

SPANISH – Mrs. Martes

In Spanish, our super hero is **Pura Belpre**. She made a positive impact in the Spanish community. Belpre was the first Latina librarian at the New York Public Library. She also became a storyteller and an author of Spanish folktales. She became an active advocate for the Spanish-speaking community by instituting bilingual story hours, buying Spanish language books, and implementing programs based on traditional holidays.

Due to her contribution to the Spanish community, the Association for Library Service created an award after her - “Pura Belpre Awards” which is presented annually to a Latino/Latina writer and illustrator whose work best portrays and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in an outstanding work of literature for children and youth.

Students compared the Pura Belpre award with the Caldecott Medal and presented their thoughts in spanish.

Also, students were part of a storytelling lesson during which they listened to authentic spanish literature. The story is called “Martina and Perez”. At the end of the lesson, students answered questions in spanish that were related to the story. The story was told 100% in spanish and students were able to stay engaged through the lesson.

The story and the presentation of the topic were modified according to the grade level.

