

***Bernardo de Gálvez:***  
***The Hispanic Hero who Turned the Tide***  
***of the American Revolution***

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Individual Performance

Process Paper: 500 words

I first heard of Bernardo de Gálvez in third grade, when the Spanish American author Guillermo Fesser visited our class. Fesser explained that Gálvez, a Spanish general, helped save the colonies during the Revolutionary War, and that he had recently become an honorary citizen of the United States.

Being Spanish American myself, I was deeply interested, and I continued to read about Gálvez's contributions to American independence over the years. When this year's theme, "Turning points in History," was announced, I immediately thought of Gálvez's story as the perfect fit.

Bernardo de Gálvez's actions marked three turning points with escalating impact: his "*Yo Solo*" decision to lead the Spanish fleet into Pensacola Bay was a turning point for winning the Battle of Pensacola. This victory was a crucial turning point in the Revolutionary War—it demoralized Britain and depleted its resources, kept supply lines to the rebels open, and paved the way for the Continental Army's success at Yorktown. Historians now believe that it was the double defeat at Pensacola and Yorktown that made the British realize the war was unwinnable and led to America's independence—a major turning point in world history.

I started my research with Galvez's battle diary, which was already in my personal library. Then I found Gonzalo Quintero Saravia's authoritative biography of Bernardo de Gálvez, which led me to many other sources and helped me depict the course of the battle. I also spent time investigating why it took 231 years for Congress to make good on their promise to hang Galvez's portrait in the Capitol. This got me in touch with Teresa Valcarce, whose efforts to mount the portrait led to Gálvez's honorary citizenship in 2014.

I struggled with how to convey, in a 10-minute play, events that were spaced many weeks apart. Therefore, I decided to include three characters in my performance: a contemporary tour guide to provide context for the audience, Bernardo de Gálvez himself, and Gálvez's main antagonist, José Calvo de Irazabal—who presents a competing perspective of the same events. My costume as both Gálvez and Calvo was informed by Gálvez's Capitol portrait, by a 2015 oil painting by Augusto Ferrer-Dalmau, and by visiting the *Museo Naval* in Madrid.

My research included battle journals, letters, newspapers, documentaries, biographies, royal decrees, and other archival materials. I read each of these sources in its original language, English or Spanish, except for the correspondence between Oliver Pollock and Gálvez, which was in French. I was most challenged when reading some of the handwritten documents, especially due to the formality of the language, but I persevered until I felt I had an accurate understanding. Recently, I searched through original XVIII century documents in the *Archivo General de Indias* in Seville, and visited Galvez's birthplace in Macharaviaya, Spain—a small town of 500 people that uniquely celebrates American Independence Day on July 4th. I will return to Macharaviaya in July to participate in a reenactment of the Battle of Pensacola as one of Gálvez's soldiers.

## Annotated Bibliography

### Primary Sources

Audiencia de México. Letter communicating the death of Bernardo de Gálvez. Mexico, December 1, 1786. In *Archivo General de Indias*, Mexico 1512. Seville, Spain.

I visited the *Archivo General de Indias* in Seville to conduct research for my project, and had the unique experience of manually searching through hand-written documents from the 1700s. Discovering information that is not available online, such as the specific time of Bernardo de Gálvez's death (noted in this source as a quarter past four in the morning), was particularly meaningful, and it helped me bring history to life during my performance.

Boudinot, Elias. Letter to Oliver Pollock, May 9, 1783. In *Letters of Delegates to Congress: Volume 20, March 12, 1783 - September 30, 1783. A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774-1875*.

Boudinot's letter to Pollock—an American commercial agent in New Orleans and friend of Bernardo de Gálvez—states that Congress has accepted the portrait of Gálvez and that it will be “hung up in the Hall of the Presidents House.” I refer to this promise during my performance.

“Congress Resolutions concerning a portrait of Bernardo de Gálvez, May 1783.” In *The Papers of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789*, No. 19, V, folio 195.

