

# *City of Albany*

## *Proclamation*



**IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH  
September 15 – October 15, 2023**

**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 B. 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”, “Latina”, “Chicano”, “Chicana”, “Latine” and “Latinx” are as diverse as the ingredients we put in our pots, and each identifying term may mean something different to each person; and

**WHEREAS**, the term “Hispanic” is an attempt to be inclusive of people of varying origins, where the Spanish language is primarily spoken, it falls short in accounting for those with shared experiences, cultures, and traditions who’s roots originate from non-Spanish speaking countries, communities and mixed-Indigenous experiences; and

**WHEREAS**, the terms “Latino” and “Latina” 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**, many diverse individuals of Latin descent and mixed-Indigenous roots 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, people of Latin descent and mixed-Indigenous roots make up over 12% of the population and the city looks forward to increased collaboration with our diverse community at home and abroad; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month 2023 theme, “Prosperity, Power, and Progress,” recognizes the significant achievements of the Hispanic/Latinx community in the economic and political industries; 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**, educators and advocates alike with resonating identities are powerful examples of academic achievement, cultural pride and self-knowledge, and a commitment to our youth's future and educational equity; and

**WHEREAS**, accomplishments in local elected office and appointments to City advisory bodies demonstrate the effectiveness of representation of such identities; and

**WHEREAS**, Latinx-owned businesses and vendors contribute greatly to the City's economic development and diversity; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Albany would like to acknowledge and recognize the Familias Latinas de Albany parent group for their ongoing work to support, promote and celebrate the interests of Hispanic/Latinx students and families in Albany.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Albany City Council does hereby proclaim September 15<sup>th</sup> – October 15, 2023, 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.

DATED: September 5, 2023

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AARON TIEDEMANN, MAYOR