjoys spending time with his wife, Anna, who is a native of Atlanta. They have a son, Miguel, and a puppy, Lima.

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