This document contains the following two Congressional Resolutions: that Oliver Pollock be informed that Congress accepts “his present of a portrait” of Bernardo de Gálvez, and that such portrait is “to be placed in the room in which Congress meet.” The latter resolution was enacted 231 years later, in 2014, through the efforts of Teresa Valcarce, which I mention in my play.

Farmar, Robert. “A Journal of the Siege of Pensacola, from the Time the Enemy's Fleet First Appeared to the 10th of May, the Day We Surrendered to the Arms of Spain.” Edited by Buckingham Smith. *Historical Magazine* 4, no. 6 (June 1960): 166-72.

This is a historical diary of a soldier stationed at Pensacola while under siege by Bernardo de Gálvez's troops. I appreciated having an account of the British experience during the siege, and I was surprised to learn that some soldiers defected from the Spanish side while trenches were being built. This highlighted for me the desperate conditions endured by Gálvez's men while they were waiting for reinforcements.

Ford, Gerald. "Proclamation 4385—National Hispanic Heritage Week, 1975." The American Presidency Project. September 8, 1975.

<https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/proclamation-4385-national-hispanic-heritage-week-1975>.

President Ford's Proclamation of National Hispanic Heritage Week in 1975 drew a direct connection from “Galvez and the Hispanic troops he commanded” to assist American Independence, to ongoing contributions by “Mexican Americans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans and other Spanish Speaking Americans” to the growth of America. This document made

me realize how deeply Hispanic culture has influenced America's history from its inception.

Gálvez, Bernardo de. Letter to Diego José Navarro, May 15, 1781. In *Archivo General de Indias*, Santo Domingo 1232. Seville, Spain.

This is a letter from Gálvez to the Governor of Cuba, delivering the news of his victory at Pensacola. Gálvez's letter also relays multiple political messages: he seeks to shed his reckless image by sharing his concerns about the mission, and criticizes Captain José Calvo de Irazabal by implying that he was not brave or truly loyal to the King Carlos III. This source helped me understand that Gálvez was more calculating than impulsive.

De Gálvez, Bernardo. "XXXVIII. Sur un moyen de donner la direction aux machines aerostatiques." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London* 74 (1784): doi:10.1098/rstl.1784.0039.

This scientific paper describes an experiment conducted by Bernardo de Gálvez to test his ideas about how one might control the direction of aerostatic machines, based on his observations about how birds use their wings, and fish their fins and tails. This source highlighted for me how Bernardo de Gálvez epitomized the ideals of the Enlightenment as an independent thinker, more keenly interested in forging his own path than in following tradition.

Gálvez, Bernardo De. *Diario de Las Operaciones de la Expedicion Contra La Plaza de Panzacola Concluida Por Las Armas de S.M. Catolica*. Gale, Sabin Americana, 2012.

This is the battle journal of Bernardo de Gálvez and related documents concerning the Siege of Pensacola, such as the correspondence between Gálvez and John Campbell—the British Commander of the Fort at Pensacola—and the Articles of Capitulation. Other details that informed my project included the report of dead and wounded, and the list of weapons and munitions found in the forts and Town of Pensacola.

Gálvez, Bernardo De. *Yo Solo: The Battle Journal of Bernardo de Gálvez during the American Revolution*. New Orleans: Polyanthos, 1978.

This is an English translation of Bernardo de Gálvez's battle journal. I found the printing quality of this source to be higher than in Sabin Americana's printing of Galvez's journal in the original Spanish, so I ended up consulting the English version more often. I also found it useful to read John Campbell's letters to Bernardo de Gálvez in English, though it is possible that they are not the original documents (but translated back to English from the Spanish translations of Campbell's original correspondence).

Jefferson, Thomas. "From Thomas Jefferson to Bernardo de Gálvez, 8 November 1779." *Founders Online*, National Archives. Original source: *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson*, vol. 3, 18 June 1779 – 30 September 1780, edited by Julian P. Boyd, 167-170. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1951. <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Jefferson/01-03-02-0174>.

