The Notices has honored National Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15—October 15) with a special issue for some years now. I was fortunate enough to have edited the last three special issues as an associate editor. My term on the editorial board ended in 2021 and I have since moved on to new and different challenges (for example, becoming department chair and joining the AMS Council). So I’m thankful that the Notices has asked me back to pen the introduction for this issue.

The last two Hispanic Heritage issues were assembled during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite our best efforts, we continue to grapple with new variants that emerge every few months. However, as I write these lines in mid-April, it is the Russian invasion of Ukraine that looms larger. What the world will look like in September, when this issue appears, is anybody’s guess. Let us hope, perhaps unrealistically, that the virus will finally be tamed and that the wanton bloodshed in Ukraine will come to a peaceful end.

Against such a grim and unpromising background, this Hispanic Heritage issue of the Notices strikes a hopeful contrast. We have something for mathematicians of all stripes. First of all, we have four feature articles:

- Malena I. Español gives us a quick tour of linear algebraic methods in image deblurring.
- Eric Ramos tells us about intriguing connections between the graph minor theorem and algebra.
- Juanita Pinzón-Caicedo and Daniel Ruberman study applications of instanton Floer homology.
- José Luis González and Antonio Laface write about finite generation of Cox rings.

Besides the feature articles, this issue is packed with a variety of compelling pieces. Although some of these might go beyond the traditional purview of the Hispanic Heritage Issue, we think that readers will find them suitable candidates for inclusion nonetheless.

There are five Early Career articles which are excerpted from the AMS book Testimonios: Stories of Latinx and Hispanic Mathematicians. Then Patrick Scott contributes a touching memorial for Ubiratan D’Ambrosio, a major figure in mathematics education in the Americas and pioneer in the field of ethnomathematics. Next comes Isom Herron’s historical survey of mathematicians who received the Ford Foundation Postdoc for Minorities (defined as Black Americans, Mexican Americans/Chicanos, Puerto Ricans, and Native Americans), many of whom are now-familiar names in the mathematical community. Then Veselin Jungić describes the Math Catcher Outreach Program, a mathematics initiative inspired and guided by members of the indigenous community in Canada.

The opinion piece for this issue, written by Mariel Sáez-Trumper, Jeanne Hersant, Francisca Rioseco, and Andrea Vera-Gajardo, outlines Chilean outreach and engagement activities that promote the inclusion of women in mathematics. Next we have Jose Ceniceros’ review of the Topology: A Categorical Approach by Bradley, Bryson, and Terilla. Finally, our “Moonlighting Mathematicians” column profiles mathematician/illustrator Constanza Rojas-Molina.

I hope that you will enjoy the 2022 Hispanic Heritage Month issue of the Notices!