

NOTABLE

HISPANIC LEADERS

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 each year. It's a celebration of the art, history, dance, dress, theater, food and language that make up Hispanic culture. In few places across the nation are these festivities more apropos than in New York, which is home to nearly 2.5 million Hispanics. By some measures, that demographic is poised to become the single largest ethnic group in the city.

Hispanic New Yorkers, spread as they are across the city's five boroughs, have made countless contributions that are now embedded in the city's cultural landscape—from the elevation of Spanish to a lingua franca to the ubiquity of Latin cuisines to the popularity of musical genres such as salsa.

In the commercial realm, Hispanics are punching above their weight, with Latino entrepreneurs in the U.S. opening businesses at nearly twice the rate of the nationwide average.

In honor of these contributions, *Crain's* has chosen to honor 78 Hispanic leaders for their professional accomplishments and their records of powering change. They come from a range of industries—from medicine to law, from financial services to public relations—in a variety of leadership capacities. It is *Crain's* pleasure to present them to readers.

To make the grade, nominees were required to live in the city or the surrounding region, identify as ethnically Hispanic, have at least a decade of professional experience and hold a senior leadership role. Candidates were judged by their accomplishments in their fields, their ability to effect change, and their efforts to advance equality in the workplace and elsewhere.

Read on to learn how these impressive individuals drive a diverse city to new and exciting possibilities.

MURRAY ABELES

Chief of administration and finance | NYC Kids RISE



Murray Abeles oversees finances, operations, human resources and information technology systems at the nonprofit NYC Kids RISE, a scholarship and savings program. Abeles led negotiations with the Department of Education and the state comptroller's office to secure program and technology agreements, and funding contracts that helped to provide incoming kindergartners in the city public school system with college and career savings accounts. The chief of administration and finance successfully advocated for Spanish language-access in the New York 529 college savings program. He sits on the board of Because Baseball, which aims to build cultural understanding between the U.S. and the Middle East.

OLGA ABINADER

Director of environmental review, land use planning | Matrix New World Engineering



Olga Abinader ensures that Matrix New World Engineering offers services that are environmentally and socially conscious. The director of environmental review and land use planning leads an environmental, social and governance initiative and partners with a team of experts to expand the company's services in the city. Abinader is a former director of the environmental assessment and review division at the city Department of City Planning, where she led hundreds of City Environmental Quality Review applications to support housing production and affordability, economic development and sustainable communities. She regularly mentors Latinas looking to elevate their careers.

LYMARIS ALBORS

CEO | Acacia Network



Lymaris Albors leads a team of experts in the nonprofit housing, health and social services sectors at the social services organization Acacia Network. The CEO has restructured the organization, expanded the executive leadership team and hired consultants to assess risk. Under her leadership, Acacia Network opened the Santaella Gardens development in the Bronx, which serves low-income adults. In addition, the organization created a welcome center for homeless New Yorkers and secured a federal grant to support the mental health of front-line health care workers. This year Albors was named a Power Woman of the Bronx by Schneps. She is on the board of the nonprofit Legal Action Center and on the board of trustees for Blythedale Children's Hospital.

PRISCILLA ALMODOVAR

President, CEO | Enterprise Community Partners



With 30 years of experience in finance, real estate and government, Priscilla Almodovar leads Enterprise Community Partners, a nonprofit dedicated to increasing housing supply and cultivating community resilience and equity. The president and CEO oversees the organization's investment portfolio and policy advocacy. In a recent partnership with U.S. Bank, Almodovar helped direct \$30 million to projects supporting racial equity in underserved communities. She has been named one of *Fortune's* 50 Most Powerful Latinas and *Hispanic Business Magazine's* 100 Most Influential Hispanics. Almodovar was appointed to a panel convened by Mayor Eric Adams and Gov. Kathy Hochul to support the city's economic recovery.

ANDRES ANGELANI

CEO | Cognizant Softvision



At Cognizant Softvision, a creator of end-to-end digital products and solutions, Andres Angelani helps clients solve complex business challenges through team building, scaling efforts and the developing global talent communities. The CEO counsels clients on digital transformation initiatives and emphasizes the leveraging of technology, culture, recruiting and integrated partnerships in the pursuit of long-term, positive business outcomes. Angelani recently led the integration of six corporate acquisitions and the expansion of studios worldwide. He is a member of the Forbes Technology Council, and he is on the board of directors for Speedcast, a global communications and network service provider.

NOTABLE 2022 HISPANIC LEADERS

YAZMANY ARBOLEDA

“People’s artist,” New York City Civic Engagement Commission
New York City

Yazmany Arboleda is dedicated to civic work and large-scale art projects that build connections across communities. As the “people’s artist” for the New York City Civic Engagement Commission, he leads the creation of products and services—such as branding, videos, graphics and workshop facilitation—that expand the commission’s storytelling tradition. Arboleda is involved with the People’s Bus, a mobile community center that brings education, art and resources to underserved areas and empowers communities through education around voting rights, language access, participatory budgeting and public funds access. Arboleda is co-founder of the Future Historical Society, Remember 2019, and the Artist As Citizen Conference, all of which aim to positively affect communities.



MARITERE ARCE

Chief external affairs officer
City Department of Social Services

At the city Department of Social Services, Maritere Arce leads a team that facilitates social services access for New Yorkers in need. The chief external affairs officer manages marketing and communications efforts, a call center, an ombudsman office for homeless clients and a health insurance outreach initiative. In response to the pandemic, Arce was involved in efforts to develop a digital service strategy for meeting diverse community needs. She previously was manager of the state Department of Labor and a senior adviser for external affairs at Empire State Development. Arce is on the boards of the Harlem Community Development Corp. and the West Harlem Development Corp.