In this letter to Bernardo de Gálvez, Thomas Jefferson requests financial assistance, expresses hope for Spain's continued support against Britain, and thanks Gálvez for the "friendly disposition" he has personally shown towards the American cause. This letter partially inspired one of Calvo's monologues in my play.

Kunkle, Fredrick. "A Picture of Persistence in Honoring a Spanish Hero of the Revolutionary War." *The Washington Post*. October 30, 2014.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/a-picture-of-persistence-in-honoring-a-spanish-hero-of-the-revolutionary-war/2014/10/30/d59cf296-5b95-11e4-b812-38518ae74c67\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/a-picture-of-persistence-in-honoring-a-spanish-hero-of-the-revolutionary-war/2014/10/30/d59cf296-5b95-11e4-b812-38518ae74c67_story.html).

In 1783, Congress pledged to hang a picture of Bernardo de Gálvez to honor him as a hero of the American Revolution. In 2013, a Spanish American named Teresa Valcarce, made it her mission to have Congress fulfill their promise. This article on Valcarce prompted me to reach out to her, which resulted in a wonderful boost of energy for my project.

Pollock, Oliver. "Letter to Bernardo de Gálvez." December 18, 1779. In *Archivo General de Indias*, Cuba 112, folio 566r. Seville, Spain. Manuscript.

In this letter, Oliver Pollock writes to Bernardo de Gálvez to ask him for his portrait so that he may present it to the Continental Congress. It surprised me initially that Pollock wrote to Bernardo de Gálvez in French, though it makes sense that French must have been one language in which both men could fluently communicate (I read the English and Spanish translations of this letter, provided by Manuel Olmedo Checa).

Pollock, Oliver. "Letter to the President of Congress." May 8, 1783. In *The Papers of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789*, No. 50, folio 289. Manuscript.

In this letter, Pollock states that he has obtained a portrait of Bernardo de Gálvez, an "early and warm friend" of the US, and requests permission to present it to Congress, believing it will be well received.

Ponce, Nicolas. *Prise de Pensacola*. 1785. Wash drawing. Library of Congress.

This is a French artistic depiction of the explosion of the magazine in the Queen's redoubt, which ended the Siege of Pensacola. This representation helped me visualize the scene, and I took cues from it in my set design.

"Reales Cédulas de Nombramiento de Primer Capitán General en la Luisiana. Adición del Bergantín El Galveztown, y de una Flor de Lis en el Escudo de sus Armas, y del Título de Castilla al S. Conde de Gálvez; con una Certificación que Califica su Procedimiento con los Yngleses en Panzacola; y con Explicación Autorizada del Escudo de sus Armas, y del de su Padre y Tíos." 1783. Biblioteca Nacional de España, Manuscrito 10.639.

These are King Carlos III's Royal Decrees authorizing Bernardo de Gálvez to add the motto "*Yo Solo*," and a depiction of his ship, The Galveztown, to his coat of arms. Before reading this document, I had found conflicting reports as to which vessel Galvez used to lead the fleet to Pensacola, but with this evidence in hand I felt confident that it was The Galveztown, and therefore named it as such in my play.

Saavedra, Francisco de. *Misión de Guerra en el Caribe – Diario de don Francisco de Saavedra 1780–1783*. Edited by Francisco Morales Padrón. Sevilla: Universidad de Sevilla / Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, 2004.

Saavedra's diary details the trench warfare waged by Bernardo de Galvez's forces at Pensacola. Saavedra also chronicles the cannonball shortage suffered by Galvez's troops, and that Gálvez paid two *reales* for any recovered enemy cannonball. This source helped

me understand the battlefield experience during the long siege of Pensacola, and how the Spanish forces in Havana viewed the conflict at the time.

Simon, Richard. "Forgotten Hero of the Revolutionary War." *Los Angeles Times*. May 5, 2014. <https://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-forgotten-hero-20140505-story.html>.

