



*The Office of the Senior Diversity Officer strives to be thoughtful and intentional about the stories and voices we highlight. Throughout the year, we will share unique perspectives on the various commemorations celebrated by our diverse campus. We encourage all members of the BU community to make connections and build camaraderie, and that starts with storytelling.*

**What does Hispanic Heritage Month mean to you?**

Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to celebrate who I am, where I come from, and what makes me unique. It is also a time to reflect upon the history and sacrifices of my ancestors.

**How has being Hispanic influenced your professional life?**

Hispanic individuals are underrepresented in many career fields, and finance is no exception. In my professional life, I am fortunate enough to have the opportunity to occupy spaces that my family did not. So, I always try to be conscious about taking up space. While it can be easy to want to blend in, I try my best to make my presence felt wherever I go.

**How have you commemorated Hispanic Heritage Month throughout your life?**

Growing up in Revere, I rarely reflected on my identity as a Hispanic individual because Hispanic culture was so prevalent around me. Only when I got to BU did I realize what made my experiences unique. Today, as a young adult, I commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month by taking the time to learn more about the history of the Hispanic community and the contributions that got us to where we are.

**How can academic institutions create meaningful relationships with the Hispanic community?**

Academic institutions can create meaningful relationships with the Hispanic community by showing up more than just when we are in the headlines or the news. It is what you do outside of those moments that really go a long way. Many institutions often have the desire and resources to forge meaningful relationships, so it is about making it feel like those efforts are genuine.

**What is a policy or practice you believe would empower the Hispanic community?**

A practice that I believe would advance the Hispanic community is learning about what makes each of our countries unique. It can be easy to fall into the habit of grouping the Hispanic community's experience into one. Still, it is crucial to recognize that there are differences from country to country. There is beauty in that we can all come together, and there is beauty in that we are all different.

**How do you uplift your community?**

To uplift my community, I try to embrace who I am and find ways to give back. To me, embracing who I am means taking pride in my Honduran roots, whether that is through the foods we love, the unique words we say, or how loud we like our music. I also never hesitate at the opportunity to attend an event, mentor someone, or even share advice because I know how valuable it is to hear from or see someone who shares a similar experience as you.

## LATINX STUDENT GROUPS



**Alianza Latina** is Boston University's largest Latinx student organization dedicated to providing programming that fosters community and encourages students to learn more about Latinx culture and identity, regardless of their own race or ethnicity. We implement weekly cultural, social, and professional meetings as well as community service events on and off campus. For more information, email them at [alianzal@bu.edu](mailto:alianzal@bu.edu)



**LATAM** is a welcoming space for students from all around Latin America. Our goal is to create a sense of community within BU, where Latin American students can meet, connect and make lifelong friends through different social, recreational and professional events. For more information, email [latam@bu.edu](mailto:latam@bu.edu).



**Sabor Latino** is a dance group focused on Latin American rhythms, fusing modern dance styles with traditional Latin dances. In addition, we aim to foster strong ties between our members and the Greater Boston community through social involvement. For more information, email [saborlatinopres@gmail.com](mailto:saborlatinopres@gmail.com).