JOHN ARENAS

Chairman, CEO
Serendipity Labs

John Arenas leads Serendipity Labs, an international network of outsourced workplaces. The chairman and CEO is responsible for the strategy and execution of the network’s mission and for delivering value to stakeholders, including investors, customers, vendors, employees and communities. Earlier in his career, Arenas founded Stratis Business Centers, a national shared executive suites company, and he was CEO of Worktopia, an on-demand booking system for workspaces and meeting rooms. He is on the boards of the Jay Heritage Center and the Rye Arts Center, which are committed to cultural, historical and early childhood arts enrichment, including programs for communities that are predominantly Hispanic.



STEPHANIE ARTETA-CORPRON

Interim vice president of operations, chief nursing officer
Optum (formerly Riverside Medical Group)

At Optum, the former Riverside Medical Group, Stephanie Arteta-Corpron oversees clinical operations and policies for the health-services company’s medical practices, including staffing, quality control and employee training. The interim vice president of operations and chief nursing officer leads the advanced practice clinician onboarding process, and she has helped enhance Optum’s employee orientation program. Arteta-Corpron, who specializes in family medicine, has been involved in efforts to improve operational procedures to ensure enforcement of state and federal standards. She is dedicated to supporting Hispanic populations, which she does primarily by planning and participating in community health and blood pressure fairs.



DAVID A. AVILES

Senior manager, head of career success
Knowledge House

David A. Aviles provides training and career support to tech professionals to close gaps in the education-to-employment pipeline in his work at the Knowledge House, a social-change agency. Before becoming senior manager and head of career success there, Aviles was executive leader with Equus Workforce Solutions, where he helped Hispanic community members access employment, housing and mental health services. Aviles has led a successful workforce development program operating within the city’s public school system with the city’s Department of Youth and Community Development. He has been recognized by the Assembly and the mayor’s office for his dedication to public service. Aviles is on the boards of the Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp. and Ithaca College’s CX Program.



IN THE U.S. SOME **62.1 MILLION PEOPLE** IDENTIFY AS HISPANIC OR LATINO, **UP 23% FROM 2010**, ACCORDING TO THE 2020 CENSUS

—U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

MARCELO BARTHOLO

U.S.-East region vice chair
EY

At EY, the multinational professional services giant, Marcelo Bartholo leads more than 14,000 professionals in helping organizations operate, innovate and transform. The vice chair of the U.S.-East region has successfully led client engagements in controls, risk transformation, initial public offering readiness, process improvement and information technology, among other areas. He works to drive business growth, cultivate a sense of belonging among team members, and accelerate the region’s economic output. Bartholo, who mentors fellow professionals from underrepresented groups, helps lead EY Unplugged, an onboarding and networking event for racially and ethnically diverse professionals. He is the Americas executive sponsor of EY’s Latinx Professional Network.



TANYA BEJA

General partner
AlleyCorp

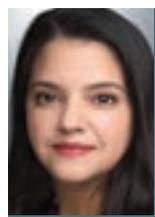
Tanya Beja launched and leads the social impact fund at the venture fund AlleyCorp, overseeing investments and incubations in that space. Working with companies focused on issues such as civic engagement, mental health and climate change, the general partner facilitates millions of dollars in philanthropic and venture capital that provide solutions for low-income and underserved families. Beja previously was head of Latin America Blue Marble Microinsurance, where she scaled commercially viable microinsurance ventures, and senior program officer at the Robin Hood Foundation. She supported, as a summer fellow, the Low Income Investment Fund, where she underwrote affordable housing loans and healthy food grants.



MARCELA BERMUDEZ

Partner
Greenspoon Marder

Marcela Bermudez is dedicated to representing and counseling multinational companies and individual clients navigating immigration rules and policies. The Greenspoon Marder partner focuses on global business immigration with a concentration in Latin America. Bermudez has been involved in high-profile immigration matters, including working with Major League Baseball players and Formula 1 drivers. Under her leadership, her law firm elevates Hispanic Americans through its diversity council, its regional ambassador program and its hiring initiative for diverse lawyers. Bermudez is involved with the American Immigration Lawyers Association, where she often speaks on immigration issues.



MAURICE BLANCO

Partner, capital markets co-head
David Polk & Wardwell

At the Davis Polk & Wardwell law firm, Maurice Blanco works on capital markets financings and debt restructurings by Latin American issuers in various industries. The co-head of the global capital markets practice advises Latin American corporate clients with respect to corporate governance and Securities and Exchange Commission matters. Internally at the firm, Blanco focuses on business development, associate retention, training and mentoring. He is a member of the diversity, equity and inclusion committee, and he heads the foreign temporary associate program. Blanco is on the New York City Bar Association’s Vance Center Committee, which focuses on global justice, legal ethics and pro bono work.



TAÍNA BORRERO

Senior vice president, strategy and business development
Hayes Initiative

The Hayes Initiative is an LGBTQ-owned and -operated public affairs firm where Taína Borrero provides public affairs guidance to a wide range of clients, including the 9/11 Memorial & Museum and state Department of Labor. The senior vice president of strategy and business development leads business development efforts for the firm as it seeks to expand its roster of diverse clients. Borrero aims to elevate underserved voices by supporting Latino candidates for elected office and regularly providing counsel on Latino issues. She previously was senior adviser on Latino strategy and outreach to the state Democratic Party. She is on Manhattan Community Board 8, where she co-chairs the youth, education and libraries committee and the rules and bylaws committee.

