

City of Albany

Proclamation

HISPANIC / LATINX HERITAGE HISTORY MONTH
September 15th – October 15th, 2021

WHEREAS, Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month provides an opportunity, to acknowledge the Latinx population of Albany and recognize the contributions to our City; and

WHEREAS, the observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15; and

WHEREAS, the terms “Hispanic”, “Latino”, “Chicano” and “Latinx” are as diverse as the ingredients we put in our pots, and each term may mean something different to each person; and

WHEREAS, the term “Latino” includes a diverse group of people, with roots throughout Latin America and beyond, and with a heritage connected to the original Indigenous communities of Latin America and Africa; and

WHEREAS, Latinos in Albany make incalculable contributions to our neighborhoods, communities, and sectors of the economy, and we are a greater and more vibrant place because of them; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Albany, Latinos make up approximately 11% of the population and the city looks forward to increased collaboration with our Latino community at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, The Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month 2021 theme, “Esperanza: A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage and Hope,” invites us to celebrate Hispanic Heritage and to reflect on all the contributions Hispanics have made in the past and will continue to make in the future; and

WHEREAS, this celebration also acknowledges the important though often untold roles and achievements Hispanic/Latinx Americans have played in our history, identity, culture, economy, literature, inventions, sports, science, medicine and politics; and

WHEREAS, teachers like Nlydia Gonzalez Algazali and Tonantzin Martinez Borgfeldt are powerful examples of academic achievement, cultural pride and self-knowledge, and a commitment to our youth’s future. Additionally, Clementina Durón is an AUSD school board member who has championed advocacy for the academic achievement of Latinx students; and

WHEREAS, Latinx-owned businesses including but not limited to; 5 Tacos and Beers, Taqueria Talavera, Syma’s Mexican Grill & Persian Cuisine, Gordo Taqueria, and Casa Oaxaca contribute greatly to the City’s economic development and diversity.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Albany City Council does hereby proclaim September 15th – October 15, 2021, as Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month in the City of Albany. We acknowledge the contributions of Hispanic and Latinx people in our community and recognize that our journey to a fully inclusive society is not yet over.

Date: September 20, 2021

GE’NELL GARY, MBA - MAYOR