

Famous Hispanic Inventors **Inventors**

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Inventors

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Click on any of the inventors' names to learn more.

Luis E. Miramontes

A Hispanic Chemistry Student Helped Create One of the Most Important Pills in History



The birth of the birth control pill involved a jungle -- and then was helped into being by a chemistry student in a city.

Some birth control pills contain only progesterone, while others combine it with another hormone, estrogen. Originally, progesterone was created from an extract of a jungle plant. But such extractions of progesterone were not commercially practical, so a chemical synthesis would be necessary.

Ellen Ochoa

Ellen Ochoa - Inventor, Scientist, Astronaut



An inventor, a research scientist, and an astronaut. Sounds like a member of the comic book team, The Fantastic Four, but in fact it's the biography of inventor, scientist, and astronaut Ellen Ochoa.

Ochoa, who received a BS in physics from San Diego State University and a doctorate in electrical engineering from Stanford, co-invented an optical system that can detect imperfections in repeating patterns. Patented in 1987, its uses include quality control in the manufacturer of highly intricate parts. Dr. Ochoa also shared a patent as a co-inventor on an optical system that can be used in robotically making products, as well as a system that helps to remove unwanted visual information in images.

Victor Celorio

Print on Demand Technology and Instabook Maker



Born in Mexico City, Mexico in July, 1957, Victor Celorio realized at a young age that reading played a fundamental role in a person's success and well being. Enjoying a love affair with the printed word beginning in his early childhood, Celorio knew he wanted to be a writer from the time he was 10 years old and published his first short story at the age of 14 in a magazine called Al Sur del Sur. But growing up in Mexico, a country which is famous for its lack of bookstores, Celorio suffered a

permanent hunger for books. Growing into adulthood, Celorio became fascinated with the idea of making books readily available and more affordable by reducing the costs traditionally associated with publishing. The problem with publishing as Celorio saw it was actually found in the distribution system. Typically, a book retailer orders the number of books it thinks it can sell. But should the title prove to be popular, the store may not be able to order more if the publisher's inventory is depleted. Alternately, small stores can't afford to keep slow moving titles in stock. With these thoughts in mind, the idea for Print on Demand technology was born.

Dr. José Hernandez-Rebollar

AcceleGlove



Born in the state of Puebla, Mexico, Dr. José Hernandez-Rebollar, Ph.D. is a young scientist making a reputation as an innovator on a mission. Long before he became a doctoral candidate at George Washington University, Jose Hernandez-Rebollar had wondered about the possibilities of creating a way for deaf people to translate sign language into sound by electronic means.

Dr. Hernandez-Rebollar came to the U.S. and George Washington University in 1998 on a Fulbright scholarship, after completing his undergraduate and master's work at University of Puebla, in Mexico. He later worked at the

National Institute of Astrophysics, Optics, and Electronics (INAOE), where he was involved in

Poll

Who was the most influential inventor?

- Victor Ochoa
- Narciso Monturiol
- Luis Miramontes
- Guillermo González Camarena

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