This was the first major US newspaper to cover Teresa Valcarce's quest to place Gálvez's portrait in the Capitol. It also discusses Rep. Jeff Miller (R-Fla.) introducing legislation to grant honorary citizenship to Gálvez. I found it interesting that the reporter was skeptical that Gálvez would be named an honorary citizen, since it is such a rare honor, but this recognition nevertheless arrived just seven months later.

The White House. "Remarks by President Biden and King Felipe VI of the Kingdom of Spain Before Bilateral Meeting | Madrid, Spain." June 28, 2022. [Remarks by President Biden and King Felipe VI of the Kingdom of Spain Before Bilateral Meeting | Madrid, Spain | The White House](https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2022/06/28/remarks-by-president-biden-and-king-felipe-vi-of-the-kingdom-of-spain-before-bilateral-meeting-madrid-spain).

This is the full transcript of the meeting between President Biden and King Felipe VI of Spain held at the Palace of Moncloa, Madrid, in June of 2022. President Biden expressed gratitude for Spain's historical help and indicated that the US might not have become an independent country without the Spanish intervention in the Revolutionary War. President Biden's remarks are a testament to the longstanding legacy and great impact of Spain's role in American Independence.

"Treaty of Paris, 1783." Wikisource, the free online library. Last modified November 27, 2023. [https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Treaty\\_of\\_Paris\\_\(1783\)](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Treaty_of_Paris_(1783)).

This treaty formally ended the Revolutionary War between the United States of America and Great Britain. I was surprised to learn that, in recognition of his contribution to American independence, Bernardo de Gálvez was a delegate to the 1783 Paris Peace Conference and that he helped draft the terms of the treaty that ended the Revolutionary War.

United States Congress. "Letters of Delegates to Congress: Volume 20, March 12, 1783 - September 30, 1783 -- James Madison's Notes of Debates, May 8, 1783." In *A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774-1875*.

This document states that Oliver Pollock presented Bernardo de Galvez's portrait to the Continental Congress on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1783. Though Congress accepted the portrait, it was later lost and its whereabouts remain unknown.

United States Congress. "Public Law 113-229—Dec. 16, 2014. Joint Resolution Conferring honorary citizenship of the United States on Bernardo de Gálvez y Madrid, Viscount of Galveston and Count of Gálvez [H.J. Res. 105]." 113th Cong., 2nd sess., 2014. <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-113publ229/pdf/PLAW-113publ229.pdf>.

Bernardo de Gálvez was made an Honorary Citizen of the United States on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, an honor previously conferred to only seven other people, including Marquis de Lafayette and Winston Churchill. This Joint Resolution states that Gálvez "was a hero of the Revolutionary War who risked his life for the freedom of the United States people" and that "his victories were recognized by George Washington as a deciding factor in the outcome of the Revolutionary War." I refer to this document in my play.

Washington, George. "From George Washington to Gouverneur Morris, 4 October 1778." *Founders Online*, National Archives. Original source: *The Papers of George Washington, Revolutionary War Series*, vol. 17, edited by Philander D. Chase, 253-255. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2008.  
<https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/03-17-02-0265>.

In this letter, George Washington writes to Gouverneur Morris that, "If the Spaniards would but join their Fleets to those of France, & commence hostilities, my doubts would all subside—without it, I fear the British Navy has it too much in its power to counteract the schemes of France." Reading this document made it clear to me that Washington considered the Spanish support vital for the success of the Revolutionary War.

Worcester, Donald. "Miranda's Diary of the Siege of Pensacola, 1781." *Florida Historical Quarterly* 29, no. 3 (1950): Article 3. <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq/vol29/iss3/3>.

This is the translated diary of Francisco Miranda, who served under Gálvez's command and who was considered one of the most important chroniclers of the siege of Pensacola. Miranda's account was a very engaging read and provided me with many specific details about the siege.

### Secondary Sources

American Battlefield Trust. *Battle Maps of the American Revolution* (Maps from the American Battlefield Trust), vol. 3. Paperback Edition. April 19, 2022.

