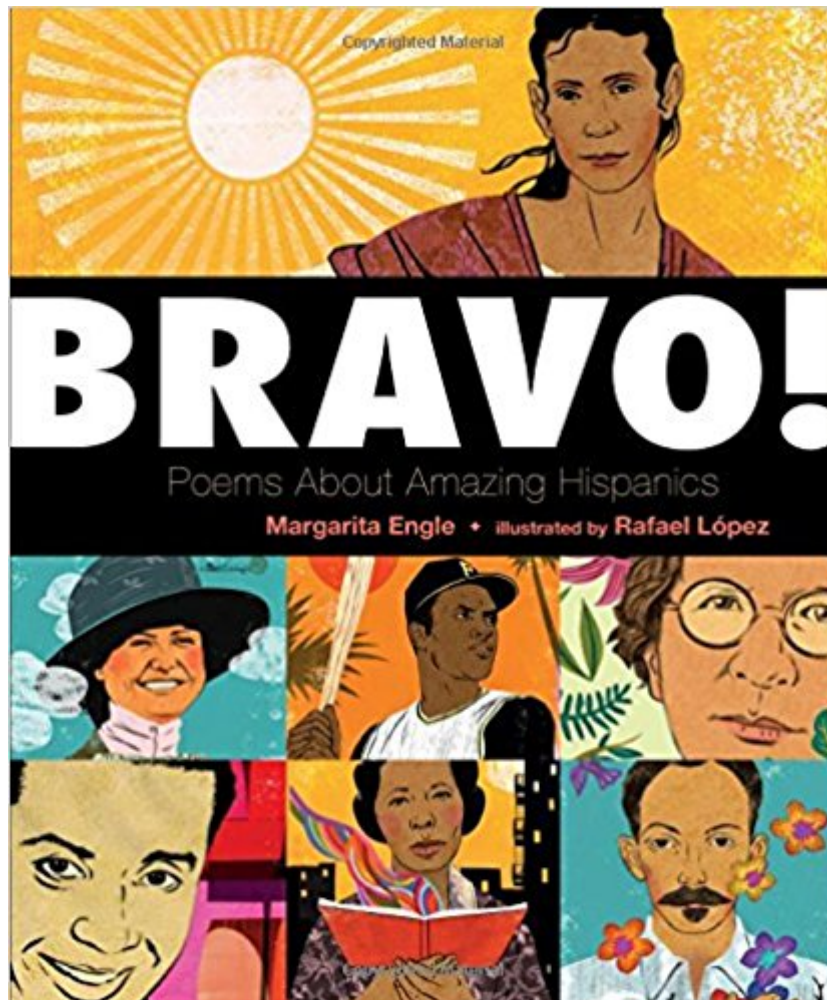




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# Bravo!: Poems About Amazing Hispanics



## Synopsis

Musician, botanist, baseball player, pilot—the Latinos featured in this collection, *Bravo!*, come from many different countries and from many different backgrounds. Celebrate their accomplishments and their contributions to a collective history and a community that continues to evolve and thrive today! Biographical poems include: Aida de Acosta, Arnold Rojas, Baruj Benacerraf, César Chávez, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca, Félix Varela, George Meléndez, José Martí, Juan de Miralles, Juana Briones, Julia de Burgos, Louis Agassiz Fuertes, Paulina Pedroso, Pura Belpré, Roberto Clemente, Tito Puente, Ynes Mexia, Tomás Rivera

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #46,831 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Central & South America #57 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino #97 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

"Lopez's bright portraits of notable Hispanics have the large scale and graphic discipline of poster art, while Engle manages to compress the sweep of a biography into a sharp, compact free-verse poem about each life, from childhood on. Some are famous [...] All faced challenges [...] and made lasting contributions." —New York Times Book Review on *Bravo!* "this book is a welcome addition to schools and libraries, as it expands the canon of historically significant individuals in the United States in such a lyrical and aesthetically pleasing manner." —School Library Journal, starred review, on *Bravo!* "This book features the lives of a variety of Latinos who faced life's challenges with

aplomb and in their own ways. . . each person is stunningly portrayed in LÃpez's strong and vibrant style; opposite is a first-person biographical poem that provides a glimpse into its subject's life." â•Kirkus Reviews on Bravo!"LÃpez (who illustrated Engleâ™s Drum Dream Girl) creates bold, dramatic portraits of the subjects, which include JosÃ© MartÃ-, Pura BelprÃ©, Tito Puente, and CÃ©sar ChÃvez. Capsule biographies are a welcome supplement to the poems" â•Publishers Weekly on Bravo!The Poet Slave of Cuba:"An absolutely lovely book . . . that should be read by young and old, black and white, Anglo and Latino." â•School Library Journal, starred review"Readers will hear the storiesâ•and never forget them." â•Booklist, starred review "The moving poetry and finely crafted story will draw readers in and leave them in tears and in awe." â•The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, starred review

Margarita Engle is the Cuban-American author of many verse books, including the Newbery Honor Book *The Surrender Tree*, the PEN USA Award winner *The Lightning Dreamer*, and the Walter Dean Myers Honor *Enchanted Air*. Her books have also received multiple Pura BelprÃ© and AmÃ©ricas Awards as well as a Jane Addams Award, an International Reading Association Award, and many others. Books for younger children include *Mountain Dog*, *Summer Birds*, and the Charlotte Zolotow Award winner *Drum Dream Girl*. The work of Rafael LÃpez is a fusion of strong graphic style and magical symbolism. Growing up in Mexico City, he was immersed in the rich cultural heritage and native color of street life. He has illustrated many award-winning books, including *Book Fiesta!* by Pat Mora; *Tito Puente Mambo King*, by Monica Brown; and *The Cazuela that the Farm Maiden Stirred* by Samantha Vamos. In 2012 he was selected by the Library of Congress to create the artwork for the National Book Festival in Washington D.C.

*Bravo!* is a children's book that simply must be in every library and school. This is a book of poems featuring the accomplishments of a select group of amazing Hispanics. Each poem is written from the perspective of the person being featured, allowing the reader to walk a mile in their shoes. In an age when there is a desperate need for children's books representing our diverse culture, I love that this book was written by a Cuban-American author and illustrated by a person of Mexican heritage. The words, the imagery, the colors feel authentic. I especially like the diverse spectrum of accomplishments chosen for this book. The people featured include activists, businessmen, parishioners, artists, athletes, scientists, and librarians. A child reading this book will truly be able to envision any life they would like to lead through the words of those that came before them. My favorite illustration in this book can be found on the leaves at the beginning of the book. It is the

image of a child lying on her back reading a book. Out of the book, pouring down on her, are little rainbow droplets. That is what reading this entire book felt like- like having a beautiful rainbow of culture rain down upon the reader.

Beautiful book! I use the poems to complement mentor text biographies for teaching my elementary students.

Latino heroes and heroines are depicted in poetry in this nonfiction picture book. From countries around the world and a variety of backgrounds, these people are inspirational and influential. The poems celebrate their accomplishments with clarity and focus, offering a glimpse into their lives. Engle's poetry is readable and interesting, inviting you to turn the page to discover yet another amazing person. Some of them readers will be familiar with and others will be new. Readers can find more information on each of the people at the end of the book. Lopez's illustrations are done in a combination of acrylic on wood, pen and ink, watercolor, construction paper, and Adobe Photoshop. The results are rich illustrations with a clever feel of being vintage in their textures. Each illustration speaks to the person themselves, clearly tying them to their passion and cause. An important book for public libraries, this is a celebration of Latino impact on the world as a whole. Appropriate for ages 8-12.

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