



Public Schools of Plainfield New Jersey

Office of Community Engagement

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PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL HOST A DRIVE-IN MOVIE AS PART OF ITS LATINO FESTIVAL CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Virtual Presentations Include:

Virtual Presentation on El Salvador with Anthropologist and Journalist Carmen Molina Tamacas
Virtual Presentation on the Latino Diaspora - Why the terms Hispanic/Latino/LatinX?
with Dr. Laura Lomas, Language and Culture Professor, Rutgers University

Plainfield, NJ - The Plainfield Public School District is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with a *Festival Latino* that will include a drive-in movie and virtual presentations on El Salvador and the Latino Diaspora. In keeping with social distancing, the festival events will be held virtually with the exception of the first event, which will be a drive-in movie at Plainfield High School.

The movie "Spy Kids" stars actress Jessica Alba and producer Robert Rodriguez. In the past, the movie night during Hispanic Heritage Month has brought out over 500 families and children to Plainfield High School Auditorium. For the drive-in movie which will be held in the back parking lot on Arlington Avenue at Plainfield High School, the District expects over 100 cars. Because Plainfield is considered a "walking community" the Festival Latino committee, expects students and their families may walk up to the event and they are ready to accommodate viewers ten feet apart near the soccer field.

The events during the Festival Latino include:

- Drive-in Movie on Friday, October 9, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. The gates open at 6:00 p.m.
- El Salvador, a virtual presentation on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. by Carmen Molina Tamacas, an anthropologist/journalist/author.
- The Latino Diaspora - Why the terms Hispanic/Latino/LatinX? a virtual discussion on Wednesday, October 21, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. with Dr. Laura Lomas, Professor of Language and Culture at Rutgers University.
- Artistic Virtual Performances by Students and the Community, on Friday, October 30, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.
- Virtual Art Exhibit - the virtual exhibit will be held all month long. The student artwork will be posted on the district website and promoted on its social media platforms.

There will be giveaways during the drive-in movie until supplies last. The donations were made possible via a partnership between Plainfield Public Schools and community organizations that included New Outlook Pioneers, Smart Plainfield, The Women's Table, and Mascio's. Families will be treated to free bookbags, books and a four-day supply of food.

For more information please email gmontealegre@plainfield.k12.nj.us.