This resource helped me get a clear picture of the Siege of Pensacola and the respective positions of the Spanish and British forces during the conflict, which informed the setting of my play.

Allison, David, and Larrie D. Ferreiro, eds. *The American Revolution: A World War*. Foreword by John Gray. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Books, 2018.

This book posits that the Revolutionary War should not be understood as a conflict between America and Britain, but as the First World War. Here I learned that at the time of the Battle of Yorktown, in 1781, Britain was fighting in three different continents. I was intrigued by the argument that the Declaration of Independence invitation was intended as an invitation for France and Spain to join the Americans in a war against Britain.

"Bernardo de Gálvez - Fort Matanzas National Monument." U.S. National Park Service. Accessed February 4, 2024

<https://www.nps.gov/foma/learn/historyculture/galvez.htm?iframe=true&width=100%25&height=100%25>.

This document underscores the personal qualities of Bernardo de Gálvez as the charismatic leader who was able to assemble the most diverse military force of his time: comprised of Spanish soldiers, French, German, and Native American militia from Louisiana, and black, white, and mestizo militia from Cuba, Mexico and elsewhere in the Caribbean. This source also introduced me to Bernardo de Gálvez as a hero with "something quintessentially American about him," which inspired my portrayal of Gálvez in my play.



Butler, Edward F., Sr. *George Washington's Secret Ally*. Edited by David Swafford. Independent Publisher, 2016.

This is a very short book that nevertheless provided me with a wealth of information in the form of dates, letters, maps, paintings, and other illustrations, about Spain's assistance to the American Revolution.

Campbell, Richard L. *Historical Sketches of Colonial Florida*. Cleveland, Ohio: The Williams Publishing Co., 1892. Accessed from the Internet Archive: <https://ia601603.us.archive.org/13/items/historicalskech00camprich/historicalskech00camprich.pdf>.

This is an account of the British rule in West Florida. It was very interesting to have the British historical perspective on the role played by John Campbell, the commander of the British fort. This source also documents how Gálvez's troops protected themselves during the long siege, and their frantic search for the location of the British powder magazine as the main target for the Spanish artillery, establishing that Gálvez's victory was not due to a lucky shot.

Cedecom, prod. "Bernardo de Gálvez. Un legado vivo." September 23, 2015. Documentary. Spain.

This documentary was filmed in multiple locations in the US and Spain, including present day Pensacola and Bernardo de Galvez's hometown of Macharaviaya (Málaga, Spain). The scenes in Macharaviaya helped me visualize Galvez's origins.

Ferrer-Dalmau, Augusto. *For Spain and for the King, Galvez in America*. 2015. Oil painting. Museum of the Army, Toledo, Spain.

I am particularly fond of this depiction of Bernardo de Gálvez leading his men into battle at the Siege of Pensacola. I feel that the fact that Bernardo de Galvez is portrayed as fighting alongside his troops is very emblematic of his unique personality and achievements. This painting served as partial inspiration for Bernardo de Gálvez's costume in my performance.

Ferreiro, Larrie D. *Brothers at Arms: American Independence and the Men of France and Spain Who Saved It*. 1st ed. New York: Knopf, 2016.

This was the first book that I read on the Spanish contribution to the Revolutionary War that was not written specifically for children. I acquired this book in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and used it for a history paper that I wrote for school. This was also around the time that I learned about National History Day, and it occurred to me that this could be a fascinating future topic to research for the contest.

Fesser, Guillermo. *Conoce a Bernardo de Gálvez*. Madrid: Santillana USA - Loqueleo, May 1, 2017.

This children's book was my first introduction to Bernardo de Gálvez, when I was 10 years old. The book's author, Guillermo Fesser, gave a presentation at my school in collaboration with a puppet theater company from Málaga, Spain. This book inspired me to structure my play as a story told by a tour guide, who provides an introduction and an epilogue to Bernardo de Gálvez's heroism at the Battle of Pensacola.

Fleming, Thomas. "Bernardo de Gálvez: The Forgotten Revolutionary Conquistador Who Saved Louisiana." *American Heritage Magazine* 33, no. 3 (April/May 1982): 31-39. Accessed February 4, 2024. [Bernardo De Gálvez \(April/May 1982, Volume 33, Issue 3\) n:54477 \(americanheritage.com\)](https://americanheritage.com/bernardo-de-galvez-april-may-1982-volume-33-issue-3-n:54477).

This is an excellent overview of the circumstances under which Galvez became Governor of Louisiana, how he married a local creole woman, his leadership style, and his battles against the British. This source also mentions that, according to one account, it was a deserter from the loyalist battalions of Pennsylvania or Maryland who revealed to Gálvez the exact location of the British powder magazine. These details informed the battle scenes during my play.

"Galvez Papers." *History Detectives Special Investigations* season 8, episode 10. PBS, 2011. <https://www.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/video/1575582583/index.html>.

This documentary describes an instance in which Bernardo de Gálvez, as Governor of Louisiana, intervened in favor of an enslaved woman who had been denied the ability to purchase her freedom. This source presents Gálvez as sympathetic to the plight of those marginalized and struggling, and it helped me see him not just as a historical figure, but as someone committed to making a positive difference in the lives of others.

Hedbor, Lars D. H. "The Perfect Storm: Bernardo de Gálvez and the Gulf Coast Campaign." *Journal of the American Revolution*. March 18, 2013. Accessed February 4, 2024. <https://allthingsliberty.com/2013/03/the-perfect-storm-bernardo-de-galvez-and-the-gulf-coast-campaign/>.

This is a good, succinct overview and summary of the siege of Pensacola and the events that led to it. I found this document very helpful early in my research because it provided me with a basic chronology and referred me to additional sources to investigate.

Murphy, W. S. "The Irish Brigade of Spain at the Capture of Pensacola, 1781." *The Florida Historical Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (January 1960): 216-250. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/30140601>.

This article, which examines the role of the Hibernia (the Latin name for the island of Ireland) Regiment in Gálvez's army, introduced me to the Irish contribution to the Siege of Pensacola: 380 officers and soldiers from the Hibernia regiment fought with Gálvez, comprising almost ten percent of his total force.

Odom, Wesley S. *The Longest Siege of the American Revolution: Pensacola*. Paperback ed. October 16, 2020.

This book provides a day-by-day sequence of the events that took place during the Siege of Pensacola, sometimes on an hourly or even a half-hourly basis. Each day of the siege is accompanied by a corresponding map showing the main actions and the positions of all forces involved. This unique resource was critical to my in-depth understanding of the Battle of Pensacola.

Olmedo Checa, Manuel. "Certificado sobre la Correspondencia entre Oliver Pollock y Bernardo de Gálvez, a petición de José René Jiménez Alvarado." November 6, 2022. Document provided directly by the author.

Manuel Olmedo Checa located Oliver Pollock's 1779 letter to Bernardo de Gálvez—and Gálvez's reply to Pollock—in the *Archivo General de Indias* in Seville, Spain. Olmedo Checa's certificate provides English and Spanish translations of both letters (the originals are written in French).

O'Shaughnessy, Andrew Jackson, John A. Ragosta, and Marie-Jeanne Rossignol, eds. *European Friends of the American Revolution*. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2023.

This source helped me understand better the historical and strategic significance of Pensacola, and what its loss meant to Great Britain. I incorporate some of these details as background information during my performance.

Perez Alonso, Ernesto. "Analysis and Lessons from General Galvez's West Florida Campaign during the American Revolutionary War." Master of Military Art and Science Theses, US Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS, June 12, 2015. <https://cgsc.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p4013coll2/id/3290>.

This document analyzes Gálvez's West Florida campaign from a military perspective. It helped me understand Gálvez as an effective leader and intelligent strategist, who was quick to adapt to changing battle scenarios and make good use of various engineering and tactical advantages as circumstances demanded.

"Plano del Puerto de Panzacola en el Qe. Se Manifiestan las Marchas, Campamentos y Ataque de las Tropas Espanolas: Al Mando del Maniscal de Campo Dn. Bernardo de Galves, y Los Fuertes Rendos. en 8 de Mayo, 1781." William L. Clements Library Image Bank, University of Michigan Library Digital Collections. Accessed February 3, 2024. <https://quod.lib.umich.edu/w/wcl1ic/x-802/wcl000896>.

This is a historical map of the Siege of Pensacola, depicting the main geographical features of the region and the battle actions that took place. This resource helped me visualize the siege and partly inspired the setting of my play.

Quintero Saravia, Gonzalo. *Bernardo de Gálvez: Spanish Hero of the American Revolution*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press, 2018.

Quintero Saravia's biography is the definitive resource on the events of Bernardo de Gálvez's life. One instructive graph shows that, though the casualties on the Spanish side doubled those of the British during the Battle of Pensacola (an acceptable ratio at the time), almost all the British casualties resulted from the explosion inside the Queen's Redoubt, meaning that Galvez's troops suffered disproportionately during the siege. This analysis helped me understand the harsh predicament faced by Bernardo de Gálvez and his men.

Rozman, Maria (News Director), Claudia Curiel (Reporter), and Roberto J. C. Gonzalez-Homs (Photojournalist/Editor). "Una Promesa Casi Olvidada." News report, Telemundo, 2017.

The winner of an Emmy Award in the Historical /Cultural - News (No Time Limit) category, this report brought home for me the enduring legacy of Hispanic contributions to American history. It also made me realize that diversity was integral to the American experiment, and the importance of passing this understanding to future generations of Hispanic Americans, so they may feel proud of their role in founding our country.

“United States Military Academy Map of American Colonies 1775.” Emerson Kent, accessed February 3, 2024.

[http://www.emersonkent.com/images/american\\_revolution\\_campaigns.jpg](http://www.emersonkent.com/images/american_revolution_campaigns.jpg).

This map helped me visualize the location of East and West Florida—sometimes referred to as “the 14<sup>th</sup> colony”—with respect to the 13 American colonies, and to appreciate how Bernardo de Gálvez taking control of the Mississippi River was instrumental to the rebels receiving critical supplies for the war against Britain.

Valcarce, Teresa. Personal photograph collection of the unveiling of Bernardo de Gálvez's portrait in the Capitol, 2014. Provided by Teresa Valcarce, February 1, 2024.

Valcarce’s photos allowed me to see that the document held by Bernardo de Gálvez in his portrait at the Capitol is a letter of congratulations from his father Matías after Gálvez’s victories against the British. This information helped me understand the close relationship between Bernardo and Matías de Gálvez.

“Unveiling Memories: Spain and the Hispanic Contribution to U.S. Independence.” Last accessed February 7, 2024. <https://www.unveilingmemories.com>.

This excellent resource summarizes many important figures on the Hispanic contribution to American Independence, including weapons, blankets, uniforms, and monetary loans for Washington's army, with a total value exceeding 3 million pesos (more than \$3 billion USD at today's exchange rates). It also outlines the composition of Gálvez’s multicultural army, which included troops from Cuba, Louisiana and New Spain (Mexico), on their arrival to Pensacola. These numbers painted a vivid picture for me of Bernardo de Gálvez as a charismatic leader who inspired very diverse people to join forces and bridged many communication barriers.

Woodward, Ralph Lee, Jr. *Tribute to Don Bernardo de Gálvez*. 1st ed. Baton Rouge, LA: Historic New Orleans, 1979.

This source made me appreciate how well-loved and admired Bernardo de Gálvez was as Governor of Louisiana, and then as Viceroy of Mexico (New Spain). In this later capacity, Gálvez initiated urban development and public works, sponsored scientific and botanical expeditions, and contributed his personal funds to stop a famine. This book includes an epic ballad about Gálvez’s military and charitable actions, written shortly after Gálvez’s death in November of 1786.